

The Censor

Reflective Questions for Families

Parent & Carer Guidance: **Talking About Difficult Topics**

- Start with curiosity. Ask open questions like “What did you think when they mentioned...?” rather than giving quick answers.
- Normalise the conversation. It’s okay to admit that topics like sex, violence, or drugs can feel awkward. Saying “I don’t always know the right words, but I want to talk about it with you” is powerful.
- Validate their feelings. If they say “that was scary” or “I didn’t get it,” acknowledge it before offering your perspective.
- Give accurate information. Misconceptions spread fast (online, among peers). Be ready to gently correct without shaming.
- Keep the door open. Let them know they can come back later if they don’t feel like talking right away.

Reflect and share your thoughts with your children and young people.

- What surprised you most about what the young people put on stage?
- Were there any moments that made you feel uncomfortable? Why do you think that was?
- What rules do you think are fair when it comes to what young people can watch, read, or listen to? Who should decide?
- Did anything the young performers said remind you of feelings you had when you were their age?

Initial questions for families

- What part of the show stood out to you most?
- Was there a character, object, or moment you related to?
- Did anything in the show feel funny, strange, or surprising?
- How did you feel watching the young people and parents on stage together?

Middle layer questions (exploring themes)

- The show was about censorship. Who do you think should decide what's okay for young people to watch, read, or play?
- Do you think the young people on stage were being treated fairly by the adults? Why or why not?
- How did the show make you think differently about rules? Are they always helpful, or can they sometimes get in the way?
- Were there parts that felt a bit scary or uncomfortable? What helped you get through that feeling?

Deeper questions

- Some of the scenes showed things like violence, alcohol, or body image pressures. How do you come across those themes in your own life — at school, online, or with friends?
- Do you think talking openly about topics like sex, drugs, or violence helps keep young people safer? Why or why not?
- The young people in the show worried about the future (climate change, war, being judged). Do you share any of those worries?
- If you could make one "rule" about media or information for your generation, what would it be?



Resources available for families.

Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 (24/7 confidential support for young people aged 5–25. Phone or webchat).

Parentline Victoria – 13 22 89 (8am–midnight, 7 days. Support for parents and carers on parenting challenges and tricky conversations).

Lifeline – 13 11 14 (24/7 crisis support for anyone experiencing distress).



headspace – 1800 650 890 | headspace.org.au (Mental health and wellbeing support for 12–25 year olds).

eSafety Commissioner – esafety.gov.au (Guidance on online safety, social media, and managing harmful content).

1800RESPECT – 1800 737 732 (24/7 support for family, domestic, and sexual violence).

True Relationships & Reproductive Health – true.org.au/resources (Parent resources for talking about consent, puberty, and relationships).