Sinead Scott

QCQ #6

Quotation:

“No evil is worse than disobedience. / This one thing destroys cities, turns homes upside / down, it leads to the rout of allied armies; / while those who live uprightly are saved by / obedience.” (ll. 684-688 p. 38).

Comment:

This quote comes from Creon in response to his son, Haemon. Haemon is the fiancé of Antigone and thus when he comes to speak with his father, Creon is concerned about where is loyalty lies and he warns him that he should “Stand by his father’s ideas in all things” (l. 650). What struck me about this quote was the first line “No evil is worse than disobedience” because I think the idea of disobedience, of going against what those in authority have decided, is not evil in itself, but sometimes could be heroic. Though there are obvious reasons for laws and rules, and to an extent disobedience can be rude and or disruptive to a society, there are also times when its necessary for change, and that can be a good thing for “the people” albeit not necessarily for those holding power. It reminds me of the quote “well behaved women seldom make history.” While Creon is not speaking of this in particular, the notion that in order to change a society one has to be disobedient to the laws and thus the those in charge would oppose such actions (to deter people from creating change) is very much relevant today.

Question:

Who gets to decide the laws and thus decide who and what is or is not disobedient?