Narrator sits down with the other patients

Joe: (addressing the patients with great warmth) Hola, sorry... Hello (awkwardly and in funny accent). How are you feeling? (silent pause, as if the question was completely foreign to the patients). What would you like to do today? (patients gasp, as if this was completely taboo). Are your families here to help you?

All patients: No!

Joe: In Spain families stay in hospital to help look after the sick,

but.... Do you know why you are here?

All patients: No!

Joe: But do you get to choose what you do here?

All patients: No!

Joe: Do you get an education?

All patients: No

Patient/Narrator: A what...???

Joe: Well, do people talk to you about how you feel?

All patients: No!

Joe: Do you have your own possessions?

All patients: No!

Joe: Do you have any privacy?

All patients: No!

Joe: You all look very funny! All the same?! Do you not have any of your own clothes?

All patients: No!

Joe: Do you have your own underwear?!!!!!!

All patients: No!

Joe: Things must change!

Joe transforms from cleaner to NHS manager in his trademark grey suit. Some patients remove his caretaker's coat, treasuring it like designer clothing. His broom is replaced by a microphone and he speaks directly to the audience. The year is now 1981.

Joe: Things must change! We must care for people in the community; we must educate and stimulate, listen and understand. We must move on from a medical approach to a social one, to understanding the person and their needs, their emotions. We must teach the wider society as much as the people themselves. It may be easier to shut them away but generations to come will look back at us with horror unless we do something, now. I mean they don't even have their own underwear!

(holding up a large pair of red bloomers)
I ask <u>you</u>, ladies and gentleman! Would you wear someone else's knickers?!!

All patients: No!

4 Would You Wear Someone Else's Knickers?

David Stanley

A massively more confident Joe parades around with his bloomers like a Spanish Matador!









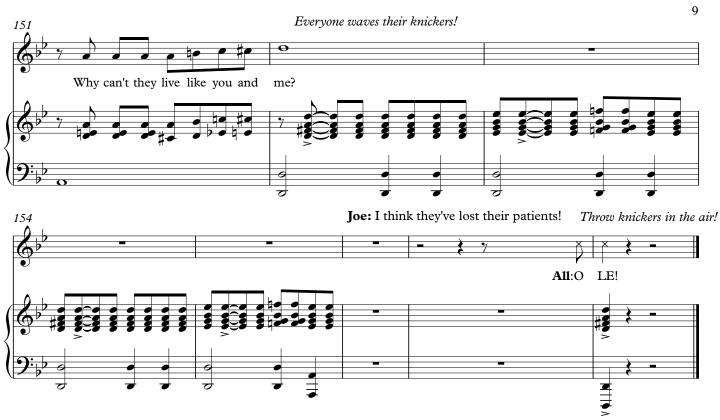












The narrator (still in old clothes) looks sadly at Joe before exiting stage.

Their eyes meet and then Joe continues.