

Carly Sides- Dave's supportive wife who ends up becoming concerned about her husband's public statements to the media about the high school football team he coaches, who have recently been put under the microscope due to extreme hazing that almost leads to a player's death.

INT. Living Room -Day

CARLY

Why are you mad? Because I tell you you're good?

DAVE

You're not using that as a compliment.

CARLY

This thing, it tore your boys up, it tore you up...

DAVE

And this stuff never happens in college.

CARLY

College, they have rules, they have procedures...

DAVE

I'm not abandoning my team.

CARLY

Our daughter doesn't know what love is.

Really, really confused by this turn.

DAVE

What?

CARLY

Beth came to me, and she doesn't know what love is, or commitment, or--

DAVE

She's seventeen.

CARLY

What guilt is...

DAVE

Are you high?

CARLY

(drily)

Yeah, because the only time I have something to say is when I'm high, or I'm hysterical.

DAVE

Because you're going from how I'm too nice, to how Beth doesn't understand love... That's how people sound when they're high.

CARLY

Love, commitment, they are hard, Dave talking about them is hard. And you don't have hard conversations. Not with your daughter. Not with your team. It's the "trust" talk, or the "honesty" talk.

DAVE

And that's wrong?

CARLY

You tell your boys to be good, and you tell them to be honest... And that all, you know...it worked because nobody ever had to put it to the test. But the first chance they get to lie, to really, really lie... They could've come to you. They didn't. They know you're a good guy and good guys--

DAVE

Stop.

CARLY

They don't handle things like this.

DAVE

It's so easy to be cynical. That whole school is cynical. Every step it was: go down there, go to those kids; make them confess. Next thing, I'm standing over Aaron in a hospital because he tried to kill himself.

CARLY

That wasn't your fault.

DAVE

I gave in; that was my fault. I gave in as a coach, as a friend... And Aaron almost died. So, when people start coming to me telling me what to do--

CARLY

They're not your wife.

DAVE

I don't need to hear it.

CARLY

I don't have the right to talk to you?

DAVE

Not about my team, not about what I do for them, how I do it...

CARLY

Then what am I, I'm just supposed to cheer for you? 'Cause you've got those people, too.

DAVE

What do you want? You want me to stand here and spew shit so you can feel good about the guy you married?

CARLY

Principal Jones wanted me to tell you to tell your boys to lie to the police.

This information, the way Carly says it, really gives Dave pause.

DAVE

She said that?

CARLY

She wanted me to tell you to give them one of your little talks about "fidelity," and "unity."

DAVE

I don't, I don't know what she wanted, but I
never would have told them to lie.

CARLY

Have you ever really tried to find out the truth?
The truth isn't cynical.