

# KIDS AND COMMUNICATION NOT!

Written by Christine Miller

**Theme:**           **Communication**

**Cast:**

*Mum*

*Teenage son*

**Scene:**

*Son is home from school, watching TV, food in hand. His school bag on the floor. Mum comes home from work. She's got some shopping bags in hand.*

**Props:**

*Chair*

*Washing basket*

**Mum:**           Hi ...I'm home.

*Son doesn't say anything. So mum looks at him and continues.*

**Mum:**           Oh Hi mum how are you?... I'm fine Phil how was your day... good thanks mum  
but I got a detention for swearing at the teacher... that's nice dear.

**Son:**           *(Son smiles)* Hi mum how was your day?

**Mum:**           *(Mum comes up and kisses him)* Lovely thanks dear.. and I appreciate you asking.  
How was your day?

**Son:**           Good..... I had a science test today.

**Mum:**           A science test?

**Son:**           Yeah.. it was easy. It was multiple choice. I reckon I got 70%.. or more.

**Mum:**           But I asked you last night if you had any homework and you said no.

**Son:**           I didn't have any homework

**Mum:**           *(mum says slowly)* Yes you did. You had a science test.

**Son:**           You didn't ask me if I had a test.

**Mum:**           I asked you if you had homework.

**Son:**           That's not homework...and you didn't ask me if I had a test ..and I forgot.

*(Mum being patient)*

**Mum:** Why did you forget? Did you write the test in your diary?

**Son:** No one uses a diary mum. I just forgot. I did ok anyway.

**Mum:** Mmm. Imagine how well you would have gone if you'd studied.

*(Son looks "yeah yeah" )*

**Mum:** Do you have any homework tonight?

**Son:** Nup.

*(Mum looks carefully)*

**Mum:** Do you have any tests this week?

**Son:** Nup.

*(Mum starts to walk away and then stops)*

**Mum:** Do you have any assignments due this week?

**Son:** No.

**Mum:** Books to read?

**Son:** No

**Mum:** Speeches to do?

**Son:** ....Oh Yeah... for Health.

*(Patiently mum pulls herself in control)*

**Mum:** Honey, that's homework. A test or an assignment or reading. Anything that requires you to work at home.... is homework.

*(Son has already tuned out)*

**Son:** Yeah alright

*(Exasperated Mum looks out the window)*

**Mum:** Well here's the rain. I'm glad you got that washing off the line. Where did you put it?

**Son:** What?

**Mum:** The washing ... you did take it off the line like I asked you?

**Son:** Yeah. It's outside.

**Mum:** What? (*Mum rushes outside to get the washing and returns with a basket of wet washing*)

**Mum:** Honey you left it outside and now it's all wet.

**Son:** Oh.... Sorry mum. ..I took it off the line... like you said.

**Mum:** Phil... when I say it's going to rain can you take the washing off the line.. don't you think I mean for you to bring it inside as well.

**Son:** Ahh ..... I ...ahhhh.

**Mum:** Never mind. Next time I'll give more information. What do you have to do your speech about?

**Son:** Ahh ...Something about communication.

**Mum:** Communication? Tough one. ...If you need any help with it, give me a yell.

**Son:** Nahh.. I'll be right mum. It'll be easy.

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