

PUSHED

THE STAGE PLAY

Written by

Maire Campbell

Pushed by Maire Campbell

Writer's Notes for the Director:

CAST: 4-20 Actors (Approx.) All characters can be any GENDER that suits the cast, simply change their name and adjust the dialogue if necessary. If the cast is small the actors can play multiple roles. Due to the dramatic atmosphere of the play, it is a young actor's dream to deliver such a deep and compelling script. This play relies on the 'ensemble', i.e. Every actor giving their full focus and being on stage helping create the tension and drama at all times.

GENRE: Drama/ Contemporary Tragedy. This play is purposely hard hitting in nature, this is intentional, so that the starting to take or sell drugs or making illegal choices has real and terrible consequences. Although dramatic and tragic, the language is appropriate for the young cast and audience.

DYNAMISM: Pushed has been written for young actors from c.14 to c.18 years old. The script has huge scope for incorporating movement ideas, dialogue additions and music suggestions from the young cast themselves.

STAGING: This play is dynamic and mobile, it can be performed in a classroom with no props or lights, right up to working well in a fully functional theatre. The use of projection onto white sheets is a dramatic suggestion but not essential - the story can be delivered without this.

SOUND: Sound effects will add drama and atmosphere but are not essential.

MUSIC: Music tracks have been suggested simply as ideas. Encouraging the young cast to create their own sound track would increase their sense of ownership. Remember to check potential copyright issues.

CREATING SAFE SPACE TO PROCESS: A 'post show' Q+A or workshop is very important. The cast and audience are invited to openly talk about the themes raised, in a safe space, offering hope, direction and what to do should similar issues arise in real life. The post show 'chat' can also offer support within the school or group and/or helpline numbers where appropriate, such as; the confidential charity dedicated to young people reporting crime; FEARLESS.

STYLE: Minimalist. The set can be as intricate or as minimal (none) as the director likes. Perhaps some chairs, or boxes might help with levels. The actors are on stage at all times. When we focus on just one or a few actors - the other actors freeze or stand/sit at the stage edges.

All actors must remain focussed throughout to enhance the drama and 'high stakes' this piece must convey.

IMPORTANT NOTE: SCENE 13 is essential and has been written in this way (i.e. Breaking the fourth wall/actors speaking as themselves etc.) for a reason. As this is a performance that deals with serious issues head-on, including death, it is so important for the audience to see the young people speak as themselves. This helps the more vulnerable/sensitive members of the audience know for certain that it is not 'real' and has been played by actors and is simply representative of the reality of drug taking and drug dealing. This scene is the main conclusion where hope is offered and the sign posts are given to anyone finds themselves involved in similar situations. As mentioned, this play has been written to stimulate thought and discussion, therefore a post-show workshop and/or Q+A is strongly recommended.

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SCENE 1

Stage is dark. Still.

SOUND: Music is played at low level. Music suggestion, "Mind Control" Side Effects.

In the dark, whispers rise, beginning one at a time.

ZOE: Help Me. Help me. Please.

KATIE: Why? Why?

ACTOR 1: Pushed. You're being pushed.

ACTORS: *(A few together)* Pushed. Pushed. Pushed.

ACTOR 2: You left her.

ACTOR 3: We are arresting you on suspicion of...

JOE: I told you not to get caught.

These whispers now REPEAT, while new whispers enter.

ACTOR 3: She trusted you.

ACTOR 4: You want to be footballer, fat chance now.

ACTOR 5: Why did you do it?

JOE: Touts get hurt, understand me?

A soft spotlight lights MIKEY.

Mikey is tossing and turning in bed (Blanket or duvet on risers/boxes/floor). Mikey sits bolt upright. These are the voices in his troubled head.

The voices rise in volume, to shouts.

MIKEY: AGHHHH! STOP!

The voices stop. We hear just one last voice -

ZOE: Help me. Help me. Please!

SILENCE

SCENE 2

SOUND: Music suggestion - "Wake UP" by Boo Radleys

Music plays throughout Scene 2, a stylised CHOREOGRAPHED scene. Suggestion - the young cast could create the movements.

One by one the ACTORS 'wake'. All differently. All spread out on different levels or spaces on the stage.

Most reach for their phones first, before they are fully awake. Some go back for a snooze, some jump up and look in the mirror. Some do more rushed homework.

Gradually all rise to their feet, facing the audience.

The Actors have white sheets when they wake, representing being in bed. They now hold up these sheets - making a 'SCREEN'. Then, the question -

- HAVE YOU EVER BEEN PUSHED? -

- Is projected onto the sheets. Then, all sorts of images that represent teenagers' lives can be projected.

The sheets can also be used in this movement piece. This is a stylised piece where we watch the Actors, in time with music, move/dance as they live their everyday lives - e.g. Get ready for school, fight, laugh, put on make-up, do exercise etc. Use of slow-motion and/or mime could be highly effective here.

SOUND: School bell. Music stops.

Actors FREEZE.

Actors break the freeze. There is an excitement as it is the end of school day. The Actors chatter and mess about as they make their way to the edge of the stage.

SCENE 3

Zoe and Katie are in conversation.

Zoe: Nightmare. Total nightmare.

KATIE: That is a nightmare.

Zoe: They just shout and argue all the time. It does my head in. How can I do my course work with all that going on?

KATIE: Did Mrs. McCardle pull you in today?

Zoe: Yea. (*Impersonates teacher*) "Zoe Black I need to have a word with you."

KATIE laughs.

ZOE: "Where has your focus gone Zoe? You could get a B if you tried, but you're just not trying..." (*Pause*) I don't care anymore.

Zoe breaks down a little.

Zoe: With everything going on in the house with Mum and Dad and I feel so behind everyone else in the year. It's like the teachers just pile it all on top of you. Like their subject is the ONLY subject in the world.

Katie reaches into her pocket and brings out a gift bag.

KATIE: Here you go.

ZOE: What's this?

KATIE: Just a wee something to cheer you up. I know you're going through a hard time and... just open it. It's nothing big, so don't get too excited.

Zoe opens up the gift box. She lifts out a key-ring. Zoe swallows back her emotions and smiles widely.

ZOE: You're joking me! Shut up!

Katie reads the inscription -

ZOE: Best Friends Forever.

Katie holds up one too.

KATIE: Yea. I got one too, to match. It'll all work out. And... it'll be summer soon!

ZOE: Let's head off this summer. Go interrailing!?

KATIE: Emm, not sure I'd be allowed.

ZOE: We're both going to be sixteen by then. We're allowed to do what we want. Katie, it's time to live our dreams, not just think about them! Maybe New York! Or Florida, swim with the dolphins.

KATIE: You and those flippin dolphins. Yes I know, I know. All seems a good idea but may I remind you we've no money.

ZOE: Katie! You are such a nerd. You're like one of them... ..boring ones that goes on what do you call it that TV programme...Countdown! (*Laughs*) We can get jobs, sell your tropical fish, I don't know, something. We'll find a way. But I'm going to have fun...if it KILLS me!

KATIE: You're mad. Anyway, me and Granny love Countdown.

The girls laugh, then HUG. A group of two or three shout over at them.

ACTORS: Ooooo! Watch you don't kiss!

BOY: Here? Do I get a hug too?

Actors laugh and jeer.

ZOE: Shut up. You're so immature.

BOY: (*Mimicking*) Shut up. You're so immatuuurree...

KATIE: Get lost!

They scuttle off jeering and laughing as they go.

ZOE: Why are ones our age so annoying! I feel so much more mature than them. Anyway thanks BFF, I can count on you.

KATIE: Always.

SCENE 4

SOUND: Music suggestion Want To Want Me (Dance remix) Jason Derulo

Actors space out on the stage, unevenly.

Mikey goes from person to person, group to group. Mikey has a swagger and a charisma. We are not sure what he is doing. He seems popular, but suspicious.

SCENE 5

Zoe and Katie see Mikey. They giggle as they look at each other.

KATIE: (*Teasing*) Ahhh - you like him!

Zoe: Wise up! I do not!

KATIE: Why are you taking a redner then?

Mikey shouts over -

Mikey: Y'alright girls? What's the craic? What's happenin'?

The girls giggle. Mikey tilts his head beckoning them over.

KATIE: (Whispers) He's asking us over? Who is he?

Zoe: (*whispers to Katie*) Don't know but I'm gonna find out. He seems like a bit of craic.

KATIE: I'm not bothered Zoe. Think he seems a bit weird. He's old like.

ZOE: He's only about seventeen or eighteen.

Katie is reluctant, but the girls walk over to Mikey.

Mikey: C'mon well. I've got something for ya.

From inside his jacket he pulls out two cans.

MIKEY: Here you go.

KATIE: (*To Zoe*) I'm not sure.

Zoe reaches forward and takes a can.

Zoe: I've drunk before you know.

Mikey: I'm sure you have.

KATIE: (*to Zoe*) No you haven't.

ZOE: Shut up Katie.

Zoe takes a drink. She hates it -

ZOE: That's nice.

MIKEY: Thought you'd like it. What's your names?

ZOE: Zoe.

KATIE: Katie. What's yours?

MIKEY: That's for me to know and you to find out.

Zoe giggles.

SCENE 5a

Here, we continue Scene 4. Scene 5a indicates the passing of time and now we SEE Mikey is receiving money from the young people.

SOUND: Music suggestion Want To Want Me (Dance remix) Jason Derulo

Lights down, then up.

SCENE 6

MIKEY: You got it?

ZOE: Yea.

Zoe hands him £5 and Mikey hands her and Katie a can each.

MIKEY: *(To Zoe)* You're class you know? I've liked gettin to know ya over the last few weeks. You're so, like, mature and stuff compared to other girls your age. And you like to have a bit of fun.

ZOE: Thanks. What age are you?

MIKEY: Seventeen.

KATIE: You seem older.

ZOE: Thought I saw you playing football in the park on Saturday.

MIKEY: Yeah, you cudda done. I'm gonna be a footballer.

ZOE: Like professional?

MIKEY: *(This is more information than he would usually share but he can't help showing off)* Yea. Man United. I go in the summer to like a summer camp thing and then see what happens. But yea they've already said they want me, pretty much.

The girls are impressed.

MIKEY: Yea...

SCENE 7

DAY-DREAM SEQUENCE:

Mikey steps forward, we enter his imagination -

MIKEY: ...playing football's all I want to do...

SOUND: Football match sounds. Chanting crowd.

The Actors split on the two sides to become the crowd. In mime Mikey then 'plays football'.

One Actor stands near the audience and becomes the FOOTBALL COMMENTATOR.

COMMENTATOR: Smith takes the ball.

Crowd cheers.

COMMENTATOR: Smith passes one defender, then another. He shoots...

Crowd sighs.

COMMENTATOR: ...and misses. Smith takes possession again. Very good play from the young man from Northern Ireland.

Mikey moves like he's on the pitch, almost like a dance.

COMMENTATOR: Smith still has it! He passes probably one of the best players in the league, like he's a school boy. What a dynamic talent. Speed, form. He moves now into the box, he strikes... Smith has scored!

Crowd cheer.

COMMENTATOR: Smith has won the cup for the reds!

Mikey snaps out of his day dream.

MIKEY: Anyway see you around, yea?

Zoe: See ya.

SCENE 8

SOUND: Music suggestion, repeat - "Mind Control" Side Effects.

Actors weave in and out of each other. Money changes hands.

Mikey pulls up his hoody as he ducks and dives around the stage - stopping to talk with the young people.

Zoe and Katie hand money to Mikey.

SOUND: Music changes to ominous music/sounds Suggestion is "Every Breath You Take" Nightcore (Deeper Version) as -

- JOE enters. The Actors turn in slow motion as he walks through them. They lower to their knees symbolising the status/hold he has.

Mikey sees Joe, pulls up his hoodie and darts over to him...

Actors retreat to their side lines.

MIKEY: Alright?

JOE: Dead on mate. Yourself?

Joe looks around shiftily, to make sure no one is watching. He hands Mikey a package.

Mikey then passes over a large roll of cash.

JOE: All be here?

MIKEY: Yea.

JOE: Better be.

Joe looks around again.

JOE: I've heard the peelers are sniffing about, so just keep an eye. And whatever happens, don't get caught.

MIKEY: Alright. You're starting to sound like an auld doll...

Joe pulls down Mikey's hood and grabs his hood with both hands.

JOE: Listen ya wee rat! Do you hear me? DO NOT GET CAUGHT! Coz it won't just be gettin locked up in the clinker you'll have to worry about.

Joe looks down at Mikey's legs.

JOE: You like the use of your legs don't ya? Wouldn't be much use on the football pitch without good knees, now would ya? You get me?

Mikey pulls away.

MIKEY: Alright, I hear you. I won't get caught.

JOE: No, I don't think you hear me at all? I'm talking about wee Ben?

MIKEY: My brother? What about Ben?

JOE: Oh, now who's actin like an auld doll? I'm not wastin any more time warnin ya.

If you mess up or get caught or go soft, well, let's just say Ben will be spending a wee bit of time in the hospital.

MIKEY: He's ten.

JOE: You seem to mistaking me for someone who gives a fiddler's...?

MIKEY: Look, okay Joe. I'll watch out. You have my word.

JOE: That's what I like to hear. Right, off you go then. I'll be expecting big takings next week. Oh and Smith, be a good boy.

Joe smirks, pleased with his power trip. Mikey flicks his hood back up. Here is an opportunity for a movement piece with the theme of being watched and under someone's control.

SOUND: Suggestion, Nightcore - Every Breath You Take (Deeper Version)

SCENE 9

Katie and Zoe are getting ready. Mime fixing hair/makeup.

SOUND: Music plays at low volume in the background.

KATIE: I'm not doing it any more.

Zoe: Wise up Katie.

Katie: I'm serious. I can't afford it apart from anything, and I think my Da is starting to suss it out.

Zoe: It's only a laugh. Everyone drinks.

KATIE: I know but... he... he...

Zoe: Mikey?

Katie: Yea. He just wants money. It's more than you would pay in the off-ie.

ZOE: Yea but we can't get it. He's alright so he is.

KATIE: You like him.

ZOE: Maybe he likes me, did you ever think of that?

KATIE: Zoe catch a grip. He doesn't. He just wants money. He's a dealer. All they care about is...

ZOE: I'm not stupid. Look I just want to have fun. Anyway, change of subject.. I just said to Mr. Michaels, when he asked me what I wanted as my career... Deep Sea Diver. He near had a heart attack. But that's what I said. I said, 'Deep Sea Diver'. And do you know what the *(Raises her fingers as apostrophes sarcastically in the air)* "careers" teacher said? He says, *(Impersonates Mr. Michaels)* "I'm not sure that's very practical. Would you not consider pharmacy or IT? There's lots of jobs in computer science, it would be a safe future."

KATIE: *(Laughs)* That is sooo like him. But, you are such a liar.

ZOE: I'm not. You know Katie, I don't want to do a normal job. Sitting in an office all day. I want to be free. Remember I posted the video of me swimming with the dolphins in Florida?

KATIE: You have mentioned once or twice.

(OPTIONAL - Actors step into stage and hold up the sheets - project images of holiday photos as Zoe talks)

ZOE: I got 200 likes for that, and it's still being shared. It was class. That was two years ago can you believe that? I'll never forget that holiday. Anyway, I just said to him, no I want to be a Deep Sea Diver, maybe for Greenpeace or something like that. You know for research and the environment, make a difference with my life, you know?

Katie is fixing her hair.

KATIE: Yea, Yea.

ZOE: Katie, are you even listening to me? Hey, go easy with the eye brows there Wolverine. *(Laughs)* No, more like Nanny McPhee! Mikey said to meet him at six, so you may hurry up.

KATIE: I knew you were all dressed up for a reason.

ZOE: Are you coming?

Katie: No. I'm not. Can we not go out without meeting him?

ZOE: Katie wise up and come on. He says there's a bit of street party happening apparently.

KATIE: No.

ZOE: I'm not going on my own, I'll look like a loner. It's just a laugh. He's a good laugh and, I think he likes me. I don't know why because I'm a sight... that's when you're supposed to say 'no Zoe you're lovely'.

KATIE: (*Sarcastically/monotone*) No Zoe you're lovely.

ZOE: (*Thinks*) I'm going to take one tonight.

KATIE: What?

ZOE: You have to try things once. Mum's been doing my head in, on and on at me about studying. Her and Dad are just rowing all the time, they think I can't hear them. Come on. It's just a bit of fun, you only have one life! Nothing bad will happen.

KATIE: Okay okay. But only drink. We're not doing anything else. Okay? Promise?

ZOE: Yes promise. OMG you look gorgeous. Right best friend, selfie, then let's get going!

SCENE 10

SOUND: Music suggestion is, "Music Sounds Better With You" Stardust.

The Actors hold up the sheets. Colours project into the sheets, like the side of a tent. Then they swoop away.

The Actors move and mime a street party. Dancing/chatting etc. Some DANCE e.g. Break-dancing etc.

Joe watches on

ACTOR: Hia Mikey.

ACTORS: *A mix of greetings - they all know Mikey.*

ACTOR: How's going?

MIKEY: Grand yea. Can't complain.

A teenager called Alex steps forward.

ALEX: Hia Mikey, look, em, can I get it to you next week?

MIKEY: What's the opposite of yes?

ALEX: No? But I don't have it.

MIKEY: Here's the thing. You owe me £25

ALEX: But I only owed you a tenner!

MIKEY: Consider it interest for being unreliable and messing me about.

ALEX: I don't have that kind of money.

MIKEY: Does your Ma leave her handbag about? Get it from there.

MIKEY: Right folks catch yis later.

Joe stops Mikey.

JOE: Good stuff. You're learning.

ALEX moves down stage, centre. Directly behind him two Actors representing his thoughts T1 and T2.

T1: Don't show you're scared to anyone. They'll think you're soft.

T2: Why did I ever start?

T1: Maybe I should tell Mum.

T2: NO way she'd kill you. And then she'd go to the Police. Then you'd get everyone in trouble.

T1: I could get it from Granda's money jar. He'd never notice. Well, he might.

T2: I don't know what to do.

The above dialogue of thoughts gets repeated over and over again, faster and faster. Actors hold up the sheets - nightmare images e.g. Shadows like monsters appear.

Boy is scared. He runs into the sheets and gets tangled up in them. He is dragged away - representing being out of control.

SCENE 11

Zoe sees Mikey.

ZOE: (to Katie) There he is.

The Actors are at the 'street party' - they part stylistically. They freeze, then 'come alive' at suitable moments throughout this scene.

MIKEY: What's the craic girls? You seem awful serious? Looks like you need the Mikey-myster to cheer yous up a bit. What's up?

ZOE: Nothing much.

Mikey: Looking well Zoe girl.

KATIE: (*Interrupts, sarcastically*) Thanks.

MIKEY: Yea you look nice too.

Katie passes him some money.

Mikey stops and looks around.

KATIE: That's for 2 cans each.

MIKEY: No problem. Thanks. And I gave yous a discount.

ZOE: Yea thanks.

MIKE: Don't mention it. Right, got something for you. C'mon up here.

KATIE: Up the alleyway?

MIKEY: Yea, think of it like the VIP area.

SOUND: A low drone / ominous music rises.

The Actors 'melt' away from Zoe, Mikey and Katie - giving the impression the three have walked away from the street party.

Looking around, Mikey pulls out a clear plastic bag with some pills in it.

Katie: Zoe, let's go.

Mikey: What's the rush wee girl?

Katie: Zoe. Seriously this is mad.

Mikey: (to Zoe) Did she get hit with the boring stick?

ZOE is torn, but is 'under Mikey's spell'

ZOE: She's alright. (To Katie) Katie it's ok. We don't have to.

MIKEY: Yea look yous don't have to at all. I mean everyone else is but then they know how to have a good time. Parents and teachers and all just warn you not to so that they keep control of you. They don't want you to have a good time. Anyway they were all doing it in their day.. '90's raves and all that.

Katie steps forward. Two Actors as both sides of her CONSCIENCE (C1 and C2) stand near her.

C1: Just go. Get away. Run.

C2: If Zoe's doing it then it's okay.

C1: He's a creep, and you know it.

C2: You're in it now, there's no getting out anyway.

C1: Go grab Zoe and get the two of you out of there! You're scared. Just admit it. Go and tell your Dad, Mrs. McCardle, someone.

C2: What? And then get suspended. Miss your exams? All for a bit of fun? Apart from anything you deserve this. You've had drink and have owe him money every week now. You're tied in. There's no way out.

C1: It's not too late. Katie listen. If Zoe doesn't want to come that's her problem. Leave. Get away from him now.

C1 and C2 back away.

Katie: Look you're being pushed into this. You're being PUSHED!

ACTORS: *(From the side lines, in desperate whispers)* Pushed. Pushed. You're being pushed. He's a pusher. Pushed. Pushed.

Katie: Zoe? Let's go. Zoe. Zoe.

Zoe shakes her head - no.

KATIE: Right, well I'm away on.

Mikey: Hey, where are you going?

KATIE: *(defiant, under her breath)* Away from you.

Mikey: What did you say?! You'd better not breathe a word of this. Do you hear me?! Touts get hurt. You get me?!

Shocked, Katie sprints off.

ZOE: She's alright. She won't say anything. Listen, I'd probably be best to head on as well. See if she's okay.

Mikey 'puts on' the charm -

Mikey: No problem you can go if you like, but, em, I was thinking we could just hang out for a while?

Zoe smiles shyly.

MIKEY: I tell you what... you have your first one on me. It makes you feel class. Like all your worries just fade away like.

Zoe reaches her hand forward, and takes the pill. All goes slow as she puts the pill in her mouth. Mikey takes one too.

Zoe and Mikey freeze up stage, while -.

Katie steps down stage. Her conscience voices speak -

C1: Katie! You can't leave Zoe.

C2: You asked her. You did everything you could. She's the one having a good time not you. Typical you, Miss Goody-two-shoes. No wonder you're not popular, you never do anything fun.

C1: GO and tell someone Katie. Or even go back and

C2: Are you mad? Katie it will all be okay. Chat to her tomorrow. Sort it all out then.

Return back to -

SCENE

Zoe and Mikey laughing, sat against the wall.

Mikey: Have another one. You can get me it next week no bother...

Zoe starts to panic. She rises to her feet. Her face goes red, she can't breathe!

Zoe slumps to her knees. Mikey stands up now.

Mikey:(unnerved) You okay? Hey. What's going on?

ZOE: I can't breath. Help me. Help me! Please! (*Coughs and gasps for air*)

Mikey doesn't know what to do.

ACTORS: (*Frantic stage whispers*) "Run!" / "Get out of there!" / "She's putting it on." / "She'll be okay." / "Run." / "What are you waiting for?" / "Don't be soft." / "She's not your problem."

Mikey edges away from Zoe. Zoe's haunted, frightened eyes, lock with his for a brief heart stopping moment.

ZOE: Help me! Please.

Mikey as he flicks up his hood and RUNS AWAY!

Zoe is lying on the stage - lifeless.

SOUND: Music suggestion, "Someone You Loved" Lewis Capaldi.

A sheet is draped over her body.

SCENE 12

SOUND: Music suggestion, "Someone You Loved" Lewis Capaldi levels rise and fall as the actors speak.

Katie stands centre stage. Alone. Behind her the actors are holding up their sheets. Social media messages about Zoe's death, newspaper articles etc. Are projected onto the sheets.

KATIE: *(Breaks the fourth wall and speaks directly to audience)* I should have done something. I should have said something. Best friend forever? Some best friend I was. *(Pause)* They don't know who killed her. If I say something now... then I'll get into trouble...

C1: It's too late to help Zoe. But you can help others.

KATIE: I had to do something. Something to help save others, like Zoe. I went to Mrs. McCardle our Teacher. She actually was really understanding. Although I was scared stiff, I told her everything. All about Mikey, everything.

SOUND: Music track is paused.

Mikey is held by two Police Officers -

POLICE: Mikey Smith we are arresting on suspicion of...

MIKEY: NO! NO! Please! No, I haven't done anything wrong. I didn't push her, she took it of her own free will. There must have been something wrong with her. No! I have a football trial in two weeks.

ACTOR: *(To audience)* Mikey will never live his dream of being professional footballer. Instead he's behind bars. Joe was arrested too.

Joe (Fuming) stands as if hand-cuffed in court.

ACTOR: Joe Quinn the jury find you -

ACTORS: GUILTY!

SOUND: Cells doors clunking shut.

SCENE 13

SOUND: Music suggestion, "Someone You Loved" Lewis Capaldi.

The music levels rise as fall as the Actors speak, as themselves rather than in character.

The Actors spread out solemnly, taking a space on the stage.

Each actor speaks (Ideal for workshopping with the young cast i.e. They can decide what it is they want to say to the audience.)

Some Actors hold up the sheets and here the 'signposts' of where to get help, such as; the confidential FEARLESS charity can be projected here.

ACTOR 1: If you find you are in a situation that is causing you stress, then tell someone.

ACTOR 2: There is always someone to help - a friend, a teacher, a youth worker...

ACTOR 3: ...you could also contact a CONFIDENTIAL helpline called FEARLESS.

ACTOR 4: Do not get involved in drugs.

ACTOR: in the last Five years X young people died from taking an illegal substance...

ZOE: Don't let it be you.

KATIE: Or your best friend.

MIKEY: Do not be persuaded to sell or deal drugs.

ACTORS: Never be... PUSHED.

SOUND: Music rises and ends - we hear the final poignant lyrics -

- "I let my guard down and then you pulled the rug, I was getting kinda used to being someone you loved."

The End.

