

1. (*upset*) It's just that if this family, who loves each other about as much as a family can, can't talk about politics in a civilized fashion, how do you expect the rest of the country to talk to each other at all?
4. I think this is a very civilized conversation –
5. This is not civilized! You've all had too much to drink – and – *no one listens anymore* –
2. I'm listening!
My hearing is just going!
1. Political arguments are a sport for you boys and it's not a sport for us – everyone yells and interrupts on the talk shows so now we all yell and interrupt, it's awful –
4. No one was yelling! AHHHHHHH! That's yelling.
1. When did you all go to the dark side? Was it under Reagan?
You all sound like Aunt Helen!
2. Don't drag Aunt Helen into this –
3. She was a political genius –
1. We should be an example of a functional democracy!
5. This is not a functional democracy. And I am sick of pretending that it is! I used to feel bad for Mom cleaning all the time while the men talked politics – now I understand. She just wanted everyone to shut the hell up – so she could hear herself think! She could think better over the sink with the water running! It's all noise! Static. And I'm so goddamn tired of it! We're on a sinking ship, and you're fighting over the precise location of the deck chairs. The ocean is rising, the world is falling apart, and it's all bullshit – My God! We're orphans now!

A pause.

2 goes and hugs 5.

1 gets up from the table.

She turns to the audience.