

## Evaluation

A professor by the name of Phillip Zimbardo once explained how power can easily get to a person's head, showing how easily one can turn against their friend and demean them, and just as easily gain admiration by hurting the weak. He did this through the Stanford Prison Study. Now it is not the time nor the place for me to go into great detail about it, and the only reason I am even mentioning it is because that study is one that is so eerily similar to the book 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's nest' that I figured I could draw parallels from it.

In the book it was pretty obvious that Nurse Ratchet was the jailor, keeping everyone in check and wielding her power much like a dictator would do, (do bear with me for I promise I am getting to my point, albeit in a slightly roundabout way) and using the threat of electroshock/electroconvulsive therapy as a way of keeping her patients in check. By doing so and continually subjecting her patients an unmeasured amount of electricity to the brain, she was killing their brain cells, inhibiting their neurotransmitters and dulling their synapses in their brain to a point where their brain would eventually shut down and only let involuntary actions rule the body and destroying the mind.

This surprisingly enough was a rather common practice in the fifties and sixties, and no one really was able to object to it, not till much later. This mistreatment was actually the reason I chose to base my project on ECT and all of its brutalities, though in all honesty I do have to say that in today's age they have vastly improved the treatment of patients and only use ECT as a last resort of last resorts, and not without through background research and tests.

So I essentially made a costume that is lit up to show electricity coursing through the wires strung through the burns on the fabric and the burn and blood indicate the brutality of the process. Also the glue gun drips and black and gray sheers are meant to show the dura matter leaking out of the brain, usually through the eyes and the nasal canal.

My project over all had very few glitches to be honest. I mean I tested each idea I had on strips of fabric before even going anywhere near the hospital gown I stitched. There were a few glitches in the beginning, to be honest, the fabric I got for the hospital gown a bit too thick and every time I tried sewing it on the machine the threads would snap after only a few stitches, during this I actually tried several different types of tread and two different sewing machines, but to no luck so I ended up hand sewing my costume, which in all honesty took quite a while.

After that I experimented with burning sample fabrics with the help of a soldering iron because I found that gives a more consistent burn and acts more like an electrical than simple fire does, though this task was a little tricky as I almost burnt myself on several occasions but thankfully I am still happily burn free, sort of. After that I started attaching the wire to the costume, and then strung the fairy lights through it which was pretty standard, though rather tedious. After which the fabric came and then fabric and the plastic pieces. Next I dripped the red fabric paint which I mixed a bit to look like blood. There was only one problem that occurred next. I was trying to create a sort of spider-webbing across the outfit with the help of the glue gun and silver and lavender glue sticks, except when I started doing this instead of it looking as it had on my test fabric it looked rather sloppy like as if no one had bothered to properly clean the rubbish of the costume so therefore I quickly scrapped the idea but couldn't properly remove all the glue bits so

instead I added more in bigger globs to drip over the fabric which actually intensified the effect a little.

I honestly loved making this piece and feel like it is best one I have done so far this year, and I even enjoyed it the most as it was the perfect blend of science and art, letting me be analytical and yet creative, for that is the true dream.

In all honestly when I started out I did have an idea of what I wanted in my head but I was not sure if that would ever pan out and somehow even though my final piece is not what I had originally pictured it I still rather love it and am happy with my end result.