

Role cards

<p>You are a 20 year-old trainee carpenter, working for a company. It will take you two more years training to become a qualified carpenter. You are single and you rent a room in a house with 3 other people. Recently, you got into trouble with the police, driving a car without papers. You need to drive a car for work, so you are worried.</p>	<p>You are 17 and doing really well at school. You hope to go to university, to do law and perhaps become a solicitor. But you are also a good footballer. You live with your mum. Your mum comes from Nigeria and came to this country before you were born. Your dad still lives in Nigeria. You speak two languages well and understand your mum's language.</p>
<p>You are 18 and finishing school. You want to join the police force and you have the qualifications you need. This has been your ambition since you were 12 or 13. You have been a kind of leader at school, although you don't have a girlfriend but all your friends do – people think this is strange. It's not strange to you.....you are gay and have a boyfriend that nobody knows about.</p>	<p>You are 17 and in a secure unit (a prison for juveniles). You have a 1-year sentence for repeated theft – you have been stealing (bicycles, mopeds, cars) for a long time. You don't have any qualifications. When you get out of prison, you want to find a job and your own place. You don't think your mum and dad will let you live with them again (maybe a few days?).</p>
<p>You live in a home for young people with special learning needs. You are 18 but people often say you behave like a 14 year-old. Your mum and dad are dead. Sometimes you don't understand some things, like train times and stuff, but there's a girl you're in love with. You want to marry her. You make chairs and tables in the workshop in the home and you get paid for it. You're saving money for your wedding.</p>	<p>You're 24 and doing post-graduate research on embryology. You're very interested in ethical issues such as IVF (in vitro fertilisation), cloning, gender selection. You have written two essays which you are trying to have published. You believe the public has a right to know what's going on and what you have a say in all these questions. You live in university accommodation – you play in a band and get paid a bit.</p>
<p>You're 24 and you work in a garage as a hi-fi fitter (DVD/CD/Audio systems). You're good at what you do and you get a lot of extra private work. You share a flat with your younger brother. You're a good table-tennis player. There are plenty of women in your life. You'd like life to stay like this for ever.</p>	<p>You are a manager of a shoe shop. It's not your shop but your pay is alright. At 23 you're pleased with your achievement. You still live with your parents but you're thinking of renting your own place. But what really interests you is the community association you belong to (in fact, you're the chairperson). It does a lot of work around environmental projects, which you are passionate about.</p>
<p>You are a 23 year-old young man without a job. You have a university degree in Modern Art but you can't find work in that field. You've been looking for one year. You live at home with your parents. They are both retired, although your dad does some driving work to bring in enough money to pay the bills. You are working in a bar, while waiting to find work to do with your degree.</p>	<p>You are 16 and you live with your mum who has Parkinson's disease. Your dad died last year. Although you try to go to school regularly, some days you have to stay at home to help her. The doctor says that she won't get any better. Your neighbour, a young woman with a baby, is usually there in case of emergencies, but it's difficult for you to go out with friends, because you're always worried your mum might have an accident.</p>
<p>At the age of 25, you have just qualified as a teacher – Information & Computer Technology. You are married and live in a rented apartment. Your wife owns a little flower shop. You enjoy your work and have many imaginative ideas about teaching young people.</p>	<p>You are 25 and work as an insurance consultant. You have a 1-bedroom flat. You have fallen in love with a woman – really fallen in love for the first time. So you decided to have an STD test to make sure everything was OK (you'd had unprotected sex a few times before meeting her). The results have come back - HIV positive.</p>

<p>You are a 17 year-old young man – no brothers or sisters. You cannot use your legs because you were in a car accident ten years ago. You live with your mum (your mum and dad are divorced). You have done well at school and you would like to go to university, but you don't think your mum has enough money to support you there. You have friends and you are quite sociable – you'd have a girlfriend.</p>	<p>You are a 19 year-old young man. You finished school without the qualifications you needed – your mum says you just messed around but it was more complicated than that – you weren't exactly encouraged! You dad came to this country long before you were born and you were born here – although some people act as if you don't belong here. You've got a part-time job working in a warehouse.</p>
<p>You are 23 and in your final year of studies – you are certain you will soon qualify as a doctor. You hope to be a surgeon. Your dad is proud of you – he has his own pharmacy business. When you finish your studies, you're going to go on a long holiday somewhere hot – you're not sure whether to go with your girlfriend or some of your student friends – it would be more of a laugh with the guys!!</p>	<p>You are a 16 year-old boy. Your eldest brother, who's married, is 26, the next brother is 19. You are in the middle-ability group at school and you're not confident about the exams coming up. Your dad is an electrician and works for the city council. Your mum – she's a housewife, but she does some voluntary work with old people. You don't really want to do the same job as your dad – you're not really sure what you'll do in the future.</p>
<p>You are 22 and you use heroin. Your life revolves around heroin. The people you live with and most of your friends are users. It's getting very difficult to earn enough money to pay for your habit. You work in a shoe shop but you've been missing days off work in the last few weeks. One of your friends "sells her body" to get money – she suggested you could do the same</p>	<p>You are 19, living at home with your mum and dad. You work in a supermarket, filling shelves, labelling goods etc. You wanted to work in a bank, but you need a maths qualification. You find even basic maths really difficult – they won't even let you work on the till in the supermarket. When you try to do arithmetic the numbers seem to move around – it's so frustrating!!! Sometimes your boyfriend calls you stupid.</p>
<p>You live with your sister. You are 19 and she's 22. You work at a vet's, where you are training to become a vet yourself. It's going well – you enjoy your work and you've a good boss. There are a couple of guys in your life – nothing too serious.....and you're ok with that.</p>	<p>You are a 23 year-old model, something you started when you were 17 or 18. At first you did a lot of catalogue work, but now you've started getting international magazine work. You have a lovely apartment in the city...perhaps you will buy it in the future. Your mum and dad live in a small village in the countryside and you're able to give them some money now and then. This makes you really proud.</p>
<p>You are 22 and a secretary for a tourist company. You speak your own language, English and another language (your mum's language). You do a lot of paper and telephone work. You left school as soon as you could, so you don't have many qualifications, but the company relies on you a LOT. You like the work but you're beginning to think you could do some more interesting work around culture and tourism. You still live with your parents – you are very popular with men.</p>	<p>You are 16. Your dad is a taxi driver and your mum works as a school dinner lady. School is OK. You're not sure what you want to do when you "grow up" but everyone is putting pressure on you to make choices! Why? There's loads of time... You love music...so do your girl friends...and the boys you fancy most are the ones who can dance...</p>
<p>You are 24 and you drive buses. You have to listen to lots of rubbish about "women drivers" but you are a really good driver (better than most of the men – who get angry very easily!). You rent a room in a house with a garden. You love your garden and you grow your own flowers and vegetables. Your friends think you're weird! You're studying meditation...</p>	<p>You are 17. You hate yourself. Well, sometimes. Yes, you cut yourself...cut your arms with razors...You live with your mum and think she doesn't know that her boyfriend abuses you. For two years now. School – you still attend but you can't work properly. There are boys you like – but they seem so young.</p>

