

Film Journal, “*Gone Baby Gone*”

- 1) At the beginning of the film, Patrick states, “I always believed it was the things you don’t choose that make you who you are. Your city. Your neighborhood. Your family.” Do you agree with this? Do you think Patrick’s view about this is any different by the end of the film?
- 2) Why does Patrick want to take the case? Why does Angie want to take the case? Do you think that either of their reasons for pursuing the truth *change* throughout the film?
- 3) After killing Corwin Earle, Patrick reports that he feels shame. Several other characters (including Angie and Remy) suggest that Patrick should feel *proud* of his action. Which of these strikes you as a more reasonable response?

- 4) In a key scene, Remy claims that the moral status of murder “depends on who you do it to.” Patrick disagrees, saying, “Murder is a sin...it is what it is.” Do you think either character is right? Do you think either character is wrong?
- 5) Once Patrick learns what has happened to Amanda, what reasons might he have for leaving her there? What reasons might he have for calling the police? Which of these are *moral* reasons, and which are *non-moral* reasons?
- 6) Do you think that Amanda is better off as a result of Patrick’s decision? Why? Do you think that *Patrick* is better off?

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