

# MONOLOGUES

This monologue is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at **yourstagepartners.com**.

### <u>#CENSORED</u> by Maria McConville

(After a scandalous piece of art is censored at school, JAMIE confronts the matter in his own way. He enters holding a large piece of white tape.)

#### JAMIE

Look, I'm all for like, saying what you want or whatever.

But like?

Do you HAVE to do it AT SCHOOL?

There are rules here.

I mean, we've all been going to school for like OVER A DECADE.

It's like, yeah OBVIOUSLY if you paint that, you'll get in trouble.

Or someone will.

Just do the task.

Get the grade.

If you want to make a point, that's cool and stuff. It's a free country.

But just make it at home.

It's the same thing as like—when I'm at home I can swear.

Like, my parents are cool and so they don't care what I say.

But I never had to get TAUGHT to not say it at school.

I GET THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC.

You're allowed to think what you want, say what you want, make what you want—you can paint yourself green and walk around dressed like a glitter alien frog all day if you want to.

Just keep it to yourself.

I mean, it's modern times.

We don't live in Puritanical New England. Which I learned about in school.

We live in MODERN DAY AMERICA.

No one cares what you do on your own time. But this is school.

It's like, GOVERNMENT time!

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Or...well, it's like public mandatory time.

...I mean, I guess at a private school it's private?

YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

It just makes me mad.

All the assemblies and talks and letters sent home to our parents have come from this really stupid "artist" who can't separate what's ok to do like at home in your basement from what is acceptable to do IN SCHOOL.

(JAMIE walks towards the painting with the tape.)

Be a creepy weirdo on your OWN time.

(JAMIE places the piece of tape over the painting.)

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Length: 30-35 minutes

Cast Size: 7-30 actors (suggested casting: 12 any)

Genre: Drama

**Synopsis:** In this ensemble-driven drama, a school art fair becomes embroiled in controversy when a student unveils a divisive painting. Students, parents, and teachers must ask themselves tough questions about freedom of speech, appropriateness, what art is supposed to do and "what is the cost of censorship?"

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