The first episode in the third season of Orange is the New Black makes a clear statement of a women’s role regarding motherhood in their child’s development. In the scene where Doggett and Boo talk about abortions, Boo states that children who grow up “poor, neglected, and abused,” is a perfect formula for becoming a criminal. Through the use of flashbacks that parallel with Litchfield’s current timeline, the importance of motherhood further supports Boo’s statement.

Flashbacks

Several characters' backstories with their mothers is shown throughout the episode. Each flashback shows a different problem the inmate experienced with the mother, which may or may not had led to their future crimes as described by Boo. Interestingly, these flashbacks also seem to parallel with current events happening in Litchfield on mother’s day.

Possible Scenes:

- **Nicky’s Rich Mom**

  In this scene, a very young Nicky wakes up early and excited to celebrate mother’s day. Her mother’s denial to be happy with her daughter’s work clearly has an effect on Nicky. An interesting part about this scene are Nicky and her maid’s outfits. They are both wearing the same color pink, which could mean that the maid serves as Nicky’s mother. This aligns with Nicky’s hatred of her mother.

- **Parallel Scene: Daya’s mother**

  Daya’s mom is surrounded by her children. However, rather than enjoying the day with her family that she never sees, Daya’s mother complains to Daya about the regrets she has as being a mother. The non-engaged attitude her children have around her shows they are used to their mother being uninterested in them.

- **Doggett’s mother**

  In this scene, Doggett’s mom forces her young daughter to drink an unhealthy amount of mountain dew to have her appear uncontrollable to their counselor. Interestingly, Doggett is attached to her mother with what looks like an animal leash around her wrist. This could reflect her mother’s perception of her daughter as not actually being human, but rather just something she can use to scam for more money. However, with the matching colors of Doggett with her mom, it reflects the fact Doggett still perceives her as a supportive motherly role.

- **Inmate using her child for drugs**