**House Gang**

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| **Year Level:** | Senior Secondary and Tertiary |
| **Curriculum Study Areas:** | Arts (Media); Civics and Citizenship; English; Psychology; Studies of Society and Environment (SOSE) |
| **Themes/Topics:** | Ethics; Film language; Justice; Sexuality; Stereotypes; Values |
| **Description:** | House Gang is a six episode comedy series about a group of people with an intellectual disability whose lives are imposed upon by their bankrupt landlord, Mike and his vitriolic teenage daughter Chloe. The series challenges the stereotypes of what constitutes disability. Together with the educational resources, it presents an important opportunity for senior secondary and tertiary students and community groups to be introduced to and explore the meaning of disability and the responses that individuals and communities commonly have to people with disabilities. |
| **Resources:** |  |

**About House Gang**

House Gang explores the lives of a group of people with an intellectual disability, Belinda, Trev and Robert, managing their affairs very well until their broke landlord, Mike, and his teenage daughter Chloe move in. Another key character is a motorbike riding “social educator” named Jack whose job is to support the three intellectually disabled housemates. Each episode touches on the preconceptions associated with people with intellectual disabilities. However, the series goes beyond that and in a broader context explores some of the issues associated with being young and growing up in Australian contemporary society. This comedy-drama showcases the artistic talent and potential displayed by people with disabilities when given the opportunity.

The series was produced in 1996 by Film Australia in association with Accessible Arts for SBS television.

The series has educational value for secondary and tertiary students studying Community and Family Studies, Disability Studies, Media and Film Studies, Psychology, and Studies of Society and Environment.

Tertiary students, higher education and TAFE, and community groups such as the Council Of Adult Education who are undertaking introduction to disability subjects, induction training, will find this series and the study kit an important learning resource. It will also be of value to students undertaking studies in other disciplines where there is a need to understand the diversity of our community and the issues that are relevant to people with disabilities.

For students preparing for employment, or already employed in disability services, there is an additional section “Working with People with Disabilities” in the discussion topics and themes section.