

This Student Life – Series 2

EPISODE 9

Dur: 06:33

Music – dur: 00:15

EPISODE 9, SCENE 1 – ACTIVATE SESSION ONLINE

Online. All with no sound in background.

DAVE MIDDLETON:

Hi everyone, and welcome to tonight's Activate session. I'm Dave Middleton. It's great to see so many familiar names here and also some new ones I see. Of course, it wouldn't be an Activate session without Karen. Are you going to use your microphone tonight, Karen, and talk to your fan?

KAREN FOLEY:

Yeah, hello everyone. I'm Karen Foley, and Dave and I are going to facilitate this session tonight. I say facilitate because this really is an opportunity for you all to chat, share ideas and work on something for the conference.

DAVE MIDDLETON:

That's right. These will be weekly sessions, and what we're doing is basically working in groups on ideas for the conference.

KAREN FOLEY:

So tonight's session is going to be like an introduction and we're going to brainstorm some ideas about things that are interesting to us right now in the social sciences and then we can get into groups and have a chat about those things.

DAVE MIDDLETON:

OK, so you can see on the whiteboard here we've put a question. And it's what's interesting to you right now. So, we're going to all introduce ourselves either using the microphones, or if you don't want to use the mic you can use the chat box, and while we're doing that I'd just like you to write things up on the whiteboard.

KAREN FOLEY:

So just use the pen and write on the whiteboard. OK – let's start with Jack.

JACK:

Um. Hi my name is Jack. I'm doing PPE. I saw some of last year's conference on catch up and I want to be involved in some way, but I'm only just starting out, and I'm not very good at presenting or anything.

KAREN FOLEY:

Well I'm very glad you came along Jack. So, what did you like most about last year's conference?

JACK:

Oh, I liked all the politics stuff mainly, but it seemed really fun and people looked friendly.

DAVE MIDDLETON:

They are, and I'm sure you're going to meet some very like-minded people, and let's move onto one of our most regular Activate attenders – how are you, Katie?

KATIE:

Oh I'm good thanks, Dave. Jade's not been too well so I might need to dash off, but it's good to be back.

DAVE MIDDLETON:

Ah, great stuff, Katie – yeah, do go off if you need to. Donna – nice to see you also. How are things?

DONNA:

(pause) Oh, sorry – I'd forgotten to put my microphone on. Yes, no, I'm fine. Anyway, my daughter Louise is here too.

KAREN FOLEY:

That's brilliant, Donna. Welcome Louise, so what are you studying?

LOUISE:

Mum, how do I work the microphone? Oh there. Can you hear me?

DAVE MIDDLETON:

Yeah, you're coming through loud and clear Louise.

LOUISE:

Okay. Oh sorry. Yes I'm good. Mum says this will be fun, but I'm not so sure.

KAREN FOLEY:

Well I hope it is, Louise. Nice to see you here.

LOUISE:

It's not that bad, Mum, I suppose. It's quite simple to use anyway. Look here – see what I've put on the board.

DAVE MIDDLETON:

(laughs). Good, Louise, but don't forget to turn your microphone off if you aren't meaning for us all to hear. Right, so let's have a little look at the board then ... Mmmm. Lots here about gender equality.

EPISODE 9, SCENE 2: NEESHA AND SOPHIE IN THE OFFICE

Busy office environment.

SOPHIE:

And then he's like *(puts on posh voice)* "You're supposed to stack them this way". Honestly, what bloody difference does it make?

NEESHA:

Yeah. I don't know.

SOPHIE:

He's a stuck up git. Hey, are you listening?

NEESHA:

I'm trying to do some work, Sophs. I've got all these memos to get sorted for that event Mrs Giles is running. And, Sarah's on sick as usual....

SOPHIE:

Oh come on Neesh. You're still angry about that bloody book?

NEESHA:

No. I've forgiven you, especially as it was on my desk after all.

SOPHIE:

And you threw a cup of coffee over me. I can't imagine what Gary thought, but fair dos, he never mentioned it.

NEESHA:

Sorry Sophs. That was out of order. I've just got this temper, and I've just been a bit overwhelmed

lately.

SOPHIE:

Well I could give you a hand. Anyway, you've not been yourself since that last assignment. I thought you said you spoke to an Advisor and it was all sorted.

NEESHA:

Yeah, she was really lovely. And, she was right about contacting my tutor.

SOPHIE:

Well you're lucky your tutor was so understanding.

NEESHA:

Yeah. I know. I mean, the first assignment was so easy, but I just didn't think I could do the second one. I mean, I know it's only like 750 words, but I haven't written a proper essay in ages.

SOPHIE:

So what did he say?

NEESHA:

Oh, Matt. He was really nice about it. You know, I'm so glad you made me go to that second tutorial.

SOPHIE:

Why?

NEESHA:

I felt so stupid after that first one. Why do I always have to ask the stupid questions? Anyway, it was just easier to explain things. He stayed with me for half an hour after, and we had a really good chat. It turns out that it's just writing about inequalities and differences that you know about on any street.

SOPHIE:

OK – that's easy peasy. So what street are you going to write about?

NEESHA:

Well, *my* street. And how that's all changing you know, and the neighbourhood is getting really run down and no-one owns their own homes any more.

SOPHIE:

Right. Well I don't really get how that's all about inequalities, but at least you're more positive.

NEESHA:

Well, who has access to work, employments, benefits. You know it's a diverse community but not everyone is equal.

SOPHIE:

Yeah, I guess you're right. Well rather you than me.

NEESHA:

Oh you'd have been fine.

SOPHIE:

Anyway, so, you going to Zumba tonight?

NEESHA:

No. I'm going to get this essay done. Yet another sacrifice I have to make as a hard-working student.

EPISODE 9, SCENE 3

Louise is on the phone to Caitlin and Donna walks in. Mobile phone rings. Whilst Louise is on the

phone, a door opens and closes in the background which she will not hear.

LOUISE:

Caitlin hi ... Oh yeah, there've been developments ... Well, that Slimebag has put it about that I had an affair, then when I was confronted with it I just upped and ran off. This is what he's told the courts in Australia, who've ignored the fact he's been shagging Miss Money Penny and blamed me ... Exactly, anyway, he's now got custody of the kids too ... No, of course not. Listen I've got to go. I don't know what I'm going to do.

DONNA:

Louise?

LOUISE:

Oh Mum, I didn't realise that you were standing there.

DONNA:

Obviously. Were you intending to tell me any of this?

LOUISE:

I just didn't want to worry you. You've enough on your plate.

DONNA:

Well now I am worried, so what is going on?

LOUISE:

It's a long story, but the short version is I'm penniless.

Music – duration: 00:06