

IO

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Language and Literature

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### The Innocence of the Littluns

The author of Lord of The Flies William Golding makes this book How does the identity of the boys maturity affect their actions, and the innocence of the Littluns?

As the boys orient themselves to the island, many things happen that expose their immature and selfish ways that will control their actions later on in the book. As the boys pick leadership through an election, Ralph gets picked as chief, but Jack takes advantage of the situation and leads the group up the mountain to start a signal fire. When the boys start the signal fire, they almost burn down the entire island. This shows how the boys immaturity took control of their actions and could have burned down all life on the island leaving them with no Shelter and no food source. This fire also leads to the first casualty which they don't really acknowledge. If the boys were older they might not have have lead the littluns up the mountain, and could have made a better plan.

In chapter four "Painted Faces and Long Hair", Ralph puts Jack and a small group of boys on watch to keep the signal fire going. As Jack has a ongoing hunger to go hunting, he decides to takes his watch group hunting instead of keeping the fire going. Eventually the signal fire goes out. During this time, Ralph sees a ship passing and runs up the mountain. When he reaches the top of the mountain the fire has gone out leaving only ashes behind. When Jack

comes back with his kill, he doesn't realize what has happened. Because of Jack's thirst for blood, their first opportunity to be rescued was crushed.

Throughout the book, there is a pattern of Jack not taking responsibility for his actions and doing what he wants over the group's needs. Once Jack leaves the group, he starts his own group which consists of most of the boys. This split makes a rift in the interactions between both groups causing tension. The low maturity really shows through Jack's actions. In the book it shows in many chapters that Jack is power hungry. In one of the first chapters, Jack claims that he is the leader of the choir so he should be chief of the whole group. In another instance he splits from the tribe and makes his own group, while bribing others that have not joined right away. This affects the relationship between both tribes and especially Jack and Ralph.

All of this gives a very bad influence on the littluns. Whenever the littluns were mentioned in the book, they always seemed to be doing their own thing. Nobody really cared about the health of the littluns whether it was from teaching them how to do something or just talking to them. The fighting of the Biguns definitely had a big impact on them, telling them it was ok to hurt or even kill one another.

In the last few chapters, another big fire starts while they were hunting down Ralph, the last one from his tribe. This big fire burns down pretty much the whole island leaving them with nothing. They would not have lasted very long if it was not for them to be saved.

How does the maturity of the boys affect their actions, and the innocents of the Littluns. Their maturity really does affect their actions because their maturity influences their actions making it harder for them to make good reasonable choices to act upon. Littluns really look up to the Biguns, and if they see some things the Biguns do bad or good, they might copy them and would not be so innocent. In the end, all of the boys cry showing how young they still are.