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## We Don't Talk Anymore

Have you ever experienced that empty feeling in your stomach? The pain in your heart and the horrible overthinking of what you could have done wrong? You probably haven't showered in a few days; you feel too weak and lazy to do anything about it. You have stopped eating properly and your house is probably filled with fast food bags and left-overs. Being ghosted sucks, talking to someone for a while, creating an attachment with them and then having them suddenly quit talking to you out of the blue can hurt a lot. Luckily there are many ways to go around this and to start feeling like a decent human being again. You just have to look for the right article, written by the right psychologist. F. Diane Barth's article, "Ghosted? 6 Ways to Make the Bad Feelings Disappear", does its job at persuading the readers, and contains a fairly strong use of rhetoric. The objective of this essay will be to evaluate the use of rhetoric in the article, starting with ethos, pathos and finally logos.

To start off, the ethos of the article. Throughout the article, Barth's use of ethos is considerably prominent and rather fair. She utilizes ethos in order to put weight on her claims. A good example this is the following, "Italian neuroscientists Giovanni Novembre, Marco Zanon, and Giorgia Silani have confirmed previous findings that the pain of social rejection and physical pain can activate the same regions of the brain.", here we can see she mentions the name of the neuroscientists as well as what they have discovered. Another example can be seen here, "Shame is one of the first responses of our brains when something or someone interrupts us in the middle

of doing something we are enjoying, says Silvan Tomkins, an early student of emotions.”, again she mentions the name of the researcher as well as their credentials.

Moreover Barth’s use of pathos in her article. The use of pathos in this article is very strong, and relies heavily on making the reader imagine scenarios. A great example of this can be seen in the beginning of the article “Han\* knew he had been ghosted. But he really liked the woman who had stopped answering his calls and texts and blocked him from her social media. He thought they were really well-matched. Wasn’t there a way he could convince her to give him another chance?”, this is only one of three different examples that the author has used to try to reach the reader’s emotions. By creating these different scenarios in her article of people whom might have been ghosted, Barth’s allows the reader to empathize with her examples and become intrigued on how to solve their predicament. “You were fantasizing about a possible future with this person. You thought he or she really liked you. And suddenly the rug was pulled out from under your feet. The relationship ended with a thud, your daydreams were cruelly cut off, and you were left with...what?”, Here is another example of Barth’s use of pathos in her article. Her use of this rhetorical appeal is spot on, filled with emotion and hypothetical situations designed to reach her readers, and it does very well.

Furthermore the last rhetorical appeal, logos. F. Diane Barth’s use of logos throughout this article is substantially weak. Even though there is certainly a use of logos, it is not strong logos, considering it lacks credible statistics and numbers. One of the few examples seen throughout the article is this “Some research has shown that emotional pain and physical pain

share a number of neural pathways.”, here she utilizes logos by talking about a research that was conducted, however, not very in-depth. Another example is seen here “...in one study half of the men and women questioned said that they had either ghosted or been ghosted. Interestingly, given the popular belief that guys do most of the disappearing, in this study more of the women admitted that they were perpetrators of the behavior!” even though she does mention a statistic, it doesn’t contain much numbers, and therefore it is not as convincing.

Lastly, F. Diane Barth’s article ,“Ghosted? 6 Ways to Make the Bad Feeling Disappear”, had an overall very strong use of pathos, however her logos and ethos had a weak and fair use, respectively. Looking back at the beginning of the essay, if any of the scenarios mentioned hit home, then it’s likely that you’ve been ghosted and it hurts. But fear not, this article will help you make some changes in your life and some realizations hopefully for the better. The last thing you’ll be wondering after this article will be “How did this person ever make me feel this bad?”.