

Bank of plays

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BANK OF PLAYS

The following plays are based on real life episodes but revised to secure the confidentiality of the people and workplaces involved.

For the Forum Power Plays:

Choose the plays that are most applicable to your workplace. You can also adjust the plays some to make them even more relevant for your workplace but make sure to keep the main storyline and the climax of the situation.

A forgotten memory

Roles:

1. Johanne is 24 years old and works at a group housing. She is relatively new to the job and enjoys it quite well so far.
 2. Åke is 50 years old and has a disability which means that he needs a lot of support and care from staff. Åke has lived in a group housing all his adult life. He is a social and happy man who likes to enjoy company at home.
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The environment:

Åkes housing where he lives by himself but regularly receive support and care from staff. The situation unfolds in the bedroom. It's just Johanne and Åke inside Åkes apartment.

Situation:

Johanne and Åke have just returned to Åkes apartment and are in the process of the evening routines. They are on their way from the bathroom and into the bedroom.

Earlier this evening they had a nice social time in the common living room. Åke had a few beers and it is noticeable that Åke is in a good mood.

Johanne tucks Åke into his bed and fixes the pillows and duvet so he lies comfortably. Åke is never really satisfied with the sleeping position, so the bedding takes some time. Johanne leans over Åke to move the pillow one last time and tells him that "enough is enough". Then Åke smiles at her and asks her to lie down in bed next to him.

Johanne moves away from the bed and tries to laugh it off. She is surprised by what Åke proposed and feels a discomfort when she leaves the room.

Harassing site manager

Roles:

1. Emma, a young girl of 22 who has got a new job as an office assistant in a newly started company, where she is the only woman. She works closely with the department manager.
 2. The department manager, Peter, is 42 years old, married and has three children. He is well-liked in the company and is the type who often tells jokes and jokes when the staff group is gathered in the coffee room.
 3. Other male colleague(s) sitting around the coffee table (if more than two participants in the play)
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The environment:

Around the coffee-table at the break room at the company.

Situation:

Emma is sitting down at the coffee table in the break room. The site manager comes in and starts to compliment her for her looks. Peter takes a seat at the table. He grabs the household roll and starts making movements with his hand up and down while looking at her.

Then he takes the paper towel under the desk and lets the paper towel hit the underside of the tabletop, while at the same time he slams his hand down on the table and says: "Can you hear how it hits the table in excitement?" You just have to come here (points in front of him) and sit in front of me.

Emma uncomfortably conforms to the situation but tries to feel flattered. It doesn't feel right, instead she feels small and shy. She also knows that it will be difficult to do anything about Peter's behaviour, Peter's boss is in a relationship with Emma's mother and has made sure that she got the job, which she is also afraid of losing.

Peter laughs out loud of his joke and looks very content, while Emma replies: "Haha, very funny".

“Double-D Cup”

Roles:

1. A woman in her 30s working in a group housing. Her name is Linnéa.
 2. A man working night shift at the same group housing. His name is Philip, and he is around 50 years old. Philip is a friendly and very talkative man who likes to gossip and make jokes.
 3. A bystander who is the colleague of Linnéa and Philip.
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The environment:

The office at group housing. It's around 9 in the evening and Linnéa and Philip and their colleague are in the same room.

Situation:

Linnéa sits and writes the report for the day before she goes home. Her colleague sits in the same room and relaxes a bit before going home. Philip, who works the night shift and to whom Linnéa is to report, enters the room.

He says to Linnéa that he was trying to explain who she was to another colleague. When the colleague did not understand, Philip had then described Linnéa as “the double-D-cup who works at Group housing 3”. “And then she immediately understood who I meant!” Philip says to Linnéa. Philip laughs and thinks he is very funny.

Linnéa looks at him, seemingly surprised. Philip replies that he is surprised that she has never heard this nickname used about her before.

Linnéa then realizes that there are more people than Philip who use this nickname when they talk about her.

The other colleague in the room doesn't say anything.

The old lady and the substitute

Roles:

1. A young man working as a substitute at a group housing for people with intellectual disabilities. He is new to the job and has no training in this profession. His name is Anton.
 2. The user is a 70-year-old woman with an autism diagnosis named Carina, who has lived in this group housing many years. She usually completes the shower routine by herself but sometimes needs support to reach certain parts.
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The environment:

Carina's housing where she lives by herself but regularly receives visits from staff. The situation unfolds in the bathroom.

Situation:

One morning Anton is tasked with supporting Carina when she is going to shower. Anton has never worked with her before and is told by his colleagues that she is able to do most things herself, but that she needs support to reach certain parts.

Anton comes to Carina's housing and helps her into the shower. She washes her whole body herself and is almost done when she suddenly turns to Anton and asks him to wash her vagina. This makes Anton very uncomfortable, as he had just seen how she washed everything herself.

He's not sure what to do in this situation but tries to joke about it to avoid helping her.

The charismatic relative

Roles:

1. Alida works at a group housing for people with intellectual disabilities. She is in her 20s and has been working here for about six months.
2. Johan is a relative of one of the residents and visits his relative quite often. He has met Alida a few times before and is usually nice and charismatic when he arrives at the group housing.

The environment:

The office at group housing. It's around 9 in the evening and Linnéa and Philip and their colleague are in the same room.

Situation:

Alida is alone in the kitchen of the group housing. Johan knocks on the door and Alida opens. Johan says that he is on a quick visit to his relative today, which Alida notes and allows him to go in to his relative.

After Johan visits his relative, he finds Alida in the kitchen and walks up to her. Johan comes close and says, "I'm very sorry, but I just have to tell you one thing." Alida thinks he has something important to tell and listens attentively. Johan then says: "You really have very nice breasts". Alida is shocked and speechless. A couple of seconds pass before she realizes she should tell him he's not allowed to say that, but since she was shocked by the situation and Johan was already on his way to leave, she just shows him out.

The limitless

Roles:

1. Physiotherapist: Male, early 50s. In addition to individual treatments, he is also responsible for several training teams at the clinic. His name is Jens.
2. Patient: Woman, in her 70s, married and lives in the same residential area as the clinic. She has chronic hip pain with contractures around the hip joints. Follows one of the physiotherapist's training teams. Her name is Jessie.

The environment:

Treatment room at a physiotherapy clinic. The door is closed during treatment. The brix is ready in the middle of the room. There are blankets and other equipment on a small shelf.

Situation:

Jens fetches the patient in the waiting room and brings her to the treatment room. Jessie sits on the table in his treatment room and the physiotherapist sits on his chair.

Jessie says: "I wanted to get treatment from you because I think you can help me" (looks at him and smiles big).

Jens smiles weakly at Jessie and says: "Thank you and yes, I will be able to help you. I would like to offer different types of treatment - stretching, massage and exercise, how would that suit you?"

Jessie agrees: "That sounds fine."

Jens: "Ok, then we'd better get started, and I'd like to ask you to take off your pants."

While Jessie takes off her trousers, she says with a big smile and with direct eye contact: "So for you, I will take off all my clothes."

Jens replies: "No, it's not necessary now, just the trousers and then you can lie down here on the couch" (pats the couch).

Jessie lies down on the couch wearing a T-shirt and panties and Jens gets ready to put a blanket over Jessie's lap, but she waves the blanket away and says: "You don't need that."

Jens: "Yes, I will, it is part of the treatment." Jens starts the treatment.

Shortly into the treatment, Jessie says looking directly up at Jens: "Now that you are doing the massage, you could also give me the vaginal stretching that my gynecological physiotherapist gives me."

Jens says, somewhat bewildered: "Uh, no, now I'm giving you the treatment we agreed upon."

The fucking exercise

Roles:

1. A young female physiotherapist is giving treatment to a male patient for the fourth time and will be treating the patient again next week. Her name is Marie.
2. The patient is a 70-year-old man who is in treatment for Parkinson's. His name is Eric, and he has a military background. Eric has received treatment at the same physiotherapist clinic for many years. He enjoys coming there because of the social interaction during the treatment.

The environment:

A workout room at a physiotherapy clinic. Workout tools are available in one of the corners of the room. One of the walls is covered with full figure mirrors. The windows at the back of the room are facing the street, so the blinders are often closed during training sessions. The door is closed. Outside the work out room there is a waiting hall and the reception.

Situation:

Marie and Eric are alone in the work out room. They are doing different walking exercises by changing the speed and the rhythm. After a while Marie instructs Eric how to do an exercise for the pelvic by drawing large circles with her hips holding her hands on the hips. Instead of doing the exercise, Eric starts to laugh.

He looks at Marie and says: "When I was in the military, we used to call this exercise the fucking exercise."

Marie knows that Eric can be rather brash and cocky, but the comment surprises her. She pulls herself together and says: "Eric, I have to say that I find your comment rather inappropriate."

Eric looks at her and continues to laugh ignoring her comment. Marie proceeds with her instruction of the pelvic exercise, trying to keep a professional attitude. Eric begins to do the exercise chuckling while watching Marie.

After a short while Marie ends the training session and says goodbye to Eric feeling uneasy but is in a hurry to receive the next patient.

Friend request

Roles:

1. Kuura – a young part-time nursing home employee and quite new to the job.
 2. Puro – a health care user who lives in a group home.
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The environment:

Contextualize the situation according to the circumstances of your own workplace.

Situation:

Kuura works in a nursing home for people with challenging behavior. The clients have, among other things, various developmental challenges, autism, etc. A new client comes to the nursing home - named Puro, who has also been convicted of sexual harassment and abuse.

Kuura soon notices that the new client has started to like oneself more than just a staff member or friend. One evening, Puro asks if Kuura would like to come smoke with him. Kuura goes out with Puro, and they sit on the bench and talk. Puro wants to say something but seems shy. Kuura senses that Puro will say something inappropriate and try to change the subject to something more neutral. But then Puro picks up the phone and writes "you're nice" and "you're good-looking" on it and shows it to Kuura. Kuura feels uncomfortable but explains that they are a member of the staff. Puro says he understands but looks disappointed. While Kuura started to walk back to the housing, they felt the phone buzzing a lot in the pocket. Kuura picked it up and saw that Puro had looked Kuura up on all their social media accounts and sent friend requests. Kuura felt more uncomfortable, looked back at Puro and saw him smiling.