father's attitudes to work, social achievement, politics and the law condition the developing attitudes of his children, but that he constellates for them the whole of extraverted potential of the world as a place-to-be-known-and-lived-in. Inasmuch as he succeeds in this role, he sets them free from their involvement with mother and fosters the necessary autonomy (ego-self axis)" (Stevens 107). This is precisely where the man failed with his son. The man teaches the boy to distrust everyone. Throughout the novel the man puts no confidence in anyone else alive. When the boy and the man see anyone else on the road the boy always asks if they can give them food and the man always says no. There is one instance when the man concedes and they give food to someone that they find, but the man is reluctant and tells the boy, "Okay means okay. It doesnt mean we negotiate another deal tomorrow" (165). The man instilled a negative view of the world in his son.

The man was not always cynical towards society. The man’s view of the world changed drastically when his wife left him. Before she left he was indifferent towards it and solely focused on surviving. When she left the man his view of the world changed.

We're survivors he told her across the flame of the lamp.

Survivors? she said.

Yes.

What in God's name are you talking about? We're not survivors. We're the walking dead in a horror film (55).

Before this point the man only thought of their family. After telling the man the gruesome things that people will do to their family if they are caught by the other people that survived the disaster, she says, "...and you wont face it. You'd rather wait for it to happen" (56). Before she left she made him see her opinion causing him to distrust everyone he meets.