1. What is Burke’s rationale behind analyzing Hitler’s Mein Kampf?

Burke’s rationale behind analyzing Hitler's Mein Kampf is that so, “that we may know, with greater accuracy, exactly what to guard against, if we are to forestall the concocting of a similar medicine in America”. This famous piece of work interested Burke due to the fact that Hitler was able to persuade a numerous number of individuals. He uses his analysis to inform other individuals especially Americans of the rhetorical strategies used by people in power.

1. What is Burke’s overall argument about Hitler’s rhetoric?

Burke’s overall argument about Hitler’s rhetoric was successful due to the fact of the discovery of “panacea”. According to this author panacea is a “cure for what ails you”. Hitler thought that the panacea gave him the right to destroy a whole Jewish religion. Though other individuals had differing opinions than Hitler carefully selected words so that he would not sound evil and gain supporters.

1. How does Burke explain Hitler’s “unification device”? What are the four important features of this device? Explain specifically how Burke describes each one of these features.

The four important devices he talks about is inborn dignity, projection device, symbolic rebirth, and commercial use. He uses inborn dignity by voicing that the Aryan is superior to all other types of races. The projection device seeks to free an individual. The symbolic rebirth is another unification device that Hitler using by justifying the actions committed by the German regarding the Jews. The commercial device was used in order to reinstate the German economy as being seen superior to Jew finance.

1. What are Burke’s action items in the conclusion of his analysis? What does he think the readers should do?

Burke shows us that “There is much in religion, when misused, that does lead to a fascist state”. Hitler wants all Germany to be united as one. Hitler starts his speeches after a war that was lost and at a time that Germany was very vulnerable. This led the desperate German people to listen to anything someone had to say. As stated in the passage, “The Germans had the resentment of a lost war to increase the susceptibility of Hilter’s rhetoric.”