How does Arthur Miller convey his social and political views in ‘All My Sons’?

Miller uses the final key speech of the play to summarise his overall feelings about society. Through the character of Chris, a character who has evolved and found himself despite his family's controlling grip, we encounter a passionate and heartfelt message. The immediate use of the personal pronoun 'you' addresses not only the socially blinded characters of Kate and Keller, but the audience also in being 'better' people, people who must be aware that they are responsible for each other. We have seen the greed, selfishness, and refusal to accept the truth with both Kate and Keller, and Miller wants to strongly convey to the audience that these 'parents' and adult figures are not moral and idealistic role models. These characters have sinned and have cruelly destroyed the lives of those around them for their own personal gain. Miller wants society to reflect upon their own actions, pondering if they too have been cruel and selfish whilst striving for their own personal needs instead of considering the greater impact on society around them. Furthermore, the finalistic phrase 'Once and for all' suggests Miller's frustration and exasperation with a society that has spent the last 6 years fighting, killing, betraying each other. He has witnessed first-hand a disjointed society in which no-one is looking after each other, stemming from political leaders all the way down to small businesses and individuals. Kate and Miller merely mirror the naïve and blinded principles of an old world which has shown to be corrupt and greedy. Perhaps Miller wants our frustration and anger towards them to manifest and project itself onto the real life villains of society, bringing together a collective consciousness that there is ‘a universe of people outside’ that we are responsible for.

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