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**The Collision of Morality and Values and Personal Discovery: A  
Parallel Analysis between the Odyssey of Homer and Modern Day  
Culture**

**Paper Abstract:**

This essay, presents, examines and elaborates on *The Odyssey* of Homer, a collection of poems that explore the struggles and determination of a man to return to his former environment and take control of the life he lost. *The Odyssey* demonstrates how a Greek myth, thousands of years old, makes evident a variety of parallels in the current high school system. Odysseus undergoes a complete reshaping and transformation of his morals and values being forced to take on and re-learn an approach to life, re-shaping and creating a new identity. This is paralleled in today's modern day society, more specifically within the current high school setting and classroom. The students with whom I work and routinely interact with are confronted and challenged daily to learn and adapt an alternate approach to academia, social setting and authority figures. They have to continually navigate through unfamiliar territory, as Odysseus did for several years while on his "journey" to be reconnected with his home. The major theme that links Odysseus story and modern day students is that for both it is the journey, and what is learned, absorbed and adapted along the journey that is important. Not the final destination.