

Chris and Mark

Please note:

"Chris and Mark" was adapted from Winslade, J and Monk, G 2001 *Narrative Mediation: A new approach to conflict resolution*. Jossey-Bass Publishers: San Francisco

The Scenario

Mark and Chris live together in a house that belongs to Mark's parents. It is Mark's family home but his parents are currently overseas and Mark is acting as landlord for them. Mark and Chris have been friends since school, which they only finished last year. Mark is at university and Chris is working as a 'gap year'.

Chris hasn't been paying Mark the rent that he agreed with Mark's parents that he would pay. He has had to spend a huge amount of money on repairs to his car which he uses for work.

Mark has tried to ask Chris for the rent, at first by making jokes about eviction and then finally by asking him outright. At this point a yelling match ensued and they had a fight.

Mark's separate facts

Mark is really worried about the size of the debt that Chris now owes his parents. He feels responsible to his parents as he convinced them to let Chris stay and he feels that Chris has taken advantage of their friendship by not paying the rent.

He is worried that Chris will continue to spend money on his car and not pay back the rent.

Chris' separate facts

Chris is feeling really anxious about the debt but he does intend to pay the rent. It is just that he has needed the car to be running so that he could work and earn the money to pay the debt. He feels angry that Mark does not appear to believe that he will pay the rent and he hates Mark's jokes about the situation. He is sorry he yelled at Mark but he felt really frustrated.