

A script from



“Desperate Housewife”

by
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- What** A stay-at-home mom is desperate to talk to someone other than her baby. She resorts to making friends with a telemarketer. (Themes: Mothers, Loneliness, Parenting, Connecting, Relationships, Fun)
- Who** Woman- late 20's to early 40's; very frazzled; in sweats or pajamas
- When** Present day
- Wear (Props)** Couch
Phone
Laundry basket
Baby's toys
Fish bowl
- Why** For fun
- How** This monologue requires good comic timing. Make it realistic as if you're actually listening to someone on the other end of the phone. The mom gives answers only to appease the telemarketer, but really wants to get into a friendly conversation. We get the feeling that the telemarketer is the one who really wants to get off the phone for once. It's funny if the mom is changing positions on the couch, as if she were a teenage girl talking on the phone to a girlfriend, throughout the monologue. Plant squeaky baby toys so that she sits on them or accidentally squeaks them. Make this as natural as possible.
- Time** Approximately 6-8 minutes

*Sound effect of a phone ringing. It ends when the **MOM** answers the phone.*

Note to actor: The comedy of this skit is all in how you respond to the telemarketer. The Mom really just wants to talk or connect with someone.

Hello... (frantically struggling with the phone; the mom is ecstatic that someone has called her, even if it is a telemarketer) ...hello? I'm sorry, who are you with?

(It's a telemarketer who says she with a company that takes surveys on products and asks if she has time to take a survey)

Oh, oh...sure the baby's asleep and I'm not really doing anything. Well I mean I stay busy, I have loads of laundry so I work, but yeah I have a few minutes. Ask away!

(The telemarketer asks her if she's married or single.)

Married.

(Telemarketer asks how many children she has and how old they are)

Four - 8, 6, 3 and 1. Three boys and a girl. You know everyone asks if the girl is the last but, no, she's my third so then they wonder why the fourth...don't you think that is just rude?

(Telemarketer asks how old she is)

Huh? Oh. None of your business! *(she's just kidding)* Hah, I'm just kidding. I'm 33. How old are you?

(Telemarketer tells her how old she is)

Really? Well you sound much younger.

(Telemarketer asks what kind of cereal she uses)

Mostly Fruit Loops™ and Cheerios™. I have to give my youngest Cheerios™ 'cause he breaks out in a rash with the Fruit Loops™.

So what's your name? Rosetta? Oh that's beautiful.

(Telemarketer says "thank you")

You're welcome.

(Telemarketer asks if she owns or rents their home)

We own.

(Telemarketer asks if she has any pets)

Two dogs and four fish... *(looks at the fish bowl and turns her head as if the fish is belly up)* uh...make that three. We had a turtle but I put it outside to sun and it ran away.

Do you have any kids? Rosetta?

(Telemarketer answers "yes" and then asks what she feeds her pets)

Pedigree™ for puppies. So what are their ages?

(Telemarketer says that she has teenagers and that they are almost old enough to drive)

Oh yeah, no...I know I'm not looking forward them driving.

(Telemarketer asks what kind of toilet paper she uses)

Charmin™ when it's on sale.

So...do you like your job Rosetta?

Uh huh,...uh huh....*(Telemarketer says that people who talk a lot are very annoying; Mom doesn't get the picture)* Talkative people, yeah I see.

(Telemarketer asks how much milk they drink)

At least two gallons a week.

So what's the most obnoxious thing someone has said to you?

(Telemarketer tells her what someone said once that was very rude)

Huhh! No! You are kidding me. Well he sure didn't know much about anatomy.

(Telemarketer asks her if she uses any coupons and where she gets them)

Coupons from the Sunday paper.

So did you tell your boss about the *(listens; the Telemarketer says that she told her boss about the rude comment and the boss didn't do anything about it)*... oh I am so sorry. Oh I just wish you were here so I could give you a big hug. You just let me talk to him so I could tell him what was what...

Ohh I would! I'd say "you better be nice to Rosetta or her friend..."

By the way my name is Melinda... "her friend Melinda will take care of things."

(Telemarketer asks her how many times she eats out)

Twice a week.

So where are you from?

(Telemarketer tells her she's from Colorado)

Oohh I have never been there but I've heard it's gorgeous. I live in Texas.
(telemarketer says that she knows where she lives) How did you know that? Oh right, area code.

Hey Rosetta, how long have you been married? (Telemarketer says 20 years) That's wonderful.

(Telemarketer asks her what she cooks for dinner)

Mostly chicken and a lot of McDonalds. My husband thinks we should trade in the oven for Chuck E. Cheese tokens.

(Telemarketer makes a funny comment)

That's what I said...he didn't laugh.

(Telemarketer asks what brand of washing detergent she uses)

Cheers Color Guard™

(Telemarketer tells her that that was the last question and the survey is over)

Oh no. Really? No more questions. You haven't asked me a thing about my car. It's a Suburban. I don't know the license plate number but I can go look...

(Telemarketer quickly tells her that there is no need for that, she has everything she needs)

You sure? Cause I don't mind. Okay, well it was nice talking to you. Hey maybe I could call you sometime. What's your number? *(looking for a pen and paper, but can't find it fast enough)* 1-800-ANSWERS.

(Mom is dejected and sad that the telemarketer has to go. We get the sense that the telemarketer is the one who can't wait to get off the phone)