

TELL THEM I CARE

A dramatic sketch  
by  
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## TELL THEM I CARE

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## CHARACTERS

Chrissy..... A young mother

Jen.....A female social worker

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(The front room of a working class flat. Sound of a doorbell. Female voices off. Chrissy comes in followed on by Jen)

- Chrissy (Hand to hair) I must look a mess ... can I get you a coffee or anything?
- Jen Not just now
- Chrissy Wayne said I shouldn't let you in, that I shouldn't have anything to do with you
- Jen How is he?
- Chrissy He's still very angry – they let him phone me last night but he got cross again and put the phone down.
- Jen That's why we had to do what we did.
- Chrissy He can't really help it
- Jen I know he can't help it but he's got to learn
- Chrissy He says they lock you up in there for twenty-three hours a day and some of the screws are real bastards
- Jan That's only till they can trust him - he shouldn't have done what he did.
- Chrissy Is that guy OK?
- Jen He's still off work. The doctor says his nose will mend but he'll have a permanent scar
- Chrissy It's because you said you were taking Darren and Kylie away, he's not normally that bad
- Jen Chrissy I know what he's like, I've seen what he's done to you in the past – so don't tell me, "He's not that bad"
- Chrissy He just thinks so much of his kids.
- Jen That's why I've come to see you ... you know we've been having meetings don't you?
- Chrissy Yeah, but it'll be OK now that he's inside
- Jen He won't always be inside will he?
- Chrissy I suppose not

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Jen           And when he gets out he'll be at it again

Chrissy       He only hits me when he's drunk

Jen           He wasn't drunk when he head-butted Mr Wilkinson

Chrissy       It was because they said they were taking Darren and Kylie into Care - he just lost it

Jen           And he's the reason that we were called out in the first place

Chrissy       He doesn't hit them - he only hits me

Jen           We don't know that, do we?

                  (Beat)

Chrissy       When can they come home?

Jen           (Hesitant) You remember that meeting where we said that it would be best if you didn't see him again?

Chrissy       How can I do that? They're his kids

Jen           We know they're his, but you did say that you'd try

Chrissy       I did try but he doesn't listen to me - he just keeps coming back – I tried moving but wherever I move to he always finds me

Jen           D'you remember what was said at that last meeting?

Chrissy       Which one? There's been so many of them

Jen           The one in Mr Wilkinson's office

Chrissy       I can't remember

Jen           We said that you could keep Darren and Kylie on one condition ... do you remember?

Chrissy       Yeah

Jen           Do you remember what the condition was?

Chrissy       That I finish with Wayne.

Jen           And you haven't have you?

Chrissy       I 've tried