

PSHE & CITIZENSHIP

BBC Three – My Murder



How to use BBC Three My Murder drama in the classroom

What is the BBC Three My Murder drama?

This drama was broadcast on BBC Three and is based on the true story of the murder of 16 year old Shakilus Townsend in 2008. Before using the teaching resources specially produced to accompany the BBC Three My Murder classroom clip, we strongly advise teachers read the actual news stories that were published at the time (which can be reached from our homepage) so that they understand the potential upset this story may cause to students. The content will spark challenging discussion and debate. Teacher facilitation of these resources is essential.

The content is intended to support and enhance the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum for students 14 years old and upwards. They highlight the serious dangers and consequences of gang culture and provide discussion points around the themes of bullying, power, respect and the joint enterprise law.

The resource includes a shorter classroom clip from the hour long drama. To accompany the clip there are 4 PDFs which include Teaching Ideas, Key Questions and Sources of Help and Advice.

These are:

- **Handout 1** - Relationships
- **Handout 2** - Rights, responsibilities and the law
- **Handout 3** - Gang Culture
- **Handout 4** - Facts about Gang Culture

Alongside the classroom clip, teachers can see how the content maps to the curricula for England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

In addition to the classroom clip, there are 4 character monologues dramatised from the perspective of the characters on remand. There is further teaching content written specifically for each of the 4 character monologues which will help stretch and challenge students' understanding of the themes:

- Danny's Character Monologue - Respect
- Rugrat's Character Monologue - Gang Culture
- Rugrat's Character Monologue - Joint Enterprise
- Samantha's Character Monologue - Power

It is important to note that these clips should be used with the teachers content due to their contentious nature. This drama is based on actual events. Some minor characters have been created.

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Lesson Delivery

It is not expected that teachers can deliver all of the resources in one lesson but we do recommend that the lesson is delivered in a particular sequence so that everything is contextualised.

We suggest watching the actual news stories, reading the resources, watching the classroom clip with the accompanying notes.

Classroom Clip breakdown

00.00 - 02.51 minutes: BBC News Report from 2009

02.51 - 15.14 minutes: Scenes from the BBC Three dramatisation

15.14 - 15.50 minutes: Shakilus' mother looks back at his murder

15.50 - 16.32 minutes: Real images of Shakilus and the seven gang members that were all detained at her majesty's pleasure

16.32 - 17.38 minutes: Shakilus' mother talks about his funeral

At the end of the classroom clip it says that the seven gang members were all 'sentenced to life for murder'.

At the end of the character monologues, however it details the number of years each gang member was sentenced to.

The actual technical term for life imprisonment for juveniles is called 'detained at her Majesty's pleasure'.

If teachers require further advice or direction on how to conduct a lesson, please use the following link on the BBC Three My Murder website to get in touch: **'Ask us a question, tell us what you think or make a suggestion!'**