

THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

The Next Generation

By John Reidy

FIRST DRAFT
FEBRUARY 2005
© JOHN REIDY, FEBRUARY 2005.
3/345 THE KINGSWAY,
CARINGBAH. NSW. 2229.

1. FILE FOOTAGE

Use excerpts from existing programs that conduct enquiries into the youth of today. In the mode of the '24' series, begin with Ray Martin asking the question, 'what do your kids really get up to when you're not around?' Use snippets from various news broadcasts and television programs to highlight antisocial behavior, sex, drugs and children out of control. Split the screen to give the impression of mayhem.

Use a final exert to make the statement all parents expect to hear. 'It's a dangerous world out there. What are you doing to protect your children?'

2. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

Saturday night. Two parents lay in bed. The mood reflects one of caring by a loving, and moderately well off, family (HILTONS). They are discussing the safety of their son REECE.

MOTHER

It's getting late, do you think he's okay?

FATHER

You worry too much, he'll be alright. I gave him the old two bulls on the top of the hill speech. He's more mature than you give him credit for.

3. INT. RAVE PARTY - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

FADE IN and PAN DOWN from the top of on old warehouse. Upbeat music blasting around the complex. REECE and MANDY are dancing at the centre of the 'ravers'. REECE pulls a couple of tablets from his pocket and swallows one.

MANDY

Imagine if our parents could see us know?

REECE

Uhmm, no I don't really want to imagine that.

REECE gives MANDY a big smile and places one of the tablets in her mouth. Both begin to dance more vigorously as the shot turns to the multitude of ravers high on the atmosphere and on drugs.

4. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

The two parents continue their conversation.

MOTHER

What's the two bulls on top of the hill speech?

FATHER

Well, the two bulls are standing on the top of a hill. The older bull says to the younger bull, "I'll bet I can 'doo' more of those cows than you". With the challenge in mind the young bull charges down the hill and, fatigued, collapses on his first cow. The older bull takes his time, and with energy saved, out endures the younger bull.

MOTHER

What's that supposed to mean? So he's going to go out and to try and hump as many girls as he can tonight?

FATHER

No, he's a teenager. Kids talk about sex all the time. I'm just reaching him on his level. The moral of the story is to be patient.

MOTHER

He's a horny kid. He's probably thinking you've challenged him to see who can do the most humping out of the two of you.
(annoyed tone)

Oh, guess what dad, I humped three chicks last night....and I heard mum say you couldn't get it up!
(sarcastic/joking tone)

FATHER

Look, you've just got to know how to communicate with kids today. That, and perhaps go to some lengths to make sure they're on the right track. Don't worry, we have a good rapport, a mutual respect, it's all under control.

MOTHER

And I have my doubts about what you're doing there too. It's just not right.

5. INT. RAVE PARTY - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

There is a flash of video playbacks from the rave party. Again this should be done in '24' style with split screens. One shot of REECE taking the drugs from his pocket. Another when he swallows one. Another when he puts the drug in MANDY'S mouth. Another of a youth consuming a drug (this is DEANO, one of REECE'S friends). A variety of shots of youth off their faces. Another of a semi conscious female being held up by two males in the corner.

PAN in on another youth, CARTER. He's the smart uni kid. He is smoking some dope, but not on ecstasy and jumping around like the other 'ravers'. DEANO bounces up to CARTER.

DEANO

Check it out, Reece and Mandy. Looks like Reece is getting some action tonight

CARTER

(coolly takes a drag of his smoke)
Yes, when it comes to love, even the most incompetent can have their share.

DEANO

Not sure about Pete though. Looks like they have to be unconscious for him.

CARTER

Yeah, looks that way.

The shot is directed to PETE. He is holding up one of the girls off her face. There are more flashes of 'ravers'. More youth consuming drugs. More off their faces. There is another shot of REECE and MANDY making out ferociously in the middle of the dancers.

The shot is then time lapse - video camera style. The first is of some of the 'ravers' leaving. REECE and MANDY make out as they make their way through the parking lot before getting into CARTER'S car. Police arrive and question some of the other out of control 'ravers' as they leave.

6. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

The scene is in a different room (to appear like a bachelor pad) - It is CARTER'S ROOM. REECE, MANDY, DEANO and PETE go there - and not home. REECE calls his parents on CARTER'S phone - he has a calm controlled voice.

REECE

Hi dad, sorry to wake you. Carter and Deano had a bit too much to drink and we had to walk. Any chance I could spend the night at CARTER'S and come home first thing in the morning?

7. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

The father is leaning over the bed. The mother wakes and listens over his shoulder.

MOTHER

What's up, is something wrong?

FATHER

No, he's at CARTERS. But they had to walk because the others were drinking. He wants to know

if he can stay the night there
and come home in the morning.

MOTHER

(Takes phone - concerned voice)
Is everything alright... (pause)
Okay, just so long as you're
alright.

Mother rolls back over to sleep. She is content knowing
REECE is safe.

8. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - NIGHT

The scene returns to CARTER'S apartment. REECE passes the
phone to MANDY. MANDY shakes her head and leads him to
another room. There are snippets of an escalating sex
scene. The scene stops short of the act.

9. FILE FOOTAGE

Use excerpts from existing programs that conduct enquiries
into the youth of today. Again do this in the style of the
'24' series. It should be a continuation of introduction
highlighting the sexual drive of our youth.

10. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

Sunday afternoon. REECE and MANDY are talking to each
other via video cam on their computers.

REECE

I had a great night last night.

MANDY

I am so shattered. I don't
think I could handle too many
nights like that. I haven't slept
in 40 hours.

REECE

You're young, what do you need
sleep for. Hang on...

REECE gets up from computer and goes to the door to look for his parents. Content there is no-one around, he closes the door and returns to the video link.

REECE

Now, more importantly, what are you wearing right now.

MANDY

Well, I am wearing a nice pink top, but it doesn't mean I have to keep wearing it.

There are snippets of video cam footage of MANDY revealing her left bra, then doing a strip tease and dance. REECE joins in on the action with youthful stripping and teasing.

11. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

CARTER'S apartment. CARTER is using hacking programs on his computer. DEANO and PETE look on excitedly.

DEANO

Yes, yes, yes, we're in.

PETE

Oh, my God, I can't believe it.

CARTER slides back to reveal the successful hack. On his screen appears REECE partially naked dancing for the monitor. CARTER moves back in and splits the screen. MANDY'S partially naked body appears dancing on the split screen.

CARTER

Yep, it's a new world and nothing is sacred.

DEANO

Yes, yes, yes. Oh my God yes.

PETE

Oh my God, look at that!!

12. INT. BEDROOM / OFFICE - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

NEIL WILLIAMS is a private detective. He is working on his computer and opens a file titled, 'REECE HILTON'. Snippets of comments can be read on the document - in brief format. Examples such as 'EXCERPT 1: Reece consumes what appears to be ecstasy'. 'EXCERPT 4: Reece make sexual advances on Mandy ROBBINS'. 'EXCERPT 8: Reece's friend PETE involved in sexual advances on unconscious female - rape eventuates by associates'. NEIL picks up phone and calls Mr Hilton.

NEIL

Hello Mr Hilton, it's Neil from 'Thorough Investigations' here. I'm just calling to advise you that I have successfully completed the assessment of REECE as requested.

FATHER

Were there any adverse findings?

NEIL

I don't like to give a partial picture. I have prepared a report of Reece's actions and would like to organize a time to sit down with you to discuss these.

FATHER

Great, I can't tomorrow. How about the next day, Tuesday after work about 5.30pm. My place or your office?

NEIL

Your place, Tuesday at 5.30pm it is. I'll see you then.

13. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

Monday afternoon. CARTER'S apartment. CARTER, DEANO and PETE sit around as CARTER gives them a lesson in the realities of life.

CARTER

Now Reece, you've probably had conversations with your parents about the meaning of life, blah,

blah, blah. Now despite their best intentions, parents are out of touch with the new world. They have old ways, old beliefs and the realities of modern life escape them.

REECE

And

CARTER

Well, the reality is that you are going to learn more about life from those that live in the modern world - your friends.

REECE

And where is this leading?

CARTER

Well this may offend you slightly, but it's better you learn it from your friends. Deano and Pete encouraged me to hack into your computer and yes, watch your little dance with Mandy.

DEANO and PETE crawl back in their chairs. REECE gives them a death stare.

CARTER

But I emphasise, they are friends and only meant to have fun. Your father, also, has initiated an investigation into your actions.

REECE

What do you mean an investigation?

CARTER

After hacking into your computer I came across a dubious email sent from your father to a company called, 'Thorough Investigations'. He hired a private eye, and I quote, "to know the truth about what my child gets up to on the weekends".

REECE

What the fuck!

CARTER

You shouldn't be upset. It is oldest question in the book - how to understand your kids. They are very caring and want the best for you. But they will struggle with less than perfect, and I would suggest that they can't handle the truth.

Despite this they are going to get a true insight into the reality of our youth. At 5.30pm tomorrow your father will be given a brief indicating drug use by yourself, Mandy, Deano and Pete. Along with Pete's involvement as a third party in a rape.

PETE

What are you talking about. I didn't rape anyone.

CARTER

The unconscious girl you were trying to get onto, was later raped by the other guys. I've seen the footage and you're earlier actions could amount to an indecent assault.

DEANO

Holy shit!

REECE

So what do we do? What is this company? Are they going to take the information to the Police?

CARTER

Well Reece, I took the opportunity to send the company an e-mail requesting details about there

service. On that e-mail was a programmed hack. The company appears to be a one man operation. Here is the brief of Evidence he has on you, and here are the excerpts he refers to in his report.

CARTER hands REECE a printout, then slides back to his computer and begins to play a file on it. The shot then turns to snippets of surveillance footage, starting with the drugs and ending in an upsetting rape on the unconscious female.

14. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

Monday night. Both parents discuss the REECE investigation as they get ready for bed.

MOTHER

So what did he say, did he sound like Reece did something bad.

FATHER

He didn't say. He didn't want to tell only part of the story. He will give me the entire report tomorrow.

MOTHER

But what was his tone of voice like? What did it..

FATHER

Don't fret, we will find out tomorrow. Right now you have something more important to worry about. (Pause)

Didn't I tell you the story about the older bull. Well this older bull is on a rampage tonight.

MOTHER

That's three times this week. I think that bull story has gone to your head!

MOTHER smiles as father sweeps her onto the bed. The actual shot of the father initiating sex FADES into a shot by the view cam on their computer.

15. FILE FOOTAGE

Use excerpts from existing programs that conduct enquiries into the youth of today. Use '24' style footage continuing the earlier file footage. Indicate the deceptive and manipulative power of our youth.

16. SNIPPETS. VARIOUS LOCATIONS

In the mode of the series '24' and the above file footage, use high action footage to indicate a series of steps taking place. Begin with CARTER studying the 'REECE HILTON' file. Show REECE, DEANO and PETE deep in discussion in the school playground. Show different thoughts from parents pending the outcome of the enquiry. Show CARTER again smiling as he launches back into some quick work on his computer. Show NEIL packing the files into a brief case. Show CARTER quickly printing up documents and packing them into a uni style sack.

17. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

Tuesday afternoon. CARTER'S apartment. CARTER is seated as he is joined by REECE, DEANO and PETE just after school.

CARTER

What is it worth to make this problem go away?

REECE

What do you mean, what is it worth? It would mean a lot to me if you could stop this.

CARTER

Okay let me make this very clear. Reece your father has initiated an investigation into your activities. You are going to be found to be a druggie that associates with sluts, drug users and rapists.

Deano, Reece's father will most likely advise your parents of the same results. Pete you are at risk of this information being passed on to the Police, and being charged.

Reece, your fathers P.I fee was \$2000. I am offering you a similar service to make it go away. For you Reece, this will cost you \$3000. The other two of you will be required to come up with \$2000 each. Is it worth that much to you all.

REECE

We don't have that sort of money!

CARTER

I am simply offering you a business solution. I know you don't have that sort of money. But look at you all. The fears your parents have for you are unwarranted. Your actions are simply youthful, not inherently criminal. You are all being primed to be model citizens and will be worth money in years to come - providing no events redirect you into a life of crime.

What I am suggesting is a debt, that you can pay off similar to an Austudy debt when you begin your working life. The money can be paid off at a rate of \$100 per week when you begin to derive an income after Uni.

It will however accrue at an interest rate of 5%, which I might add is significantly lower than current standards. I believe this is a very reasonable offer, for the risks I would have to take to make this problem go away.

The shot leaves REECE, DEANO and PETE looking at each other.

18. INT. LOUNGE ROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

5.30PM Tuesday afternoon. NEIL sits down with both parents in the lounge room of their home.

NEIL

Well Mr and Mrs Hilton, you have asked me the most common question asked by all parents, 'what do my kids get up to when we're not around?'

Now you should be advised that the realities of life are sometimes shocking and disturbing. for example, Reece attended a 'rave' party on Saturday night in company with his friends Deano and Pete.

Now I should state that this sort of function is renown for drug use, and this one was no exception. it would appear that ecstasy was widely used as was a multitude of other drugs.

The MOTHER squeezes the FATHER'S leg notably. Her concern about drug use is obvious.

NEIL

Now it's not often I get to say this, but your child I am afraid is almost a model citizen. He, and his friends, didn't appear to take any drugs. They did consume a few beers between them, but were very much in control. And at the end of the night, they didn't risk driving and walked to a friends place, the home of a Warren Carter.

FATHER

(Relief is obvious)

But you did say, 'almost a model citizen'.

NEIL

Well, I don't know how prepared you are for female news. Reece did meet a girl at the party. Her name is Mandy Robbins. They made out before putting her into a cab after the party. I didn't investigate her, but she seems like a nice girl.

FATHER

Thank you, thank you very much.

Both parents lead Neil to the door. REECE arrives as NEIL is walking down the driveway. Out of hearing distance from both parents NEIL passes REECE and gives him a death look.

NEIL

(In a deep disgusting tone)
You little smart ass!

REECE gives a strange look as he passes then walks up to his parents and enters the house.

REECE

Who was that?

MOTHER

Oh, no one. Just a work friend of your fathers. Now come here, you deserve a big kiss.

REECE

Mum, what are you doing?

MOTHER

Can't I give my son a little bit of love and attention?

REECE

Mum, I'm not a kid any more.

MOTHER

Well am I allowed to take you out to dinner?

REECE

Actually I have a better idea.
I have some-one I would like you
to meet. Is there any chance
you could cook dinner for me
and a friend?

MOTHER

Certainly, and is this a lady
friend?

REECE

Never you mind, you will find out
on Saturday night.

18. INT. BEDROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

Wednesday afternoon. CARTER'S apartment. REECE, DEANO and
PETE sit around talking to CARTER.

REECE

I don't know how you did it,
but my parents think I am
the best thing since Microsoft!

CARTER

Let's just say, that as youth
we are more prepared to handle
a bit of mayhem. The world
doesn't fit into the nice square
our parents would like to create.

Our investigator friend was put
in the awkward position of having
to study the chaos of youth. I
simply had to create a square
for him to understand, and pass
on. I had access to his computer.
I could take, and insert anything
I wanted. I could make this guy
out to be a model investigator, or
a monster preying on the children
he is studying. Although he may
have a slight insight into the
goings on of the youth condition,
he fails to understand it. It was

my place to set him straight.

REECE

Will we have any problems from him using the information later on?

CARTER

Now young Reece, and you two as well, here is the lesson your parents can't teach you. And it is a lesson you won't learn in any school.

Darwin suggested a theory called 'survival of the fittest'. There was another theory called Lamarks theory based on 'adaptation'. We are nothing but animals that have learnt how to manipulate the processes of life. Life is cruel, and we use both these processes in work, play, love and war.

I have studied all the questions of Gods and morals, and there is only one reality I can assure you of. It's better to be a king of the jungle, than a defenseless calf.

Now again, it is with great pain that I teach you this lesson. But I hope you take it as a lesson, and learn from it. It is what makes me strong, and can help you be a strength in your own little world.

As stated, I have provided you with a service. For example, Reece's fee is \$3000 accumulating at 5% interest until paid off. I have ensured your safety from 'Thorough Investigations' but now I hold the feared documents as security.

Reece, you have the brief of evidence I have - I would destroy it if I were you. You should be aware that I also have video footage of you and your new love, as well as explicit acts between your mother and father.

CARTER then hits a key on the computer and footage of both parents in a sexual act begins to play on his computer.

CARTER

Pete, you know the footage I have on you and your raping friends. As for those guys, I have a painful lesson in manners.

And Deano, you've seen me hack into Reece's computer, why on earth would you start jacking off on the net that afternoon. You must have known I could hack into your computer as well.

Now I am sorry if this offends you. I mean it as nothing but security. Pay your debt, and you'll never have to worry again. I encourage you all to be Kings of your own little jungle, but don't enter my world - I bite!

Do I make myself very clear?

19. FILE FOOTAGE

Use excerpts from existing programs that conduct enquiries into the youth of today. Use '24' style footage continuing the earlier file footage. Indicate the deceptive and manipulative power of our youth, and examples of how they are getting away with it.

20. INT. DINING ROOM - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - DAY

Saturday evening. Dinner between REECE, MANDY and both PARENTS.

MOTHER

So Mandy, tell me a little about yourself? Reece has told us very little about you. Do you go to the same school?

MANDY

No, I go to Sydney Girls Private school. I met Reece at the party the other night.

MOTHER

And how is school, any great plans for afterwards?

MANDY

Actually I am hoping to go on to study law. My grades are pretty good, and I wouldn't mind making all the money that lawyers make.

The scene gives time lapse footage of a nice dinner between all four and a video evening where all shared popcorn. After the video, around 9pm, the father offers the use of his car.

FATHER

Reece, is Mandy right to get home. Did you need me to drive the both of you, or...

MANDY

Actually, I'm not in any rush. But I suppose..

REECE

Actually, we were hoping to take the computer into my room and do a bit of surfing on the net. If that's okay with you.

The scene then shows the computer being moved into REECE's room. MANDY remains in the room, as REECE goes back into the lounge room to talk to his parents.

REECE

Actually Mum, Dad, I would like to speak to you both.

MOTHER

Sure Reece, what is it?

REECE

Mum, Dad, how much do you trust me? How much are you prepared to know and understand the truth?

FATHER

You know we trust you Reece. More than most parents trust their kids.

REECE

Well I was hoping to have a mature discussion with you. The type of discussion that all parents hope to have with their children.

MOTHER

Yes Reece, you know you can talk openly with us. We love and trust you completely.

REECE

Well, I a little concerned about you both. I know you want to trust me, but I know your love and caring can go just a little too far at times.

MOTHER

What do you mean?

REECE

I know you hired a Private Investigator to find out what I get up to on the weekends.

MOTHER

What, what do you mean Private

Investigator?

REECE

Look I know it's only because you care about me, but truly Mum, you just don't understand.

This is what you did. You sent a Private Investigator to investigate activities at 'Rave' parties. There are a lot of drug activities there. Now I don't use anything like that, and I take pride in knowing how to stay away from trouble. Your P.I. sparked fear into the eyes of some drug dealers. They launched a counter investigation, to get dirt on the investigator.

In the process they hacked into your computer and have video footage of you two having sex.

MOTHER

What!! (she shrieks).

REECE

Look Mum, don't worry, I have looked after it. I discovered the hack, and had to pay some experts to destroy this footage, get and make the whole problem go away. Now I know your investigator cost you \$2000, but I am afraid, my experts cost \$10,000. But I can assure you it has all been taken care of. I have made an arrangement and am able to pay the money off by installments when I start working. But that's okay, I love you guys and am prepared to pay anything to protect your name.

MOTHER

(To father in angry tone)
I told you it was a stupid idea!

REECE

Seriously, you can accept
the truth, as it really is, or
you can live in denial.

Dad, I know you tried to
give me the patience drill with
your bull story. But the reality
is this:- Life out there is harsh
and constantly changing and I am
afraid the old bull just wouldn't
have enough zest to compete with
the young bull in the scenario
you presented.

I hope you can accept this
reality Mum, I am seventeen and I
am sexually active. I am sleeping
with Mandy and last time we had
sex 7 times in the one night. I
apologise if this offends you,
but we practice safe sex and we
are madly in love with each other.

My concern is for you two. It's
really not safe to leave your
computer on and have sex in front
of the camera. It's not smart to
go sending investigators after me
when there are drug gangs out there
that might get the wrong idea.
And it really is an insult when
the son you raised to be strong
and powerful, doesn't get the
respect he deserves.

Now Mum, I hope you can accept
that Mandy lied to her mum. She
told her she that she is staying
at a girlfriends. I don't want
us to have a dishonest relationship.
I would like to think that you
both are intelligent enough to
accept what is going on. I will

be honest with you, and you will accept my little imperfections.

The only thing I ask is that I take control of the computer and e-mail until I can teach you how to use it in a safe manner.

Are you both okay with that?

REECE then waited for the sign of acceptance in his parent's countenance. When he got it, Reece then went and joined MANDY in his bedroom.

FATHER

What just happened there?

MOTHER

What is he talking about?

FATHER

Do you realise what just happened there? He was being the parent, and we the kids!

MOTHER

And it's not unwarranted either. What on Earth do you think you were doing with that stupid investigation? And you should have known not to have the camera on, you use computers at work!

You're not letting my son, wear the \$10,000 fee for your stupidity. You go out there and withdraw that money and you get him to pay those people off!

The scene then returns to REECE and MANDY snuggling on his bed with modern music playing in the background. The MOTHER takes some milk and cookies to their bedroom.

MOTHER

(Knocking on the bedroom door).
Knock, knock. I know you didn't want to be disturbed, but I just

thought you would like a late night snack. Some cookies and milk perhaps.

REECE

Come in....
Thanks Mum.

MOTHER

Now Mandy, Reece says you might be staying the night.

MANDY

Yes, please if that's okay with you.

MOTHER

Well if it's okay with your parents it's okay with me.

MANDY

Yeah, my parents are fine. They trust me heaps.

MOTHER

Good, now I only have one request.

MANDY

Yes (saying shyly).

MOTHER

Reece is hopeless, so I take it I can trust you to put any dirty sheets in the wash tomorrow morning?

REECE

Mum, you're embarrassing her!

MOTHER

And don't go getting any feet marks on the wall above the headrest, I might be old but I'm not silly.

REECE

Mum, get out (he throws pillow at her).
Mum... (pauses and waits)
Thanks.

MANDY

Yes, Mrs Hilton, thanks for the cookies.

21. FILE FOOTAGE

Use excerpts from existing programs that conduct enquiries into the youth of today. In the mode of the '24' series, begin with questions such as, 'if your child had a maths question, would you know how to help them out' Indicate the intricacies of the new world that most parents struggle to understand, yet our youth take on with zest.