Delainy Fana

Professor Liao
ENG 1121 11:30 A.M- 12:45 P.M

2/28/2019

 Rhetorical Analysis- writing about what I will write

21 Savage ft J. Cole: A lot ( Song lyrics and official music video)

 This song specifically from 21 Savage was investigated during his ICE arrest. The lyrics itself explain how much he has been through in his childhood and what he is still going through. It starts off by him saying in the song that he has to always defend himself : “I’ma ride with the stick” which means whenever he’s outside he always has to feel protected with some type of weapon. On his 21st birthday he was shot 21 times, so I can only imagine how brutal and traumatic this experience may have been for him.

 Although not everyone may have experienced getting shot out, the music video itself shows what people everyday would go through. He shoots the video with a family and it showed that every family member has their own problems but still manage to sit at the big table and come together no matter what they’re all individually going through. Yes everyone has their problems they have to face at some point, but the aesthetic and lyrics of the song let the listeners know that everything will be okay as long as you keep fighting and coming together to be surrounded by what’s most important; love.

 When J. Cole enters the song with his own verse, he fits seamlessly continuing the constant theme of “a lot”. He speaks on rappers he noticed go through some downfalls in their career and ask whether it was worth it or not because he feels like doing something for yourself and staying productive with making music will keep the problems away. He also expresses how giving out titles in the industry doesn’t hold any merit because as long as you’re reaching out to the people and people are engaged, then you already won.
 I will go into more depth with my full rhetorical analysis by explaining the intricates of the music video as well, but this is mostly what the concept of the song is about and what the speaker is trying to tell to his audience.