

TUCKSHOP TROUBLES CONFIDENTIAL FACTS PARTY A

CHRIS (MIDDLE SCHOOL CAPTAIN)

You don't know what happened because everything seems to have gone so well. You are really upset as you worked very hard and it doesn't seem fair that the Principal is going to take the captaincy away from you.

Why won't the others accept responsibility for what happened? They seem to expect you to accept all the blame.

Well it certainly isn't your fault. If everyone did the right thing then it must have been an accident that the plug came out of the freezer, so surely the punishment is too tough for that? No-one has told you that they didn't do everything by the rules. Of course, they may not have been prepared to talk to you. You did give out a lot of orders without talking to the Committee. They are all very angry with you. It is very important to you that you become the happy group you were before.

You want to stand for School Captain when you are in year 12 so all this is very bad for your reputation. Having said that, you can't apologise or anything like that because you have nothing to apologise about! You can't see what could have gone wrong. You told Shannon and Alex to mind the Tuckshop and gave the responsibility for patrolling the outside area to Vic, so there can't have been any strangers about. You took care of the really hard job, making sure everything was okay in the hall.

Perhaps it was Shannon and Alex who helped themselves to some food without paying and accidentally kicked the freezer plug. The way they have been carrying on certainly looks like they are hiding something.

You are worried about the school camp possibly being cancelled and are desperate to try and think of ways of making up the difference for the damage or raising more money to resolve this issue. What about any insurance - you want to ask Ms Brigden whether the school had insurance for the Tuckshop to cover the cost of spoiled goods.

You are concerned about the parent's complaint about the alcohol and want to get to the bottom of it. Of course there was no alcohol at the Formal. It is an issue important to you and you would be happy to organise a speaker to come and address the school community in the dangers of drug abuse. You have a contact there. Hopefully this will satisfy Ms Brigden about that issue.

CONFIDENTIAL FACTS

PARTY A

VIC (DEPUTY MIDDLE SCHOOL CAPTAIN)

You are angry about the way Chris just handed out the jobs telling everyone what they were responsible for. You had the whole outside area to keep an eye on. While it was all right at first, after a while you become bored walking around on your own so you just sat in the verandah and listened to the music. You really had no idea if there was someone outside the dance or the Tuckshop. It didn't seem too important at the time because they all seemed to be behaving themselves. Anyway if Chris had been more co-operative and less bossy the roster could have been more fairly organised and this wouldn't have happened.

But on the other hand, if Alex and Shannon had done the right thing - which they obviously didn't, it wouldn't have happened either. Added to that Ms Brigden's reaction is just plain unfair. She really is overreacting. Of course the real reason why you are so angry is that you are feeling guilty and you won't admit that easily.

On the way to school on the bus this morning you happened to be sitting behind Jay and his mates; they didn't see you. You heard what really happened at the Formal. He was talking about the things he had done and got away with.

Jay was saying

I took Ms Brigden's threat to close down the Tuckshop as a challenge to keep on stealing. When they didn't let me in to the Formal, I thought I would get back at them. I went to the Tuckshop and there was no one around so I helped myself to some stuff and pulled out the plug to the freezer. Look at all the trouble I caused and got away with!

You want to know where Alex and Shannon were! You don't like "dobbing in" another student but you think Jay's behaviour has gone too far and you are prepared to tell the principal about what you heard.

You are really concerned about the charge that alcohol was available at the Formal. This was not the case and you are happy to talk with the parents who made the complaint to tell them so.

You and Chris have been saving up for a skiing trip later in the year and you have \$400 in the bank. It is not enough to make up the difference between the money owed for the damage and the Formal profit but you are prepared to contribute to help out. What about the students who can't afford to go on the camp - something needs to be done so they don't miss out. You aren't prepared to make up the whole difference yourself, what about the other year 9 and 10 students, they should help.

You think you all need to get together to work out some additional fund raising measures to make sure that the School Camp goes ahead.

CONFIDENTIAL FACTS

PARTY B

SHANNON

You are really worried about Ms Brigden threatening to cancel the School Camp. Your Dad is really strict and doesn't usually allow you to go on school excursions or outings that involve an overnight stay as your family are struggling financially. But he has said you can go on this camp because the money raised from the Formal was going to make the cost affordable to you.

You are not getting on too well with your Dad as it is. The problem is your parents have forbidden you from seeing Stix, a close friend. You two were getting pretty close and your parents didn't like the way things were going as they thought Stix was a bad influence and would distract you from your work. They are pushing you very hard to do well at school ever since you said you might like to become a lawyer.

Of course it was Stix you ducked out to see for a few minutes at the dance. You didn't mean to be away so long and feel pretty bad about leaving Alex alone. You didn't think Alex would talk about what happened. You certainly won't unless it is necessary to get things sorted out.

It seems small but when you came back to the Tuckshop Alex wasn't there and you saw Jay sneaking away, looking guilty but didn't think anything of it at the time.

No-one knows this because you kept it pretty quiet but Ms Clarke is your aunt! You thought the kids would give you a hard time if they knew. You actually get on pretty well with her. If you talked to her about how important things are maybe you could get her to change her mind and come back to school. She does love the place but has been worried about the security issue.

You would have to tell her the whole truth and hope you don't get into trouble with your parents. You certainly would not suggest this if something easier could be worked out.

You would like all of you to get together to work out some other way of making money to make sure that the School Camp goes ahead. Your uncle works for a large company, Microchop Computers in the sponsorship department and maybe you could approach him to sponsor a school event, such as an Open Day or special Art Show.

CONFIDENTIAL FACTS

PARTY B

ALEX

You are angry because everyone else is at fault and you have to take the punishment. You are really annoyed with Chris and Vic because of the roster for Saturday night and the fact you and Shannon had to look after the Tuckshop. You thought it would be a great job but it turned out to be quite boring. To make it worse Chris would not leave the keys with you and had to check up on how you cleaned up the Tuckshop. You didn't notice Chris or Vic for that matter doing any cleaning. Chris gave all the orders, therefore Chris should take all the blame.

There is one thing you will really find hard to talk about. Halfway through the night Shannon's friend turned up and you agreed they could go off for 10 minutes. Forty minutes later they still hadn't returned and the money in the till was \$140. The Principal had been very strict in saying that once you had over \$100 you had to take it to the supervising teacher in the hall.

You could hear the DJ announce another group dance and knew everyone was on the dance floor. Tossing up what was the right thing to do you finally decided that the money should be taken to the teacher in the hall. It would have been a lot easier if you had the keys from Chris and could have locked the Tuckshop but Chris hadn't given them to you. So you took a chance and just pulled the door closed.

You were only gone a few minutes and when you got back Shannon was there asking, "Where have you been?" You replied "I had to take the money across to the teacher - where have you been?" Shannon replied "Sorry I took so long but everything looks okay, doesn't it."

You really don't want to talk about this incident partly because it doesn't mean anything but mainly because you know you are in the right. You don't want to give the others a reason to criticise you.

Of course you will talk about it once you have been listened to and if you think it will help to sort things out. Your sister used to work in a restaurant, but gave up full time work because she was having a baby. She said she would be happy to work as Tuckshop Convenor for a few weeks until Ms Clarke can return. She would have to be paid a proper wage though. Of course, that still leaves the problem of whether Ms Clarke will come back. You feel guilty about her injury and think you should all band together to send her a card and flowers. You really are sorry about what happened at the Tuckshop but you feel it was not your fault.