Conflict in “The Outsiders”

1. Types of Conflict in Fiction
2. Types of Conflict in “The Outsiders”
3. Humanities Society
4. *Homo Sapiens* Society
1. Types of Conflict in Fiction
a) Person vs. Person

- Central character clashes with another person
• Person vs. Person doesn’t necessarily have to be between two “persons”
b) Person vs. Self

- Main character battles him or herself
The person may have to address a challenging personal problem, make a difficult choice, or confront a conflict within themselves.
c) Person vs. Society

- The main character challenges a law, tradition, or institution.
Some Real-Life Examples...
d) Person vs. Nature

- The main character is not necessarily fighting against nature, but rather fighting in opposition to the forces of nature.
• The person may in fact be a great lover of nature, but finds him or herself battling for survival.
e) Person vs. Supernatural

- The main character battles against forces that are not of this world.
f) Person vs. Technology

- The main character resists technological forces. For example, he or she may battle against robots or hostile computers.
Artificial Intelligence: A Threat to Humankind?
Take 2 minutes...
Types of Conflict in “The Outsiders”

• In your “Outsiders” groups, come up with as many specific examples of the different types of conflict in the novel as you can.
5 minutes
The Outsiders

Time's Up!
Oh, it’s a mystery to me 
We have a greed with which we have agreed 
And you think you have to want more than you need 
Until you have it all you won’t be free.

SOCIETY | EDDIE VEDDER
Some ideas...

• Appearance (physical or clothing)
• Friendship
• Common interests
Questions for Your Societies

1. What were some reasons that people joined your society?
2. What do members of your society have in common?
3. How is your society different from the others?
4. *Homo Sapiens* Society

- Throughout their entire history (going back some 100,000 years), people have always organized themselves into groups
In prehistoric times, organizing into small groups gave individuals protection and increased their chances of survival.
Over time, groups became larger, especially with the beginning of farming. This led to the establishment of the first cities, around 10,000 years ago.
• Bigger cities and societies began to compete for land and other resources, leading to conflict. This hasn’t changed!
Rumble in “The Outsiders”
A Formula for Conflict

A person or group + “othering” = conflict
“Othering” because...

- Race
- Religion
- Social status
- Looks
- Age
- Interests
- To climb the social ladder
- Upbringing
- Jealousy
- Insecurity/Fear
- To gain an advantage
The Stanford Prison Experiment
Teen Conflict