



## Don't Touch

(Version 1)

**Music:** Either 'Dreams Can Come True' or Bon Jovi – 'Living on a Prayer', or no music; no musical cues, so just choose the most appropriate song and go to town on the actions

**Content and Purpose:** A fun sketch that takes a look at the question of sin and its consequences, and how prayer/knowing God can free us from sin. One person sees a sign on a chair saying 'Don't Touch', but decides to touch it anyway. The chair becomes sticky and they gradually get completely stuck. A passer-by tries to help, then starts to pray fervently. Eventually the first person is freed.

**Cast:** 2 people (either)

**Props:** A chair and a large sign saying 'DON'T TOUCH'

**Actions:** There is a chair in the middle of the stage, with a sign on it saying 'Don't Touch'. Person 1 walks across stage, past the chair, then stops and looks at it. They are interested in the chair, and act as if they are wondering whether they dare ignore the sign. Eventually, P1 throws the sign off to SR and touches the chair briefly. They find that they can't let go. As they try to shake the chair off, P1's other hand, then feet etc gets stuck to the chair. P1 should really make the most of this mime – wrestling with the chair and getting their limbs entangled.

Person 2 walks past and sees P1. P2 laughs mockingly, but then realises P1 is in trouble. P2 tries to pull P1 away, first with hands, then taking an arm around the neck as though almost strangling P1. Eventually P2 gives up, looking exhausted. The P2 has a brainwave (*the light bulb in the air thing!*), and gets down on their knees. P2 starts to pray – hands clasped, eyes closed – and gets increasingly fervent, waving their hands around and pleading for P1. This goes on for about 45 seconds, and meanwhile P1's limbs become separated from the chair one by one. P1 looks ecstatic as they realise they are getting free. Eventually, P1 is completely released and jumps off the chair. P1 goes over to P2 and tries to stop them praying, and they eventually both leap up and embrace. They walk off SL, but then come back, pick up the sign and carefully replace it on the chair.

**Notes and Comments:** Simple, eh? There is another version (version 2) on next page, which requires 5 people instead of 2. Looks great on the street and in schools. Could be used as part of a workshop.



## **Don't Touch**

(Version 2)

**Music:** Either 'Dreams Can Come True' or Bon Jovi – 'Living on a Prayer', or no music; no musical cues, so just choose the most appropriate song and go to town on the actions

**Content and Purpose:** A fun sketch that takes a look at the question of sin and its consequences, and how only Jesus can free us from sin. One person sees a sign on a chair saying 'Don't Touch', but decides to touch it anyway. The chair becomes sticky and they gradually get completely stuck. Various passers-by react in various different ways, none succeeding in freeing them, until Jesus comes along, and frees them.

**Cast:** 5 people (1 male, 4 either) – Person 1, Pious person, Strong person, Jogger, and Jesus (*in white*)

**Props:** A chair and a large sign saying 'DON'T TOUCH'

**Actions:** There is a chair in the middle of the stage, with a sign on it saying 'Don't Touch'. Person 1 walks across stage, past the chair, then stops and looks at it. They are interested in the chair, and act as if they are wondering whether they dare ignore the sign. Eventually P1 decides to try and touch the chair. They lightly touch it, and remove hand, then play a little tune, then hold onto it with one hand with a look as if to say 'Don't touch – pah'. Find that the hand is stuck when they try to remove it, and struggle to get it free.

Jogger jogs past (*from SR*), sees P1, and asks (*mimed*) if they want to come for a jog. P1 shakes head, puts second hand on chair, and starts to do press-up type things half standing. Jogger jogs on, and once they have left (*to SL*) P1 again struggles to get free, this time they have both hands stuck.

Strong person enters from SL, and flexes muscles to show they are strong. They notice P1 as they walk past, and stop and try to pull P1 off chair. They try a few times, but each time fail to pull them off, eventually giving up, and walking off to SR. P1 again struggles to get free, in the process managing to get one foot stuck as well as hands

Pious person enters from SR, looking pious. They notice P1 as they walk past, and stop. Pious person notices 'Don't Touch' sign, picks it up and points it out to P1, then throws it on floor in disgust, and walks off to SL. P1 again struggles to get free, in the process getting the other foot stuck on the chair as well, so both hands and both feet are on the chair. P1 struggles for a while, eventually giving up.

Finally Jesus enters from SL, walks over to P1, and picks up 'Don't Touch' sign. Points it out to P1, and P1 nods as if to say 'I know'. Jesus then puts sign down, and offers a hand to P1, releasing each of P1's limbs, and helping P1 down off the chair. Jesus then picks up sign again, and replaces it on chair then Jesus and P1 head off together to SR.

**Alternative ending:** P1 can look back at chair just before exiting, and then either freeze there, or look back and follow Jesus.