

INT. CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Dawn enters the center to find RHONDA, 18, fun loving, trusting, and supportive in a game of checkers with some of the regulars, most of whom are unkempt, homeless, or recovering drug addicts.

A couple of the people are elderly, one sits in a wheelchair. Of special interest is Gladys, 39, well groomed, kind looking, but nearly unresponsive. She sits alone, seemingly out of place.

Rhonda notices Dawn come in.

RHONDA
(to fellow gamers)
Hold up guys. I have to check in
with my girl.

Rhonda comes over to Dawn.

RHONDA (CONT'D)
(to Dawn)
Hey, I didn't think you were coming.

DAWN
You were just worried about a ride
to school.

RHONDA
That too.

DAWN
Yeah, well we're walking. Robert
has my car today.

RHONDA
Why?

DAWN
Don't ask.

RHONDA
Is that lipstick you have on 'cause
it's definitely not your color.

DAWN

Shut up, you're just jealous because I don't need any of that play dough.

RHONDA

Yeah right, so listen, the dickhead blew me off again last night.

DAWN

No, he didn't.

RHONDA

Yes he did.

DAWN

That asshole.

RHONDA

What do you think I should do?

CHECKER PLAYER

Rhonda, come on, it's your move. I don't have all day.

DAWN

He does keep a busy schedule.

Rhonda and Dawn laugh. Rhonda walks away.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Hey.

Rhonda looks back. Dawn motions her head toward Gladys.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Is she having a good day?

RHONDA

How would I know. She never talks.

DAWN

You just don't know how to listen.