**The Author’s Main Theme of ‘The Pearl’**

John Steinbeck, also known as the author of ‘The Pearl’ is wishing his readers would consider the fact that every choice you make can affect you and those around you immensely. In ‘The Pearl’, a poor diver named Kino comes to a discovery of finding the ‘Pearl of The World’. Yet this pearl he has claimed does nothing but bring destruction upon him and his family. Kino could have gotten rid of the pearl at any time he’d wanted, but since he decided not to, he and his family have experienced the consequences of being attacked, having their house burned down, and having their son killed.

First of all, the author’s main message is ‘every choice you make can affect you and those around you’ because the outcome of Kino keeping this pearl has had him and his family attacked. Since they live in such a poor town, the fact that they have such a wealthy object carries jealousy throughout the village. Therefore, people attempt to rob Kino’s home during the middle of the night, thus putting his life, his wife’s life, and his son’s life in danger just because of this silly pearl.

In addition to being attacked, Kino and his family had their house set on fire and burned to the ground because of his terrible choices. Again, by keeping this pearl he has brought destruction upon them and they have now lost their home. He and his family have nowhere to live. They can’t live with any of his other relative’s either because he’d also be putting their lives in jeopardy as well. Yet Kino still refuses to rid of this pearl.

Lastly, because of his actions and refusing to rid of the pearl, his baby son is killed. Since Kino had murdered a man trying to defend himself and keep this mystery man from stealing his pearl, he and his family had to flee north from the village. By fleeing from such a crime like this, the village had sent ‘trackers’ after them. These trackers are basically what we’d call modern police officers. In the end these tracker men end up killing Kino’s son. It may have been accidental in a way, but it still happened. If Kino would have given up the pearl in the first place, and had not fled from the town, his son would most likely still be alive.

In result, I believe the author’s message is ‘everything you do affects those around you and yourself included’ because in the story, the main character’s choices brought danger to his family, caused the burning of their house, and the death of their child. John Steinbeck wrote ‘The Pearl’ to strongly advise that his readers should consider the damage you could possibly do to yourself and the people around you by the big and/or little everyday decisions you make.