

Thesis:

In the tragedy Fences, August Wilson vividly illustrates the intense struggle for control that persists throughout the play between Troy Maxson and his son Cory. Troy's harsh yet hopeful attitude towards his son and the decisions he makes emphasize the complex relationship; it is Cory's fearful yet defiant attitude towards his father's efforts to control his life that primary conflict between the two, revealing that change is often necessary in order to progress to a better future.

Paragraph 1 Topic Sentence:

Throughout the play Fences, Troy makes an active and persistent effort to control his sons' future.

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As the play progresses, the audience slowly begins to witness Cory transform into a more outspoken person, especially towards his father Troy.