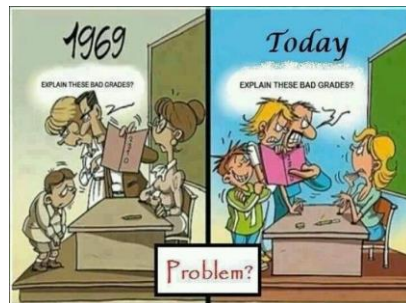


**BETWEEN SUMMERS** - Good teachers vs bad parents Drama, real-life based

A near-retirement Public School Vice-Principal breaks bad against Teachers Code of Conduct in her final years frustrated with students' bad behaviour and their bad parents.

Her methods risk a cause for dismissal losing her retirement-benefits on a cause for change to the students' benefit.



**Pilot Ep. - Operation Goosepoops**

Ella struggles to organize a free Summer Program in the park to get her "at-risk" students off their drug-laden and crime-ridden streets but meets with nasty objections from their drug-addled and criminal parents.

In today's schools, Teachers see a daily convergence of Police and Medical drama. In the last years of her dead-end job, Ella wants to save kids from a dead-end life. Kids feel entitled to abusive disrespect of authority, criminal activity and violence, -hot-button triggers for Ella to school bad parents and save one kid at a time.

She's seen too many bad kids and parents cheat the system to their advantage then carry their abusive, violent and criminal activities on to the community. And too many good kids and parents make diligent efforts but suffer consequences of depleted recourses and attention at school then are victims of street-crime.

Ella knows that kids need a work-ethic based education but when parents think school is a waste of time teachers can do little more than baby-sit.

Ella knows the 'good' in these kids has been lost to the despair of parents who allow bad behavior and let the school deal with it; drugs/drink, violence, shame...

**Mid-Season Tease** - After violent and hellish episodes, Ella fill-ins at a brand new school in upscale area near her home with easier problems of students with bad parents. She handles them so well she is offered a permanent transfer.

**Return Episode** - When the worst of the posh parents use money and power against her, she returns to her old school where she can make valuable difference.

**ELLA** - breaks bad against The Teachers Code of Conduct in her final years.

**MARCO** - Ella's former student, 17 yrs old, wants to avoid gangs and work his way out of ghetto-life with a Union job despite abusive alcoholic parents.

**JANITOR** is lonely since his wife died; Ella is lonely divorcé since her son married

**PRINCIPAL** - Ella's boss stressed and over-worked trying to avoid Ella's dismissal

**SKY** - a happy White **5yr** old with drugs and guns dealer motorcycle Gang parents

**PAT** - a happy Black **5yr** old with prostitute Mom and drug-dealer Gang-thug Dad

Gender neutral Kindergarten kids, nasty, delinquent behaviour at Ella's school

Naively see their similar home situations as pleasant, not the criminal reality

They see no point in learning to read if they already have everything without it

**TEACHERS** and **SPECIAL ED. ASSISTANTS (E.A.s)** - most are loyal colleagues

**POLICE OFFICERS** mediate between students, teachers, parents and community

**SOCIAL SERVICES** - sometimes hero, sometimes victim, often powerless

**PARENTS** - some are regulars including: Marco's parents of teen-ager,

Sky and Pat's parents of 5 year olds

and others are guest spots with different episode's story

**STUDENTS** - aged **5-14** some regulars and some are guests with episode's story

**LOCAL ELDERS** - some are regulars, some are guests with episode's story

**Bad parents** bully and blame teachers for lazy kids' bad grades and bad behavior

### **FIRST SEASON:**

**ELLA** is constantly victimized for trying to do what is best for the students.

**MARCO** always tempted into criminal Gang activity, has drunk abusive parents

**5yr old SKY & PAT** are nasty at school; both have disturbing criminal parents

**JANITOR** insulted and taunted by students for being uncool until the summer

**PRINCIPAL** is constantly dealing with School Board and Ella to keep their job.

**TEACHERS & E.A.s** most support Ella when bad parents complain, some don't

**5-14yr old STUDENTS** are truant or rude lazy violent stoned or arrested in class

**POLICE & SOCIAL SER** - sometimes hero, sometimes victim, often helpless

**LOCAL ELDERS** see Ella's old-school efforts and give her wise insights

### **ENDING 1<sup>st</sup> SEASON:**

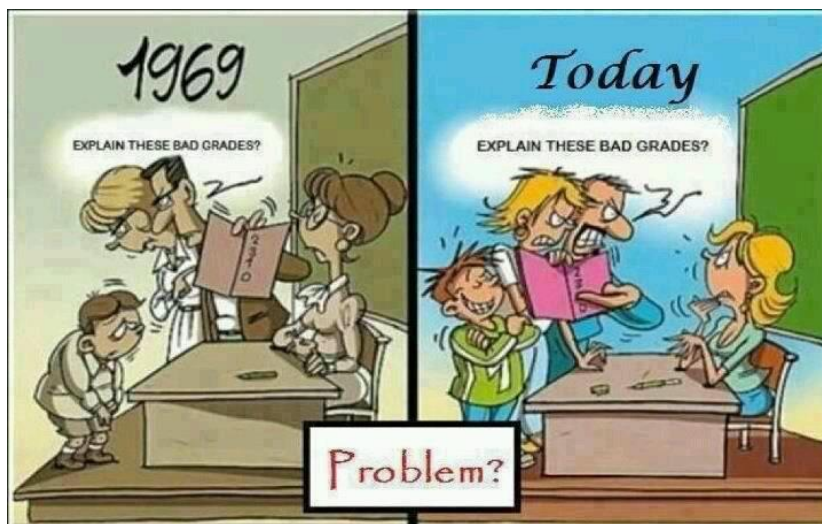
- The Summer Program starts off with a few kids at first, (just for the food) then more and more kids participate into an outright success.
- Students learn the ways of the working-world; that their efforts matter, that team-work, respect, manners and courtesy make a difference, and that they can achieve what they work for.
- Pat and Sky steal the treats and ice cream, instead of waiting for the dessert served after a nutritious lunch by the Summer Program, and get sick. Their parents finally meet and have race issues forcing kids to hide their friendship. Sky and Pat find ways to be sneaky and instead of going to Summer Program they spend time with a **rival gang** that they don't know is made up of **Undercover Cops**.
- Local elders volunteer and offer colourful stories, songs and child-care advice with endearing insight.
- Just when Ella faces the dilemma of choosing between running a successful summer program again next year and babysitting her new-born Grand-child, **the program is compromised**.
- Resentment of the program's success grows among some parents and Gang members, unleashing nasty and destructive drug-addled criminal activity.
- Marco's chance at his dream-job is compromised when he's framed and set-up on criminal charges by a resentful **Friend** who is swayed by a **Gang**.
- Janitor becomes known as "cool" to students but is beat-up by a Gang attack

### **START of 2<sup>nd</sup> SEASON:**

- While **Janitor** recuperates in hospital, **Ella** takes care of **His Kids**
- \*\* - **New Teacher** on staff challenges Ella and sides against her to accept bad behavior from students and their parents.
- **Friend** flips on **Gang** and prefers loyalty to Marco which offends Gang.
- **Marco's** charges are finally cleared away. He's offered a prized Union job but must deal with **His Parents** making it a difficult situation.
- **Marco** and **Friend** suffer offended Gang's revenge for flipped loyalty
- **Sky** and **Pat** are topics of concern to **Social Services** for Foster Care and
  - Cops close in on their parents' criminal activity
- **Some Students** want to save Summer Program, respect benefits of work-ethic
- **Some Parents** start to appreciate Ella's efforts and actually seek out her help
- We find out what happened to Marco's **Sister** and meet Ella's **Son**.
- Ella clashes with grand-parent-**In-Laws** about pregnancy and child's future.
- **ENDING** - Ella clashes with Marico's alcoholic mother, again
  - Ella encourages Marco to move in with her, in her son's empty room

## **BETWEEN SUMMERS** by **Marisa Torre**

Good Teachers vs Bad Parents Drama based on real-life incidences



ELLA, a near-retirement Public School Vice-Principal goes rogue with frustration at bad student's behaviour and their bad parents.

Her methods risk a cause for dismissal losing her retirement-benefits on a cause for change to the students' benefit.

In today's schools, Teachers see a daily convergence of Police and Medical drama. In the last years of her dead-end job, Ella wants to save kids from a dead-end life. They feel entitled to abusive disrespect of authority, criminal activity and violence, -hot-button triggers for Ella to school bad parents and save one kid at a time.

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### **Multiple Award Winning Screenwriter**



**Marisa Torre**

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Toronto, Canada



**Studied:** Film Arts at Ryerson  
Fashion Arts and Business, Seneca  
Screenwriting with Larry Kasdan  
2 yrs Royal Conservatory of Music

**Worked:** 12 years York Region District School Board, Educational Assistant  
5 years Volunteer - Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), TIFF, Cdn Film Fest  
2 years TV Assoc. Producer - Rogers TV  
Published Author 2006  
Feature Films, TV and Book-to-Screen/Web/S.T.E.M.

#### **Written:**

12 Children's Lit  
7 TV Pilots  
4 Feature Films  
5 Poetry Books

#### **Google: Marisa Torre:**

Twitter - 1700+ Followers  
LinkedIn - 5000+  
Stage32 - 20,000+  
FaceBook- 900+ **PoetryForPeopleWhoHatePoetry**