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Argumentation Essay

Ralph Waldo Emerson writes the quote “Books are the best of things, well used; abused, among the worst.” This was wrote in 1837 and the quote still applies to this day. Society now takes writing for granted, they misinterpret it and adjust it to their needs. However, not all of society takes literature for granted. There are self help books that people use constantly.

Yes, people still read and kids still read in school. However these days, it’s hardly for pleasure and entertainment. Our society can just simply look up whatever they need or watch TV as it’s replacement. People hardly read so very few appreciate the value of what’s written. Even those in society that say poetic quotes on their posts or “bios” misuse and misinterpret the words. They mold them to their liking and don’t even bother to read the book. Despite the neglectance and misuse of literature there still is good use of books. These pieces of writings can be powerful things if used correctly. There are powerful and motivating pieces of literature. There’s books that can be powerful and give people a realization on where to go from where they are at. There are forms of books that work as guides that help people from their unawareness. Some examples of positive books would be guides for alcoholics, or someone who’s in an abusive relationship, or even simple things like on how to garden.

I personally still read for pleasure, I’m apart of that small piece of society. I feel like Emerson’s quote still stands to this day, people take literature for granted and twist it for their needs. They simply look up the quotes that is needed, for example in most teen girl’s “bios” you could read a quote from The Fault In Our Stars. “I’m on a roller coaster that only goes up my friend.” A saying from the character Augustus Waters, you could ask the girl and she’d have no idea where it’s from or which character said it. She’d simply say that she liked it and put it in there along with “Emojis” that she finds cute. That is where society is taking literature and pulling it apart to their needs and disregarding the rest.

When he wrote that quote, despite it being short it has been everlasting. It’s something relatable and hopefully will stop. Reading in society today is still abused. This will continue throughout many generations but that doesn’t mean there’s still positive influences from books.