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Hotel Rwanda

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Hotel Rwanda

After watching the movie “Hotel Rwanda” I feel sad and annoyed. First, we cannot continue calling ourselves civilized while we sit and watch such bloodshed happen on this planet (Geronimo, 2012). We must all stand up for what is right because history will judge us harshly. The western world just watched as more than 800,000 people savagely butchered within 100 days in Rwanda. This is one of the cruelest acts of bloodletting in the history of mankind. Furthermore, our political leaders had the powers and resources to intervene in the Rwanda massacre but instead opted to ignore this horror. History will condemn their failures in Rwanda. In my opinion, “Hotel Rwanda” should be shown in every school in the world because it teaches a lot about the sinister nature of prejudice and hatred. We are all part of a human family and once we understand this, it will be better moving forward.

According to Ebert (2004), Paul Rusesabagina exhibited true leadership qualities during a crisis. He had a chance to flee but chose to stay behind and lead more than 1,200 Tutsis who sought refuge at the hotel. Paul’s actions show that leadership comes at a cost. Paul and his family were at risk, and he accepted the lack of safety to be a leader that the people needed to survive the genocide. Moreover, leadership is about sacrifice. Paul knew that he risked losing his family and his job. Besides, his sudden actions show that leaders should have an internal guiding compass. As the movie begins, Paul was not what many would consider a leader. He exhibited signs of someone who was scared of the actions he took. Nonetheless, as people flocked his hotel, he naturally settled into the leadership role that presented itself. In the early stages, it seemed that Paul would not manage to handle the pressure, but he appears to have had an instinct on how to lead once he accepted his fate. Leadership in times of crisis works gives the best to their people, the story of Paul Rusesabagina is a lesson to current and future leaders.

References

Ebert, R. (2004). A hotel 'diplomat' offers sanctuary from genocide.

Geronimo, M. (2012). Hotel Rwanda (Cut The Tall Trees/First Scenes Of Genocide).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RW6tLBxxqg>

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