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 doesing 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?