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## **Analyzing the Movie Using An Axiom of Communication**

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Starting Over Again is a Filipino romantic-drama film depicting the frustration of two ex lovers, Genina (played by Toni Gonzaga) & Marco (Piolo Pascual), who meet again when tasked with an architectural project. Our group chose the scene in which Piolo Pascual uttered his famous line, "Anong karapatan mong hingin ang isang bagay na pinagdamot mong ibigay? I deserved an explanation. I deserve an acceptable reason." Set in Marco's ancestral house to be designed and renovated by Genina, both were arguing about why Marco always disapproved of Genina's design for the project. During their argument, Genina brought up their heartbreaking past, saying "O baka naman kaya ayaw mong aminin dahil hanggang ngayon ako pa rin ang gusto mo," which triggered Marco. In the next moments, Marco was able to express his emotions, which he had been holding in for so long, which caused Genina to go silent. Then, after Marco vented his emotions, Genina realized her mistake and apologized to Marco. They then talked about their breakup years ago, why Genina left, and how they were both feeling as their emotions poured out. At the end of the scene, Marco told Genina that he couldn't trust her because she had broken his trust.

The axiom of communication our group has chosen to highlight is the first one, which posits that "one cannot not communicate". This axiom postulates the idea that when an individual encounters another individual, the communication process begins. Albeit through a verbal or nonverbal exchange, language isn't limited to the words we use. The scene we have chosen for this paper is riddled with this axiom as there are many observations that can be made and discussed about the aforementioned principle. Firstly, the scene opens with Piolo actively walking away from Toni in a pace that hurries himself out of the situation. Although it is not outwardly uttered, the body language depicts his annoyance to the situation or perhaps his internal frustration. This is then followed by Toni's tone of voice which is mixed with frustration and anger. Putting aside the use of words, the pitch she uses communicates her deep feelings towards the situation. As a rebuttal, Piolo's voice also exerts effort and frustration, alluding to the underlying human condition that is anger towards the situation. Sarcasm is also mixed in when he replies to Toni's character. The tone of voice expressed by both parties portrays the hurt from their past that was left unresolved. Towards the end of the scene, Toni's self concept crumbles as she realizes that she is wrong and feels remorse, this is manifested outwardly by hugging him and the tears that run down her face as she's crippled in silence. The facial expressions used in the discourse between the two parties displays hurt, anger and frustration towards a failed relationship.

Paul Watzlawick's Axioms of Communication can be seen in all forms of communication between individuals. Whether or not the mode of communication is verbal or nonverbal, language transcends beyond the words we use. Language can be depicted throughout many facets of conveying a message.