

MM00984

SECTION 27

DIGITAL INDUSTRIAL THEATRE

SRHR CHAPTER

THE 411 ON SRHR

V2

30 September 2020

**SRHR Chapter**

**Video Title: THE 411 ON SRHR**

**Duration: 5 minutes**

**Characters:**

Counsellor Dube - Young black LO teacher/counsellor, who is approachable, friendly and kind

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

Jabu - Young black nerdy guy with dreadlocks

Dineo - Young black girl, who is rebellious and outspoken

Lucinda - Young coloured girl, who is loud and outspoken, confident and lesbian.

Thabo - Young black nerdy guy with corn rows, who is gay

Mr Collins - Older black male teacher, who is tall and thin, with glasses and a beard

Mrs Dlamini – Young black female teacher who is is short and stout and very kind, friendly and approachable

Tatenda - Young black girl in a wheelchair wearing a beautiful weave

Quinton - Young coloured guy, who is short and thin and has a crutch

Themba - Young black guy who is blind and wears dark glasses

**Chapter Summary:**

Scene 1 is set in the school hall

Scene 2 is set in Mrs Dlamini’s classroom

**Video Script:**

*Scene 1 is set in the school hall*

Counsellor Dube: Settle down everyone. My name is Counsellor Dube and today I’m going to be talking to you about YOUR Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights. Anyone know what this means?

Busi: I do.

Counsellor Dube: Yes Busi

Busi: It’s a state of physical, emotional, mental and social wellbeing when it comes to sexuality and reproduction.

Counsellor Dube: That’s right, and guys did you know that EVERYONE in South Africa has a right to access these services, as well as the freedom to make free and responsible decisions and choices about their own bodies? Sounds good right? But, it’s not always that simple. Mr Collins, will you help me out here?

Mr Collins: Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights or SRHR includes the right to define one’s sexuality and choose one’s partner freely without inequality or discrimination, violence, torture or punishment. This means, whether you choose to be a guy who dates girls, or a girl who date girls, both are acceptable, and deserve to be treated equally with dignity and respect.

Jabu: But being gay is un-African

Mr Collins: Says who?

Jabu: Ugogo wam’ told me, that a man must lay with a woman, that’s what God says.

Counsellor Dube: Well Jabu, some of your Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights include the right to your own identity, the right to choose your partner, as well as the right to information and sexuality education, and you know that knowledge is power?

Jabu: I guesssss

Mr Collins: Well you guessed right!!! When I came out as a gay man many years ago, I faced a lot of hatred and violence from my community. They didn’t understand that you don’t choose who you’re attracted to or who you love. God made me that way and I’m AFRICAN alright!!!

Themba: So, why does God even make people gay?

Mr Collins: God created us all and loves us all. He doesn’t care WHO we love, as long as we love him.

Counsellor Dube: And, it is your right to explore your sexuality, and see what feels right for you.

Lucinda: I know from experience that sexuality is not a choice

Counsellor Dube: It’s not, and whatever your orientation is, we encourage safe sexual behaviour and exploration from a young age.

Mr Collins: We also encourage acceptance and tolerance. Just because someone has a different sexual orientation to you, does not mean that you can disrespect them or treat them badly. EVERY person deserves to be treated with equality, kindness and respect.

Counsellor Dube: Often, there is gender-based violence against someone because of their gender or sexual orientation. It can be directed at men or women, but in South Africa, women and homosexual people suffer the most at the hands of intolerant people.

Mr Collins: At the end of the day, it is your body and your life

Lucinda: And YOU can decide how you want to live it.

Mr Collins: Ke nnete!!!

Counsellor Dube: Often the concepts of sex, gender, identity and sexuality are confused. Take a look at this genderbread person.

*Counsellor Dube shows genderbread graphic*

Counsellor Dube: When people refer to someone’s sex, they are talking about the biological characteristics that identify them as male, female or intersex at birth.

So, if someone has a penis, for example…

Thabo: Society expects them to identify as a man.

Mr Collins: Exactly Thabo, and gender expression is about how you appear to others. This is seen through the way you dress and how you behave, and every person is allowed to express their gender freely, in their own way. Identity on the other hand, is who you know yourself to be, based on the options your gender offers you.

Counsellor Dube: And lastly, sexuality or sexual orientation is about who you are emotionally, spiritually, romantically and sexually attracted to.

Mr Collins: Le a utlwisise?

All: Ehhh

Mr Collins: If any of you are struggling on your journey, or confused about who you are and who you love, my door is always open and I will always respect your right to privacy.

Counsellor Dube: Great thank you Mr Collins, my door is also always open to you all, for anything.

Mr Collins: Questions, concerns, fears…come and talk to us.

Counsellor Dube: So another right that EVERY South African has, is the right to the highest standard of health, high quality services, as well as the right to privacy.

Mr Collins: And you can decide whether you want to be married or not, and whether you want to have children and how many, or not. It is YOUR choice!

Counsellor Dube: So SRHR is made up of 4 parts: sexual health and sexual rights…

Mr Collins: And reproductive health and reproductive rights.

Counsellor Dube: So now we are going to break up into our classrooms, and discuss the 4 parts of SRHR, and what they mean for every single one of us.

*Bell rings*

*Scene 2 is set in Mrs Dlamini’s classroom*

Mrs Dlamini: Ok everyone, let’s get into it manje. Tatenda, can you please read what sexual health is about.

Tatenda: Sexual health means everyone has access to sexual counselling and care, and access to services to prevent STIs

Mrs Dlamini: Those are sexually transmitted infections amantombazane nabafana

Tatenda: And also the Human Papilloma vaccine (HPV) for young girls around 9 years old, who aren’t sexually active. This vaccine prevents cervical cancer.

Mrs Dlamini: Thank you Tatenda, that’s right, any questions?

Themba: And sexual health is free from local clinics for every one in South Africa?

Mrs Dlamini: Correct Themba. It is your right to have those sexual health services, but then, what are your sexual rights?

Themba: They’re human rights

Mrs Dlamini: Yes they are, and like Counsellor Dube and Mr Collins were saying, this includes the right to choose your partner, and whether to marry them, and receive a high standard of sexual and reproductive health services and education.

Dineo: What about having babies with them?

Mrs Dlamini: That is part of reproductive health and reproductive rights Dineo, and includes your right to information and services needed to maintain reproductive health, and managing your period in a hygienic, private and dignified way, access to contraception, safe abortion and services that support survivors of gender-based violence .

Busi: And the rights then?

Mrs Dlamini: Well, you have the right to decide, and that includes deciding if you even want children and how many you want to have! *(Laughing)* Think VERY carefully about this one abafundi… you can’t give them back!

Dineo: But this obviously only applies to men and women who are old enough to have children right?

Mrs Dlamini: Health rights apply to EVERY one, but reproductive rights are only applicable when you are of an age to reproduce, and this is defined by puberty, the process where a child moves to adulthood.

Karabo: And what a process that is, bigger boobs, more bodily hair, a change in body shape and that’s JUST for girls…

Mrs Dlamini: That’s your body getting ready for children Karabo, and with girls, it begins around the age of 8 and ends at about 15-17 years old; while boys begin around the age of 11 and end around 16-17 years old.

Dineo: And when should women start their periods?

Mrs Dlamini: Everybody is different, but it usually starts between the ages of 12 and 13 when the eggs mature, which is the same age where boys begin to ejaculate.

Unathi: Gross!!!

Quinton: Ag Unathi, it’s not man… Ma’am what about masturbation, is that wrong?

Mrs Dlamini: People of all ages, genders, and sexual orientations masturbate. Even young children masturbate, as they learn to explore their bodies, and it is perfectly healthy and normal, even though some cultural and religious beliefs disagree.

Quinton: Ya, some of those religious and cultural beliefs don’t believe in masturbation, but they do believe in child marriage… ek kan nie!!!

Busi: There’s a name for it… ukuthwala, where girls are abducted and forced to marry older men against their will.

Mrs Dlamini: This practice is common in rural KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. This type of marriage comes in different forms, it can be arranged or forced, both of which violate the sexual and reproductive health rights of girls, including their right to basic education, health, freedom and the right to choose their partner.

Quinton: Ma’am that is crazy!

*Bell rings*

Mrs Dlamini: Right class, that’s all we have time for today. You all have a LOT to think about. I’ll see you tomorrow morning. Le tsamayeng gabotse!