

# [Critique: the end of firpo in the world assignment](https://assignbuster.com/critique-the-end-of-firpo-in-the-world-assignment/)

[Art & Culture](https://assignbuster.com/essay-subjects/art-n-culture/)

One of the themes in this story suggests that recurrent verbal and psychological abu se results in alienation and feelings of inferiority. 2. The Setting The details of the houses within the neighbourhood emphasize Cody’s feeli ngs of alienation. Cody lives in a wealthy neighbourhood consisting mostly Of two h ouse models; Monte Vistas and Bueno Verdes, but his house predates the others and is neit her Monte Vista or Bueno Verde; it is small and “‘ smelled like cat pee and hamburger blood.

T he house reflects Cody’s feelings of alienation; just like the house, he is different than e veyone else and does not fit in. This setting makes him feel inferior because he does not li ve in a nice, big house like everyone else so he believes that there is something wrong with hi 3. Symbols The symbol of the nosehole sound is used to illustrates Cody’s alienation. C ody is constantly ridiculed for making the nosehole sound but it is an involuntary ne rvous response that is triggered by anxiety. Cody is ashamed Of the nosehole sound and tries to conceal it rom others in order to avoid humiliation.

The sound is a direct result of the p sychological abuse he endures and it is out of his control, “ he couldn’t help it, it made him nervous to think about junior high, and he made the nosehole sound. ” He wants to fit in and b e liked but whenever he gets nervous he makes the sound and gets ridiculed for it, “ whe n he tried to laugh to show he was a good sport he made the nosehole sound for real, and they totally cracked up. ” Being mocked for something that is out of his control causes him to feel alienated and believe that he is a freak. Characters The secondary characters serve to demonstrate how negatively their beha viour has impacted Cody. The characters’ abusive behaviour towards Cody lead him to have a negative perception of himself and others as well. No one ever shows Cody kindness o r affection; abuse is all he knows and believes. By referring to him as a Firpo, Cody’s pare nts are enforcing a very negative perception of himself and others. Not only does Co dy believe that he is Firpo, but he also refers to his neighbours by derogatory terms such as ch ink, ” “ squattybody,” “ wop,” and “ stickman.

He depersonalizes those around him in the same way that his parents have depersonalized him by calling him Firpo. Since all Of the secondary characters (excluding the Stickman) treat him like a freak, Cody knows no 0th er way of seeing himself. The idea that he is Firpo and nothing else is so deeply embedded in h im that he can not, for one second, believe otherwise; “ If the stickman thought he, Cody, wa s good he must be Firpo because he, Cody wasn’t good, he was Firpo. ” The characters’ incessa nt abuse affects Cody much more negatively than they could imagine.