



PROPAGANJA

TV Pitch Deck

© Isabel Harper

THE PROJECT

Title	Propaganja
Script	40 pages
Format	6 X 30
Genre	Comedy Drama
Demographic	18-28+
Structure	Episodic Sitcom

A group of people at a social gathering, possibly a party or bar. In the foreground, a hand is pouring beer from a can into a glass. The can has 'Natural Light' written on it. In the background, other people are visible, some wearing red shirts. The scene is dimly lit with warm, reddish-orange lighting.

LOGLINE

A comedy-drama following the turbulent lives of three young women navigating Manchester university, dealing with dodgy landlords, crappy dealers and clingy exes.

Tagline: *Sometimes you have to be blunt.*

Three girls are forced into friendship by desperation to find a student house.

Together they explore the freedom of adulthood through sex, drugs and parties without failing their degrees.



Inspired by like *'Fresh Meat'*, and *'The Sex Lives of College Girls'*

Propaganja is fresh take on the university sitcom genre with a three, female, queer protagonists from different races and social classes.

NARRATIVE

Why this story?

AIMS

Propaganja is a socio-political commentary presented through stoner comedy.

The current media representation of British universities is outdated. Previous shows fail to convey how social media has impacted student life, relationships and the university experience. Propaganja aims to showcase the untold truths of British university culture. People who refer to their twenties as 'the best years of life' often forget to mention the crippling debt, extreme loneliness and heartache, and turbulent path of self-discovery.

INFLUENCES

Most students will experience the effects of addiction either personally or interpersonally.

Young people deal with varying mental health problems that go untreated for years. They self-medicate because they can't get a GP appointment, and if they get that appointment, they're put on a waiting list with no interim support. There are waiting lists for waiting lists. The wait to be diagnosed is longer than the degree.

How do they cope? They get high.

LOCATION

Manchester, United Kingdom

Location Significance

Manchester is Propaganja's birthplace.

The city of Manchester has a special space in my heart. It was the first place I felt I could be my authentic, queer self. That's not to say I didn't experience adversity or that I never felt Othered, but the queer and BIPOC communities in Manchester welcomed everyone and allowed them to feel seen and safe. Moss Side was the first place black neighbourhood I'd lived in.

Manchester, like London, is a multicultural city and arguably one of the best university towns. It caters to nearly everyone. The city is bursting with hidden gems down dark alleys and street corners. I have fond memories of nights out at the Gay Village, dancing and singing with drag queens and hazy memories of scatty raves at Depot Mayfield and The White Hotel.

The UOM vs MMU house parties in Fallowfield and the afters in Withington. I was drinking in dingy pubs in Hulme, ending up in dive bars in the Northern Quarter.

In the summers, we would have barbeques in Platt Fields Park and smoke zoots as we watched the sunset from skate ramps. On sunny days, we would visit Fletcher Moss Gardens for gorgeous views and have Roast Dinners in Didsbury like a family.

Episode 1: Fresher's Week

Summer is over. Freshers Week is here. Roya is ready to party.

When Roya struggles to get along with her flatmates, she ditches an awkward flat party to smoke a joint in the bathroom, which sets off the building's fire alarm and results in her getting kicked out of the halls three moving in.

Desperate for accommodation, Roya meets two girls, Amelia and Eve, who are also in her situation, and the three of them embark on the journey of finding a student house only days before the first term begins. Despite being the same age, the girls are starkly different, and the only thing they share in common is getting high.

Eve, the neurotic one, wants to escape her overbearing family and finally explore her sexuality.

Roya, the snarky one, wants a friend with benefits and a job in media to please her parents.

Amelia, the posh one, wants to have her cake and eat it, exploring non-monogamy whilst stringing along her on-again-off-again boyfriend, Laurie.

First Year is the place for reinvention and self-discovery, but the girls need a house first.



CAST

Protagonists

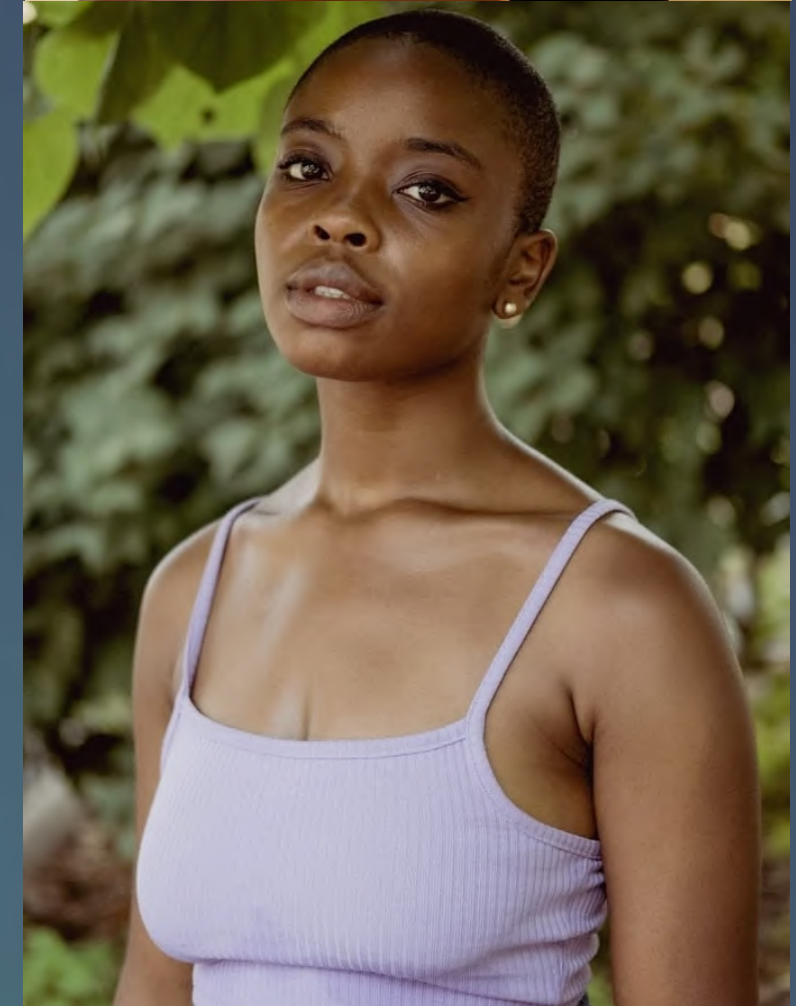
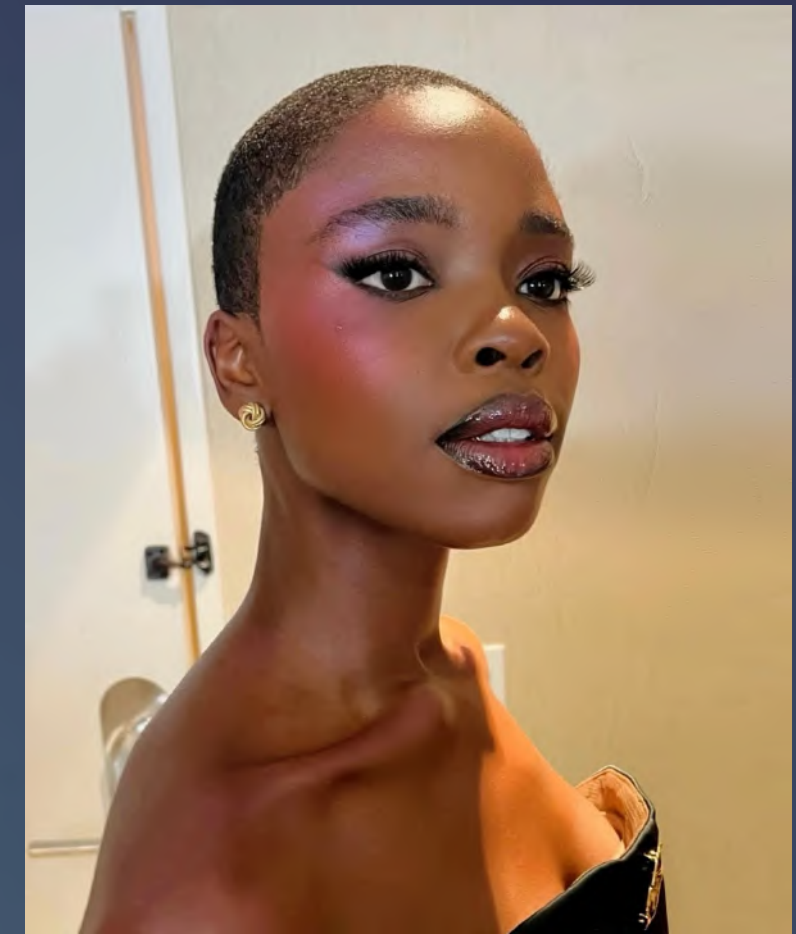
ROYA FRANCIS (18)

Roya is *not* your independent strong black woman.

Born and raised in West London, Roya is an only child to working-class, Caribbean immigrant parents.

Roya's dream career is to be a Broadcast Journalist; she has always been passionate about writing and activism. Roya isn't afraid to use her voice to speak up but sometimes worries she's not being listened to and fears being labelled as 'angry' or 'difficult'.

Roya is confident and outspoken, but when feeling overwhelmed, she comes across as shy and introverted. This presents a new set of challenges as she struggles to make friends with the people on her course. She must overcome her emotional unavailability to let her guard down and let people in. She must also assert boundaries with her anxious, overbearing mother and learn not to feel guilty for choosing herself over her parents' expectations.



Joy Sunday:
Bianca from Wednesday

AMELIA FOOTE (18)

Amelia is not like the other girls.

Raised in Surrey, England, Amelia is the youngest daughter of Cambridge lawyer parents. Since birth, Amelia was expected to follow in her parent's footsteps; but when Amelia gets rejected from Cambridge, she is catapulted into a directionless mindfield. Ending up in Manchester is a blessing in disguise as she uses the opportunity to reinvent herself. Secretly switching from a Law degree to English and Drama, Amelia realises she has to choose her own path instead of the one her parents chose for her.

However, fitting in is more challenging than she expects; coming from an elite private school and male-ego centric family, she struggles to form secure friendships with women. After meeting Roya and Eve, Amelia has her privilege checked and learns to see women as allies rather than enemies.



**Laura Marcus:
Jinx from Bad Education**

EVE KAPOOR (18)

Eve is the closeted eldest immigrant daughter.

Born in Pakistan and raised in Bradford, Eve Kapoor is the daughter of immigrant South-Asian parents.

Eve comes from a strict Muslim family where she is expected to become a doctor or a lawyer, and if she fails, she'll take over the family business. Unenthused by all of those options, Eve opts for an Engineering degree as a compromise. Her parents insisted she live at home whilst studying to save money, but Eve convinces them to let her move to Manchester (as it is only a 40-minute drive away.)

Desperate for freedom, Eve is ready to explore and experiment with her sexuality but is closeted to her family. Eve must learn give up her people-pleasing and focus on her own desires and wellbeing in order to mature and avoid being infantilised by her family forever.



**Priya Kansara:
Ria Khan from Polite Society**

INFLUENCES

Comedy Drama Trios



COMPARISONS

University Sitcoms



COMMISSIONERS

Drama	Comedy	Networks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All3Media• Objective Media Group• Film London• HBO MAX• Working Title• Paramount• A24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RoughcutTV• Zeppotron• Eleven Films• BadWolf• Big Talk Studios• Fudge Park• Hat Trick Productions• Two Brothers Pictures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Channel 4• ITV• BBC Three• Sky Comedy• Comedy Central

CREATED BY ISABEL HARPER

Isabel Harper is a Black-British writer, born and raised in West London.

Isabel comes from a musical theatre background and spent her formative years writing and producing sketches and skits for her YouTube channel, HelloIsabelTV.

Creating social media content is what directed Isabel to develop a passion for writing film and television.

Isabel is a singer, poet, novelist, blogger and screenwriter with a Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing and Master's degree in Screenwriting.

Propaganja is based on Isabel's undergraduate experience at Manchester Metropolitan University set in the late 2010s.

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