

Dad is late 20s || Mom is early 30s

Side 3

Middleton Heights

24

Start → MOM  
These people...you see how they treat the Negroes. You see what is happening in Cleveland.

DAD  
What is happening in Cleveland is we have the first elected Black mayor of a major city in the United States! There is progress happening in America.

MOM  
Severino! Why are you calling Mayor Stokes, 'Black'? These people are bigots and now you sound like them.

DAD  
No! Mah-MAH, that is what they want to be called.

MOM  
Who told you that?

DAD  
My patient Old Joe at the V.A. During rounds yesterday, he told me Martin Luther King made him proud to be 'a Black Man.' And he held up his fist like this, saying, 'Black Power, Brother.' He called me, 'Brother.'

MOM  
What does that mean, 'Black Power'...?

DAD  
It means he does not want to be called a 'Negro.'

MOM  
The Whites. The Blacks. We should move back to Manila and leave them to their battles.

DAD  
We should not let them deprive us and our children of the opportunities here.

MOM  
Opportunities? Moe might have the *opportunity* to die in Vietnam!

DAD  
The war will be over long before he is eligible for the draft.

MOM  
Our son could be fighting a war that is not ours to fight.

DAD  
We are going to become U.S. citizens, and we will be as American as cherry pie.

MOM  
And what if you are wrong? And Moe is drafted?

[E abic]

DAD

Then he will face the war, like my brothers did in World War two.

MOM

Never! You'll have to cut out my heart first.

DAD

The Americans fought on *our* behalf in World War two.

MOM

I don't want my son to be part of any war, Severino.

DAD

If we are fighting for the Americans, then we are on the *good* side.

MOM

*Good* side....

DAD

The side that won!

MOM

So the Philippines are on the *bad* side, because we never win...?

DAD

This is *our* home now.

MOM

Our son will not be sacrificed to war.

DAD

If the President believes we should be at war, then we must obey.

MOM

I am a mother, first and foremost.

DAD

*seething*

End → You are my *wife*, first and foremost.

MOM

Dah-DEE. These people try to take advantage of us. They tried to pay me half of my salary because we are married.

DAD

*subdued*

It was not right/

MOM

I'm not doing half the work as a married woman, so why should they only pay me half?

DAD

It was not right but it was not illegal what they tried to do.