

THE CHASE



Teaching sensitive issues: Our responsibilities as teachers extend to dealing with sensitive topics and making sure our pupils have the knowledge to cope with different and sometimes difficult situations. If you were Njideka's teacher how could you help in this situation?

SCENE 1

EZEKIEL'S SPOT

SFX

EZEKIEL IS GATHERING BOTTLES AND FIXING THEM IN THE CARTON

NJIDEKA

{SCREAMS} Chineke! Blood o... blood o!
Brother Ezekiel I wound myself.

SFX

EZEKIEL DROPS BOTTLES AND RUSHES TO HER.

EZEKIEL

What is it Njideka? Why are you shouting?

NJIDEKA

Brother see blood on my body.

EZEKIEL

Wound kwa? Where is the wound? ...O! Em...
it's not wound. Don't be fearing and crying.

NJIDEKA

But brother...

EZEKIEL

It is showing that you are now maturing. You are now a woman, so you must being careful.

- NJIDEKA I don't understand brother.
- EZEKIEL From now, you must be careful with men. Don't going close to them and don't let them close to you or else you will be getting pregnant.
- NJIDEKA Eh... chinekeee
- SFX NJIDEKA RUNS OUT
- EZEKIEL Njideka where are you running to, coming back....
- SCENE 2** **OPEN SPACE IN THE MARKET**
- SFX FOOTSTEPS AS EZEKIEL IS CHASING NJIDEKA
- EZEKIEL Njideka come back here biko.
- VOICE 1 Ah ah, make una dey look road before una dey run anyhow.
- NJIDEKA My God oooo, I am finished o...my mother o....Madam comot for road
- VOICE 2 Craze girl. You push me come dey tell me make I commot.
- EZEKIEL Commoting for road. Njideka stop....

SFX	EZEKIEL PUSHES CARRYLOAD AND KNOCKS OVER HER WARES. CARRYLOAD CHASES HIM.
VOICE(CARRYLOAD)	Ezekiel na God go punish you. Where you dey run go? You must pay for this market wey you throway.
SFX	NJIDEKA RUNS INTO FATI'S SHOP FALLING A TRAY.
NJIDEKA	Madam Fati help me, please help me.
FATI	What is it Njideka? Don't scatter my market o.
SFX	EZEKIEL RUNS IN PANTING
EZEKIEL	Njideka coming here.
NJIDEKA	Madam Fati, please don't allow brother Ezekiel to touch me.
FATI	What is going on here?
SFX	CARRYLOAD ARRIVES CURSING
VOICE(CARRYLOAD)	You don run finish? Ngwa pay me my money now now.
NJIDEKA	Make una help me beg brother Ezekiel to leave here. I don't want to carry belle.

- FATI
Ah Ezekiel, what have you been doing to this small girl?
- EZEKIEL
I doensing nothing. I just trying to teach her something.
- VOICE (CARRYLOAD)
Please pay me make I dey go. Em... Njideka, wetin stain your body?
- EZEKIEL
That is what I'm trying to teaching her how to behaving now that she is woman and she just run away.
- NJIDEKA
He said if man near me, I'll carry belly. My mama go kill me if I carry belly, so I run away from him because I no fit stay in the same house with him.
- EZEKIEL
But it is not like that.
- NJIDEKA
Does that mean you lie to me?
- EZEKIEL
Em...er...
- FATI
Take it easy Njideka, am sure Ezekiel did not mean to deceive you
- VOICE(CARRYLOAD)
Why he go mislead am? If he does not know how to explain it to her, why he no look for someone who can to help him? Abeg pay me my money o jare!

How do you deal respectfully and sensitively with this type of issue as a teacher?

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