

- 6 Rebekah: =WELL=
7 Mom: =but=
8 Dad: =We-WE have made choices of where we're putting our money. ((pats
9 Rebekah's arm))
10 Rebekah: Why do you keep doing that?
11 Dad: Because I want to be sure you hear.
12 Keith: I heard just fine.
13 Rebekah: I'm just wondering what the-what the background is on that. Is that an
14 attention bid?
15 Mom: He wanted to point out where our money has been invested.
16 Dad: And it's been a w- good investment. ((shakes Rebekah's hand))
17 Rebekah: That wasn't a real handshake.
18 Keith: You might have perhaps been better off getting a plasma TV.

At the beginning of the excerpt, Rebekah and Keith construct their *adult* identities by continuing discussion of the choices they have made thus far in their adult lives (lines 1-4). Mom moves to build upon this idea, stating: "Everyone would like it ALL" (line 5). However, this comment, done interruptively, brings the focus back to "everyone" and undercuts the distinction Rebekah and Keith have been making between themselves and their friends. We see evidence of tension building in the next few lines. Rebekah responds to Mom's comment with a disaffiliative marker, "WELL," (line 6), to which Mom counters via the contrastive conjunction "but," (line 7). These single words are laden with meaning, demonstrating the tension between two contrasting stances in identity ascription. This tension continues to build as Dad and Mom proceed to allude to their own investment choice (i.e., in their children), a stark contrast to Keith and Rebekah's priority (i.e., travel; lines 8 and 15). This is in part done by Dad patting Rebekah's arm (lines 8-9) and Mom's clarification (line 15). Tension may also be observed as Dad calls his investment a "good" one (line 16), thereby giving the two children an implicit compliment. Although compliments are meant to attend to the listener's positive face wants, they also set up the speaker as the judge. When parents compliment their children, they are also making an assessment, and thus treating them as children, which is often a point of contention for adult children. This can be seen in Keith's response in line 18, where he makes light of Dad's "good investment" by saying "you might have perhaps been better off getting a plasma TV," (line 18).

A particularly interesting demonstration of how intertextuality plays a role in this tension building is captured in Dad's handshake with Rebekah (line 16), reincarnating a family inside joke which involves Dad "shaking hands" with Rebekah or Keith in front of their friends at college in order to pass money to them discreetly. By invoking this routine past interaction in the family history, Dad effectively foregrounds Rebekah and Keith's child identities, as tied to Dad's financial support.

In sum, the amount of tension displayed in one small extract speaks to the richness of the family context, where intertextuality can play an important role. In the family context, we observe how individual members create or diffuse conflict, enhance or preclude connection, and build or resist identity ascriptions.

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Rebekah Johnson is currently a doctoral student in the Applied Linguistics Program at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her main research interests are family discourse, academic discourse, and sociolinguistics.

Donna Luvera DelPrete is a doctoral student in the Applied Linguistics program at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her research interests are in gender and family discourse. She is currently examining the discursive practices of mothers and adolescent daughters in preparation for her dissertation work.

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