

THE NOTORIOUS FIGHTER

Dealing with sensitive issues: As you listen to the drama involving pupil Tunde and his teacher, think about the extent of your professional role as a teacher.

SCENE 1:

TITUS'S SCHOOL

SFX: CHILDREN PLAYING. FATI ARRIVES

FATI: Good afternoon o Teacher Kwame.

TEACHER KWAME: Welcome Madam Fati, I don't remember any PTA meetings today.

FATI: No, there's no meeting, I just thought I should bring you some oranges and tomatoes...just to show my appreciation of all you are doing for my Munira...it is not easy to teach children...

KWAME Ah Madam...this is really thoughtful of you...

SFX: CHILDREN FIGHTING OFF. KWAME CALLS THEM.

TEACHER KWAME: Excuse me Madam. Hey! come here the two of you!

SFX: TWO PUPILS ARRIVE, STILL QUARRELLING.

- TEACHER KWAME: Shut up! And you Tunde, you are always involved in one fight or the other.
- TUNDE: na Essien abuse me first ...
- TEACHER KWAME: Shut up! Look at how dirty you are. In fact, I will like to see either of your parents here tomorrow.
- TUNDE: (Timidly) Excuse me sir, my parent will say he don't have time.
- TEACHER KWAME: yes, she will never have time, that's why you come without writing materials and disturb your mates. In fact, go home immediately and bring your mother.
- FATI: I think you should be gentle with him.
- TEACHER KWAME: (Irritably) you don't know this rascal. He needs iron hands. (To boy) If your mother doesn't come with you, then stay home with her.
- SFX: BOY LEAVES.
- FATI: I think I know that boy, KWAME, he looks like...
- TEACHER KWAME: Oh, forget him, he's a nuisance.
- FATI: Anyway, can you come visit someone with me this evening?

MUSIC BRIDGE

SCENE 2:**LUKEMAN'S HOUSE**

FATI: Hello Mrs Lukeman, good evening. This is KWAME, the new teacher at the school

LUKEMAN: Oh, so this is the new teacher, I don't hear of him. What's the problem? Talk quick as I am busy working.

TEACHER KWAME: Good evening.

LUKEMAN: I say what is the problem? I'm busy o!

FATI: Mrs Lukeman it is about your son Tunde.

LUKEMAN: What about Tunde?

FATI: I have come to advise you to take interest in his education and well being...

LUKEMAN: What nonsense you're talking. That small boy...

FATI: Lukeman, answer me this question...if you don't take care of your child now, when you get old, and you're no longer strong to work; do you think you have a right to ask for his help?

LUKEMAN: I still don't understand this kind of talk?

FATI: Yes, because now you think you are strong,

but a time will come when it is this your son that will take care of you.

LUKEMAN: of course, that is why we send him to school.

FATI: If you leave him to continue the way he is going, he will not be there to take care of you, he may even die before you.

LUKEMAN: ye! God forbid bad thing, my only son, die?

FATI: the only way God can forbid bad things is if you start taking interest in him. Your child today will be your father or mother tomorrow.

LUKEMAN: Ah Madam Fati, I have been a bad mama... o...my life.

FATI: it is better late than never Lukeman...don't feel so bad....

LUKEMAN I will change...I swear I go take good care of Tunde from today....

KWAME [MUTTERS TO HIMSELF] Wao...it never occurred to me to visit Tunde's parent...

END

Have you ever visited parents of your pupils? When might you do this and for what purpose?

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