

ADJUA'S PREDICAMENT

Dealing with sensitive issues: In this drama, listen to the way teacher Titus deals with a sensitive situation which could arise in any classroom. How does he maintain confidentiality? How does he act professionally with both Adjua and her mother?

SCENE 1

CLASSROOM

LATE AFTERNOON

TITUS: well children, before we end our lessons for today, when we get home we must not forget to ...

CHILDREN: (CHORUS) do our homework

TITUS: good! And after that

CHILDREN: help our parents

TITUS: that is good. Goodbye children

CHILDREN: Goodbye Mr Titus

SFX: SOUND OF CHILDREN'S FOOTSTEPS RUNNING ON TO OFF.

TITUS: Adjua, what are you still doing here? You can see that every one has gone home.

- SFX: QUIET SOBBING CONTROLLED WITH DIFFICULTY
- TITUS: are you in trouble at home?
- ADJUA: I dont want to go home Sir
- TITUS: you don't want to go home you mean? But you have to; you cannot stay in the school alone after closing hours!
- ADJUA: please let me stay here sir...I no want to go home.
- TITUS: (A long pause) why don't you want to go home?
- ADJUA: (begins to sob again)
- TITUS: (patiently) stop crying Adjua. Crying will not solve your problem. Come with me to my office so we can talk.
- ADJUA: (SNIFFING) Yes Sir
- SFX FOOTSTEPS AS THEY BOTH GO OUT. SOUND OF CLASSROOM DOOR BEING CLOSED
- MUSIC BRIDGE
- SC 2 TITUS OFFICE**

- TITUS: Don't worry if your mother does not come soon, I will go with you to her shop. Is that alright?
- ADJUA: Thank you sir.
- SFX: Knocking on door
- TITUS: yes, who's there? Come in
- MAMA ADJUA: (off to on) good afternoon o oga Mr. Titus!
- TITUS: Good afternoon Mama Adjua.
- M/ADJUA: Ah Adjua, so na here you dey? Why you neva come shop? Mr Titus what kind of thing be dis? You suppose send Adjua home now so that I will not worry. I no like this o...ah ah
- TITUS: why don't you sit down madam, we have a problem here.
- M/ADJUA: problem? (SOUND OF CHAIR AS SHE SITS)
Adjua what have you done again o!
- TITUS: Adjua has not done anything. Your daughter says she doesn't want to go home.
- M/ADJUA: what kind of nonsense talk be dat Adjua? What happen?
- TITUS: Adjua should I tell her or you will tell her

yourself?

ADJUA: you can fit to tell her sir. He said he go beat me if I tell her or any person

M/ADJUA: (Irritably) what are you talking about Adjua? Mr. Titus?

TITUS: madam, your daughter is scared of going home because of her step father

M/ADJUA: her step father? Adjua, what is he talk about so?

TITUS: her step father, your husband wants her to sit on his laps (STAMMERS) em...em...and play with his...his...em you know.

MAMA ADJUA What!?! It's a lie! Adjua, you don't crase? Oya get up let's go

ADJUA Mama it true, I swear.....

TITUS Mama Adjua, denying it does not change the fact that your daughter is in serious trouble and needs our help

M/ADJUA: (starts sobbing) oh my God, Adjua, why did you not tell me. [Angrily] I'm going to kill that....

TITUS: please calm down. We have to figure out a way out of this other than violence. Her life and future are at risk here. Maybe there is somewhere

safe you can send her for the time being while we find a solution to this delicate situation

M/ADJUA:

I will take her go my mother's sister...while I try and deal with the situation...Oga Titus thank you very much...if not for the friendship you get with Adjua, how would I have known what was going on?

MUSIC BRIDGE

How would you have dealt with this situation? Have you ever had to cope with a situation like this? If so, what did you do?

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