

GS

Ms.Fargo

Language and Literature

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Influences Change Everyone in a Different Way...

Influences can and will change someone's identity whether they may be a role model or not. The influence of someone causes you to change the way you talk, think, and act. In *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by JK Rowling, Harry Potter's friends and family influence him to be braver. In *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis, Parvana's family has a similar impact. Parvana changes the way she acts based on other people. Parvana goes on a very interesting and complicated journey, throughout the book their identities change because of others actions and influences. You will learn why and how influences change Parvana's identity. Will it be a change that causes her to become even more caring and adventurous, or will it cause her to do evil things and turn on her family and friends?

Parvana had many influences in her life, some bad, some good. Parvana's father was the biggest influence on her, once her father was taken to prison she had become a father figure to her family. Her mother was in bed all day everyday she would not speak and she didn't do anything to help the children when she was gone. Parvana had gone out to the market alone to get her family food and water. She had later shaved her head and tried to look like a boy so that she wouldn't have to wear her burqa out of the house and so she could get a job to feed her family. She risked her life for her family every time she left the house for work or went into a store because women were prohibited from such activities because of the taliban. She was also

influenced a little by her big sister who took care of the house and her little siblings. I think her sister was one of the causes for her becoming more responsible and careful.

“Instead of turning back she took the money from her sister's hand” “what should i buy she asked” this quote shows that she is being brave for the sake of her family. Parvana is taking over the role of her father by going to the market, working, and risking her life for her family. Because Parvana needs to do this for the sake of her family she has to change her identity. She completely changes herself for them by shaving her head to look like a boy, and changing her personality/identity. She worked very hard for the sake of her family, and a big reason for her being able to is because of the influences she had.

In both of these books Harry and Parvana have people that are big influences on their life and completely change their identities. Harry goes from muggle to witch, Parvana goes from girl to boy. They both make big changes in their identity for their sake and the sake of others. They both are also majorly influenced by their fathers after they are gone. I think that Parvana is the most influenced by her father, she shares the same traits as him and she works just as hard as he did. She changed her identity for the sake of her family's lives and she was one of the most brave, adventurous, selfless, and caring people in the book. This book was really interesting and easy to get sucked into. There are so many things you can learn about identity from this book.