

SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

by MOLLY WU

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: A Christian man in a relationship tries to convince his friend (and himself) that living with his girlfriend is completely reasonable.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Mike can't afford to be the 'villain' of the scene, and Shawn likewise can't be judgemental in the final line. We need to like both of them for the scene to work.

TIME: 4 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2M

THEME: Abstinence, Relationships

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Romans 12:2

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Seeker Service, Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

MIKE
SHAWN

PROPS: Coffee cups, napkins, wrappers with a bagel, coffee cake, etc.

COSTUMES: Contemporary

SOUND: Wireless mics, if desired

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A coffee shop

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
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Lights up on MIKE and SHAWN, seated at a table in a coffee shop, SHAWN munching on a piece of coffee cake.

MIKE: It's about Katie.

He takes a deep breath.

We've decided to move in together.

It's unclear whether SHAWN is in fact about to say anything at all, but MIKE cuts him off.

Aaah! Before you say anything, before you say anything, just hear me out. Okay?

SHAWN: *(around a mouthful)* Okay.

MIKE: Katie and I have been dating, exclusively, for a full year.

SHAWN: Mm-hm.

MIKE: We're very much in love.

SHAWN: Yes.

MIKE: So what's the problem?

Not waiting for SHAWN to respond.

We want to be with each other, and only each other, for as long as this road takes us.

SHAWN: Right.

MIKE: But we've both been married before. Both been through extremely painful divorces. And neither of us wants to follow a road that takes us down that aisle again.

SHAWN: Mm-hm.

MIKE: Marriage wasn't exactly a 'safe place' for either of us, you know?

SHAWN nods, and MIKE begins building up steam.

It's not a safe place for most people, if you look at the numbers. I mean, what's the divorce rate in this country? Fifty-two percent? Are we really supposed to keep following a plan that has a track record of only working half the time? When it's already failed for both of us? We don't want to dive into a no-win situation.

What's the problem with that?

Again, not waiting for a response. Attacking the 'debate' with new energy: