

# A Galaxy of Stories

# Cognitive Dissonance Theory: Cassian Andor's Conflicted Personal Self in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*

Jennifer Berkebile

Research Week 2023

Oral Presentation: Textual or Investigative

# Roadmap

- Ask the Question
- Literature Review
- Results and Discussion
- Answer the Question
- Limitations and Recommendations
- Implications

What is the effect that cognitive dissonance has upon intra- and interpersonal interactions in this film?

# Literature Review

- Cognitive Dissonance Theory (CDT) (Festinger, 1957)
  - Dissonance
  - Consonance
  - Cognition
- Action-Based CDT Model (Harmon-Jones & Harmon-Jones, 2008)
  - Action in dissonance
  - No action in consonance
  - Action to resolve dissonance

# Plot Summary

1. The Ring of Kafrene
  - Tivik and Stormtroopers
  - The Planet Killer
2. Rebel Alliance Base
  - Cassian and Jyn
  - Cassian's New Orders
3. Jedha
  - Jyn's Guardian
  - The Escape
4. Eadu
  - Cassian's Decision
  - Jyn's Argument
5. Rebel Alliance Base
  - Alliance Refusal
  - Vigilante Scarif Mission
6. Scarif
  - Plan Transmission
  - Rogue One Sacrifice

## Scene 1

- The Ring of Kafrene
  - “a planet killer” (Edwards et al., 2016, 9:55)

Figure 1  
Tivik and Cassian Andor



From “Star Wars Universe” by Unknown Author, n.d., retrieved from <https://www.starwars-universe.com/personnage-3906-tivik.html>. CC BY-NC-ND.

## Scene 2

- Rebel Alliance Base
  - “[T]here will be no extraction. You find [Erso’s father], you kill him. Then and there.” (Edwards et al., 2016, 18:20-27)

*Figure 2*  
Cassian Andor



From “La serie di Star Wars su Cassian Andor ha un nuovo regista” by Paolo Armelli, 2020, retrieved <https://www.wired.it/play/televisione/2020/09/23/serie-star-wars-cassian-andor-regista/>. CC BY-NC-ND.

*Figure 3*  
Fugitive Jyn Erso



From “Star Wars Universe” by Unknown Author, n.d., retrieved from <https://www.starwars-universe.com/personnage-4150-jyn-erso.html>. CC BY-NC-ND.



# Scene 3: Eadu

*Figure 4*  
Eadu Jyn Erso



From "Star Wars Universe" by Unknown Author, n.d., retrieved from <https://www.starwars-universe.com/personnage-4150-jyn-erso.html>. CC BY-NC-ND.

*Figure 5*  
Eadu Cassian Andor



From "Ultra Tendencias" by Unknown Author, 2019, retrieved from <https://www.ultratendencias.com/2019/01/la-serie-star-wars-de-cassian-andor-de.html>. CC BY-NC.

## Scene 4

- Flight From Eadu
  - “I had orders. Orders that I disobeyed.”  
(Edwards et al., 2016, 1:11:35-39)
  - “Orders? When you know they’re wrong?” (Edwards et al., 1:11:41-43)

Figure 6  
Angry Cassian Andor



From “LucyBaird-Archive” by AimMyArrowsHigh, 2021, retrieved from <https://www.aimmyarrowshigh.com/post/653582233269043200>. CC BY-SA-NC.

Figure 7  
Jyn's Welcome Home

## Scene 5

- Return to Rebel Alliance Base
  - “Every time I walked away from something I wanted to forget, I told myself it was for a cause that I believed in.” (Edwards et al., 2016, 1:19:10-17)
  - “Welcome home.” (Edwards et al., 1:20:21)



From “[Cine] Crítica de Rogue One: Una historia de Star Wars” by Miguel Ángel, 2016, retrieved from <https://mundoshipoteticos.blogspot.com/2016/12/cine-critica-de-rogue-one-una-historia.html>. CC BY-NC-ND

# Answer the Question

- What is the effect that cognitive dissonance has upon intra- and interpersonal interactions in this film?
- It causes moral compromise.

# Limitations and Recommendations

- Fiction as Reality
- Relationships and Impacts

# Implications

- Individual words and actions in scope
- Christians' behavior as a living testimony (2 Cor. 5:17, 20)

# Review

- Ask the Question
- Literature Review
- Results and Discussion
- Answer the Question
- Limitations and Recommendations
- Implications

Just as one stone creates ripples across an entire pond, so too do individual actions cause collective effects.



# References

- Edwards, G. (Director), Weitz, C. (Writer), Gilroy, T. (Writer), Knoll, J. (Executive Producer, Writer), Whitta, G. (Writer), Lucas, G. (Writer), Dagfinnsson, L. B. (Producer), Emanuel, S. (Producer), Hart, K. (Co-Producer), Hefferman, T. (Associate Producer), Johannsson, F. (Line Producer), Kennedy, K. (Producer), McGatlin, J. (Executive Producer), Shearmur, A. (Producer), Swartz, J. (Co-Producer), & Towner, S. (Co-Producer). (2016). *Rogue one: A star wars story* [Film]. Disney+. Lucasfilm Ltd.; Walt Disney Pictures; Allison Shearmur Productions; Lionsgate.
- *English Standard Bible*. (2016). Crossway Bibles. (Original work published 2001)
- Festinger, L. (1957). *A theory of cognitive dissonance*. Stanford University Press.
- Harmon-Jones, E., & Harmon-Jones, C. (2008). Cognitive dissonance theory: An update with a focus on the action-based model. In Shah, J. Y., & Gardner, W. L. (Eds.), *Handbook of motivation science* (pp. 71-83). Guilford Press.