

Outline: SASSI Presentation
Suits: The Dramatistic Perspective

The Dramatistic Life Cycle:

Identification: Viewers identify with the characters from suit's that are participating in the rule-breaking act. In the TV show, the eternal cycle of sin/guilt and redemption is displayed and communication is motivated to purge guilt and restore order.

Order: Rules for living is not to break the law

Pollution: Harvey and Mike both reject the law and display unethical behavior. Burke calls: **sin**.

Purification: Harvey is purified through victimage by scapegoating time, rather than a person.

Harvey is making the excuse of not having enough time to work on the pro bono case.

Meanwhile, Mike is purified through victimage as he blames Harvey for hiring him and says that because of his actions he would get in trouble if Mike came forward (if he were to be fired).

Redemption: This is where the cycle begins again and they have rebirthed into the social order.

Cluster Analysis:

Clusters: The word, "lying" is said many times in both scenes of the clip I chose from Suits.

This is reinforcing what is bad/wrong/undesirable, and what Burke would call, a **devil term**.

These clusters are identified by the **frequency** of the word, "lying," throughout the scene. You can tell that this word has a powerful meaning by the **intensity** of the agent's voice.

Teleology: The way the words are clustering in the scene is forming a meaning that viewers interpret from the agents.

The Pentad:

First Rule-Breaking Act:

Act: Mike blackmails Harvey to keep his job.

Agents: Mike

Agency: Telephone is used when Harvey is speaking to Donna from his intercom.

Scene: Pearson Hardman law firm.

Purpose: The purpose of this act is to keep their jobs.

Second Rule-Breaking Act:

Act: Harvey lies to keep his promotion and passes on the pro bono case to Mike.

Agents: Harvey

Agency: Folder with the case file in it.

Scene: Jessica Pearson's office.

Purpose: Concentrate on "more important" things than the pro bono case.

The Motive: The motives behind Harvey's actions stemmed from his innate ability to be lazy and focus on what he believes is, "more important." Mike on the other hand, performed this rule breaking act because he wanted to follow a "higher calling" or transcendence, where he felt that he was meant to be a lawyer, to help good people in need of troubles they were going through in their lives. Harvey and Mike both have different ideas of what it means to go to work every day. Harvey is more self-focused and Mike is using his job to make an impact in other people's lives for the better.