

MM00984

SECTION 27

DIGITAL INDUSTRIAL THEATRE

ABORTION CHAPTER

UN-PREGNANT

V2

30 September 2020

**Abortion Chapter**

**Video Title: UN-PREGNANT**

**Duration: 3-5 minutes**

**Characters:**

Mrs Peters - Older coloured female teacher, who is plump, matronly and very conservative looking

Karabo - Trendy young black girl, fashionable with an afro

Unathi - Plump young black girl, with natural hair and braces

Busi - Young black nerdy girl with glasses and braids

Sister Miriam - Older black female nurse, who is warm, friendly, helpful, caring and motherly

**Chapter Summary:**

Scene 1 is set in Mrs Peters’ Classroom

Scene 2 is set on the playground bench

Scene 3 is set at the abortion clinic – reception

Scene 4 is set at the abortion clinic – treatment room

**Video Script:**

*Scene 1 is set in Mrs Peters’ Classroom*

Mrs Peters: And do you see class, abortion is a SIN! It is murdering an innocent life.

Busi: I don’t see it like that ma’am. Abortion is the deliberate ending of an unwanted pregnancy, surely then it’s more about a woman’s choice about whether she is ready to have a baby?

Mrs Peters: Ahhhh Busi, it’s not that simple…

Karabo: *(Whispers to her friend)* Hey sis I need to talk to you

Unathi: Sure, can we talk at break?

Karabo: Meet me by the benches.

Mrs Peters: Quiet please!

*Bell rings*

*Scene 2 is set on the playground bench*

Unathi: So what did you want to talk about?

Karabo: So…Masego and I had sex.

Unathi: Oh wow and? How was it?

Karabo: It was painful, but he really wanted it.

Unathi: And you?

Karabo: Well I love him, so I wanted to make him happy. But he broke up with me, when I told him I wasn’t ready to do it all the time.

Unathi: Ahhh guys!!!! Friend, you know you don’t have to do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable?

Karabo: I know, and I’m not going to. But now I have a bigger problem, than just having sex.

Unathi: What????

Karabo: I’m pregnant.

Unathi: Ukhulelwe?

Karabo: *(Starts to cry)* Yes and I’m scared

Unathi: *(Hugs her friend)* I don’t want you to be scared. Can I get Busi? You know she’s been through this before?

Karabo: *(Crying)* Ok

*Unathi goes to get Busi and she comes back to Karabo with her*

Busi: Babes, I can’t believe this. *(Hugs her friend)* Are you ok?

Karabo: No...

Busi: I’m sorry friend. I know how you feel. So, the most important question...

Karabo: *(Through her tears)* Did I enjoy it?

Busi: No wena! Do you want to keep the baby?

Karabo: No, I want to finish school and besides, my parents will kill me.

Unathi: I know they will. Wait, have you tried drinking stameta? My cousin Enhle did it!

Busi: Uyahlanya? The only safe way to end an unwanted pregnancy is an abortion!

Karabo: I can do that myself right?

Unathi: Yes, with a coat hanger, I know Thandi used it!

Busi: Noooooo! Yoh! You can get a safe abortion, for free, at a clinic. It’s your RIGHT as a woman, and besides it’s legal in South Africa. And a safe abortion is important, because you might not want a baby now, but you don’t want to risk your chances of being able to become pregnant one day!

Karabo: But what about my parents? I don’t want to tell them.

Busi: You don’t have to. Any woman, at any age, can go to a clinic alone or with a friend, and have a safe abortion up to 12 weeks into the pregnancy, or in special circumstances even later, up to 20 weeks. Your parents don’t have to know, if you don’t want to tell them!

Unathi: But what about Masego? Shouldn’t he also have a say?

Busi: It’s Karabo’s body, her choice and her right. End of story!

Unathi: Okkkkkkaaaayyyyy

Busi: He WAS her boyfriend, but he doesn’t own her. These guys, they think they own their women.

Karabo: Busi, will you come with me?

Busi: Yebo yes, you’re not doing this alone, and I wish I’d had someone with me.

Unathi: I’m coming too!

*Bell rings*

Busi: Let’s go

*Scene 3 is set at the abortion clinic – reception*

*The girls arrive at the clinic and walk in*

Busi: Ma Miriam…

Sister Miriam: Busi, nice to see you. How are you sithandwa sami? All ok down there?

Busi: Yes Ma Miriam, I’m here with my friend…

Karabo: That’s me.

Unathi: And me…

Sister Miriam: Kulungile mantombazane… so who needs my help?

Karabo: Me Ma Miriam, I’m Karabo.

Sister Miriam: Ok, come with me my child. You’re at the right place, and we are going to help you. In South Africa, everyone has the right to reproductive health care services, including abortion.

*Scene 4 is set at the abortion clinic – treatment room*

Karabo: My teacher says what I’m about to do is murder…

Sister Miriam: Haibo, that’s not true! Everyone has a right to reproductive health, and abortion forms part of those rights. We have lost a lot of women through unsafe abortions, because they are scared of what people will think of them. It’s YOUR body, YOUR choice and YOUR right!

Karabo: Really?

Sister Miriam: I promise you. This is your choice, you’re only 15, you’re a child yourself. We are going to take care of you, and your unborn child, and one day I’m going to run into you at Shoprite with a big stomach, and you’ll be CHOOSING to have a child then. And I’m going to rub your stomach and guess whether it’s a boy or girl…you’ll see.

Karabo: I don’t know that I want to have sex again…

Sister Miriam: *(Laughing)* Oh you will, when you’re ready. When this is all over, I want you to come back and see me, and we’ll talk about your rights to contraception, so even if you do have sex, you don’t have to fall pregnant.

Karabo: Thank you Ma.

*Sister Miriam gives Karabo a reassuring hug*

IF A CLINIC TURNS YOU AWAY

YOU CAN GO TO ANOTHER ONE