"The Lottery" as Allegory

Groupthink

The main principle of groupthink is this: The more amiability and esprit de corps there is among the members of a policy-making ingroup, the greater the danger that independent critical thinking will be replaced by groupthink, which is likely to result in irrational and dehumanizing actions directed against outgroups.

Irving Janis, 1971

What aspects of "The Lottery" correspond with this definition?

Peer Pressure

Peer pressure is the influence exerted by a peer group, encouraging individuals to change their attitudes, values, or behaviors in order to conform to group norms. Social groups affected include membership groups, in which individuals are “formally” members (such as political parties and trade unions), or social cliques in which membership is not clearly defined.

Is peer pressure exerted in "The Lottery"? If so, how?

Can peer pressure be considered the first step toward groupthink? How?

What is the importance of ritual and tradition in peer pressure and groupthink?

How does "The Lottery" illustrate the dangers of group think?

Does groupthink exist today in small, isolated groups of people? How?