



PLAYGROUND POLITICS

Written & created by
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Comedy series: 6 x 30 mins



The primary school years... aww, weren't they sweet? But what is a playing field for some is a minefield for others - particularly the parents. Sex, subterfuge, blackmail and a good old-fashioned class divide: yes, there may be some kids in it, but this is NOT a family show.

Every morning six happy, carefree four-year olds push open the side gate of a suburban primary school and rush headlong into the junior playground. Dragging their feet behind them are the nubile infants' not so happy, no longer carefree mums and dads. Their lives entwined by default rather than by design, the parents do their best to get along 'for the sake of the children'. Despite never having chosen these friendships, this random collection of men and women must put aside their differences and disparate backgrounds to forge some kind of bond. As they learn more about one another through play dates, parties and their daily catch ups in the playground, each begins to realize that in actual fact the threads that connect them are far more firmly attached than they thought.

Kit, rough and ready single mum of three has a secret. Unbeknownst to those around her the loud mouthed northerner moonlights as a sex call operator, smooth talking her way through the nights. This is why Kim knows that Vijay (one of her more regular callers) has fallen out of love with his wife Narinda. Narinda hasn't noticed; she's more concerned with the failure of Vijay's printing business and the awful possibility that they may have to move back to Birmingham and the domineering mother in law she thought they'd escaped for good. What Narinda also hasn't noticed during her weekly Indian cooking classes is that Tim's increasing interest in creating the perfect samosa is more about his passion for her than his passion for food. Recently widowed, Tim is a little lost and looking for a mother figure - not that he realizes this of course.

But Anna does; strong, sensible Anna sees all and says nothing, which is just as well as Tim's sister in law Gina has not only been helping him with the children, she's been helping herself to Tasha's husband, Allan. Arrogant, ignorant and chauvinistic he may be, but Allan Marks is also rich – and Gina likes rich. Tasha Marks is too busy chasing young boys and old dreams to notice his infidelity. However Tasha certainly has noticed that her solicitor Sheena, the wife of sweet, unassuming home-maker Greg, has more than just a heavy workload keeping her at the office most evenings. Tasha is not particularly perturbed as to where her loyalties lie – she has none. What the knowledge does give her is bargaining power; and this is lucky, as when Allan declares his love for Gina and demands a divorce, she's going to need it.

PLAYGROUND POLITICS EXPLORES THE CUT-THROAT WORLD OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTING AND THE FALLOUT OF BEING TRAPPED IN THAT CONFINED SPACE THEY CALL A CATCHMENT AREA.

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