

COMMUNITY OF FIVE

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Five very different women bring their doubts, fears, and worries to a small group meeting and discover how they can benefit each other.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: There is comic potential for the other characters remaining in the scene each time a character steps out. During rehearsal, have actors who are not "stepping out" freeze in humorous positions that might emphasize what the other character is saying, meaning the moment should work to enhance the whole piece rather than being a funny moment that might prove distracting.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 5

TOPIC: Women, Relationships

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Proverbs 27:17

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Women's Events

CHARACTERS:

RACHEL—A busy, frazzled, stay-at-home mom

JANET—A lonely career woman

DEB—A divorced working mom

ANNA—A lonely young woman dealing with issues from the past

TAYLOR—A sweet, innocent, but dumb blonde

PROPS: Lemonade pitcher, glasses, furniture, Bibles

COSTUMES: Modern dress

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General; possible spotlight use

SETTING: A nice living room

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
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The setting is RACHEL'S living room, a very nice "Leave It to Beaver" style home. There is a knock at the door. JANET walks in from the kitchen and answers the door. JANET enters.

RACHEL: Well, hello there. I'm Rachel.

JANET: I'm Janet.

RACHEL: Janet! Oh, it's good to finally meet you.

JANET: Same here.

RACHEL: Please, come on in.

JANET: Thank you. My, what a lovely home.

RACHEL: Oh...that's so nice of you to say.

JANET: It really is lovely.

RACHEL freezes. JANET steps out of the scene to reveal her thoughts. This is a device that will be used throughout the sketch, as each character has short asides while others freeze and the character reveals her inner thoughts.

JANET: Look at this place. It's like something out of Leave It to Beaver or Donna Reed! This woman is Donna Reed. All the pictures of family. Look, there's even one of the family dog. I don't deserve to set foot in a place like this!

RACHEL: *(Steps out)* Look at her, checking this place out. No fooling a sophisticated woman like that. She knows this place was wrecked until about three PM today. She can smell it. The toys, the dog, the pizza stains in front of the couch.

They cheerily step back into the moment.

RACHEL: Something to drink? Iced tea? Coke? Fresh-squeezed lemonade?

JANET: Oh—lemonade sounds lovely.

RACHEL exits. JANET steps out.

JANET: Fresh-squeezed lemonade? Did you hear that? She's rubbing it in my face! She's Miss Happy Homemaker while I'm Miss Hate My Job, Wish I Could Find a Man Before I'm Thirty So I Can Have Kids. Maybe I could conveniently get a cell phone call to make my escape.

JANET steps back. RACHEL brings in lemonade and a tray of drinks. She pours some for JANET.