

Thematic Area vs. Thematic Statements [RF 2.1]

TWO ASPECTS OF THEME

Thematic Area: a subject matter that is important and that the creator and audience have an emotional connection to; can be summed up in one or two words (e.g. family, the cost of revenge, loneliness, finding hope)

Thematic Statement: a statement that is believed powerfully and profoundly to be true (e.g. one of the safest places for a girl to be is in the loving arms of her dad, people can be redeemed, sinners can be changed)

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CRAFTING A THEMATIC STATEMENT

- **Is it debatable?** - Can someone argue whether this is true? Will people talk about the theme of the movie after the fact? Does this trouble anybody? (e.g. not all death is bad, sometimes it is necessary for murder to take place)
- **Is it relevant?** - Is anyone talking about this particular issue or theme?
- **Is it moral?** - Is there a good/bad value judgement that's made by the statement?