

Mrs Johnstone

How is Mrs Johnstone presented when she is first introduced in the play? (pg. 5).

How does Russell first show Mrs Johnstone's financial problems at the beginning of the play?

How does Mrs Johnstone explain to her children that one of the twins is missing?

Describe her character and how you feel towards her? Is she a good or bad mother?

Mrs Johnstone's is the mother of Edward & Mickey In the play she has lots of children but little money. She works as a cleaner for Mrs Lyons who encourages her to give her one of her twins. She is later sacked by Mrs Lyons.

Mrs Johnstone gives Edward a locket containing a picture of her & Mickey. She moves and tries to start a new life with her family. Mrs Johnstone goes to the Town Hall and tells Mickey and Edward they are twins.

Complete the Key Points table below about Mrs Johnstone. Find the quotes to support the information below. Be sure to insert any other examples not listed below. This will only help in you developing a true understanding of the play.

Key Point	Evidence(quotes) /further meaning
She feels forced by her circumstances to give one of her twins to Mrs Lyons	Mrs Johnstone thinks she is doing the best for her children.
She gives Edward the locket which leads Mrs Lyons to discover that she is still in contact with him.	Despite her agreement with Mrs Lyons, she cannot sever her relationship with Edward. This plays a significant part in Mrs Lyons' decision and, therefore, in the twins' deaths.
Some of her decisions as a parent are questionable	Mrs Johnstone does not object to Mickey & Edward going to watch a pornographic film. While this may appear irresponsible, it could also suggest that she understands her sons & accepts they are growing up.

What is inside the locket that Mrs Johnstone gives to Edward?

Why does Mrs Lyons attack Mrs Johnstone with a kitchen knife?

Think about how some of the other characters see Mrs Johnstone. Complete the table below on how each character see her (and describe her). Also how and why do their views change as the story develops?

How do they see Mrs Johnstone?	How & why do their views change?
Mrs Lyons	
Edward	
Mickey	

Looking at the above, did your viewpoint change towards Mrs Johnstone as the story developed. If so can you identify the key turning point describing your view before and after this changing point?