

*Are your rights
respected?*



GAY AND LESBIAN ARCHIVES

GALA

THE GAY AND LESBIAN ARCHIVES (GALA)

An independent project of the South African History Archive Trust

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Dear Friends

GALA has produced this comic as part of our Deaf Oral History Project and Outreach Programme. John Meletse who is Deaf, gay and HIV positive is the co-ordinator of this programme. This comic was workshopped with John and many other Deaf people. We wanted Deaf people to be involved at every stage of the project. Simphiwe Mkhize of the South African Sign Language Department in the School of Literature and Language Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand was very involved and gave important feedback on the use of signs in SASL. A Deaf artist Tommy Motswai did the final artwork, in addition to a hearing artist Vusi Malindi who did the pencil storyboard. Asanda Khatshwa from SASLINC provided a great deal of assistance, both as a SASL interpreter and as an expert on SASL and Deaf culture. We also held a focus group at the DEAFSA Southern Gauteng office to get more feedback before the comic was finalized.

The comic looks at issues of sexual violence, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), HIV and different sexualities in the Deaf community. We hope you will discuss it with your friends and start a conversation that will continue over time. Please show this comic to teachers, organizational leaders and anyone working with Deaf youth. Schools may want to use this as a resource in Life Orientation classes. We encourage resource centres, hospitals and others to contact us to enquire about getting additional copies.

This comic has been endorsed by Sign Language Education and Development (SLED).

If you would like to be interviewed for our Deaf Lesbian and Gay Oral History Project please contact John at 076-523-7166, email him at meletsej@gala.wits.ac.za or fax him at (011) 717-1783. For more information about our activities visit www.gala.wits.ac.za

Best Wishes

Ruth Morgan
Director GALA

SAHA TRUSTEES: D Ntsebeza (Chairperson), G Reid (Deputy chairperson), H Kleinschmidt, M Pickover, N Biko, C Rassool, L Callinicos, J de la Harpe, M Powell, R Saleh, N Stott.
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Project management by Deborah Walter of CMFD Productions (deb@cmfd.org).

Our sincere thanks to the following for input and guidance: Busi Kheswa, Anthony Manion, and Ruth Morgan of GALA; Tonya Graham and Milo Ndlovu of CMFD Productions; Thelma Kotze of SASLINC; and Marion Drew.

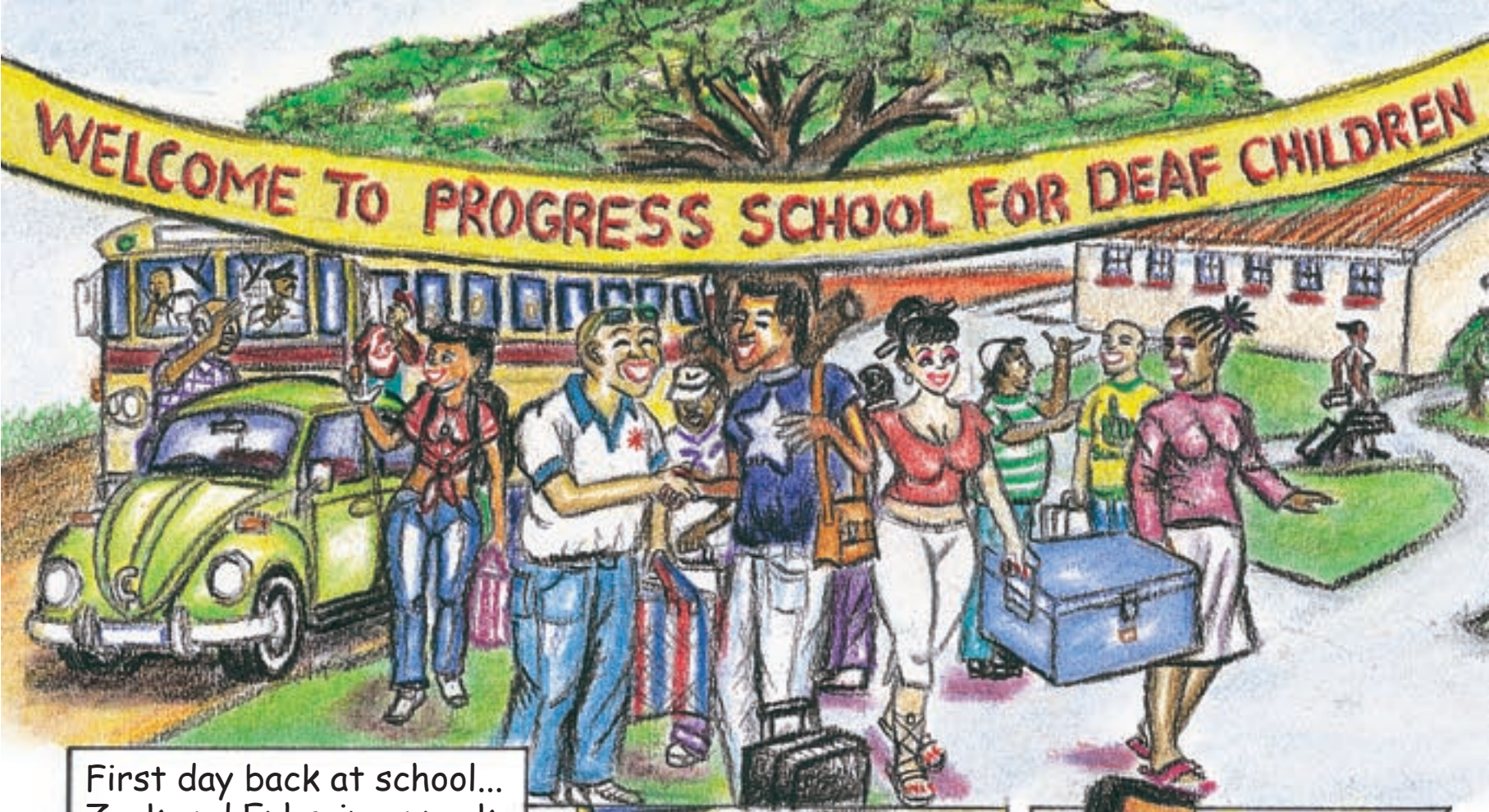


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The
ATLANTIC
Philanthropies

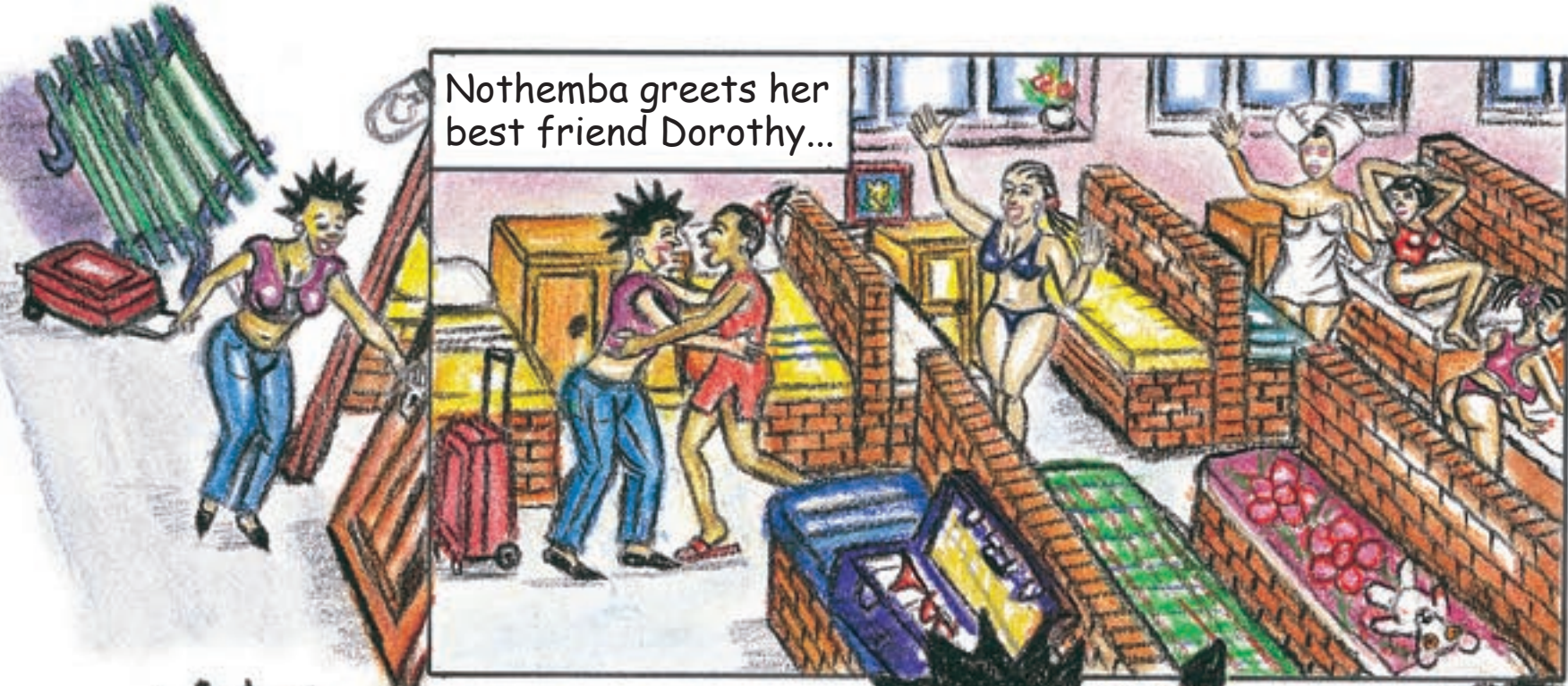




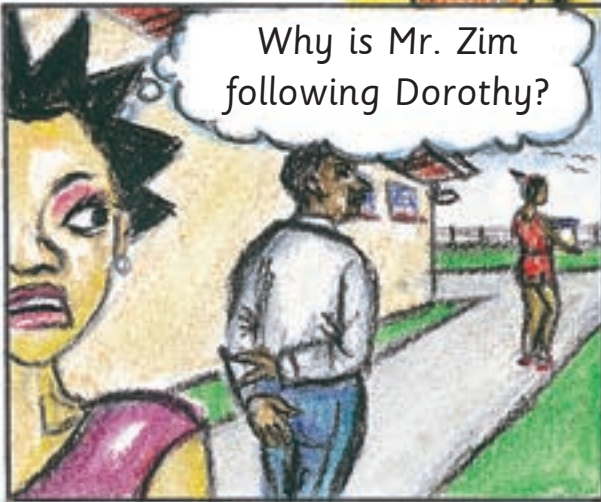
First day back at school... Zack and Ephraim unpack.



Nothemba greets her best friend Dorothy...

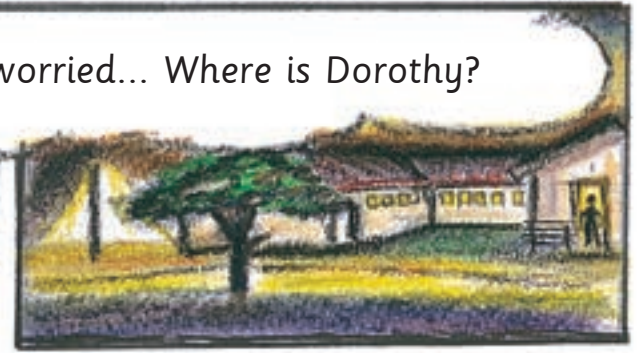


abc 42371
hi nothemba
meet me +
ephrim after
eat... zack





I'm worried... Where is Dorothy?



Later...



The next morning...

WELCOME TO GRADE 9
Mr. Kunene
(Class teacher)

DEAF
AND PROUD

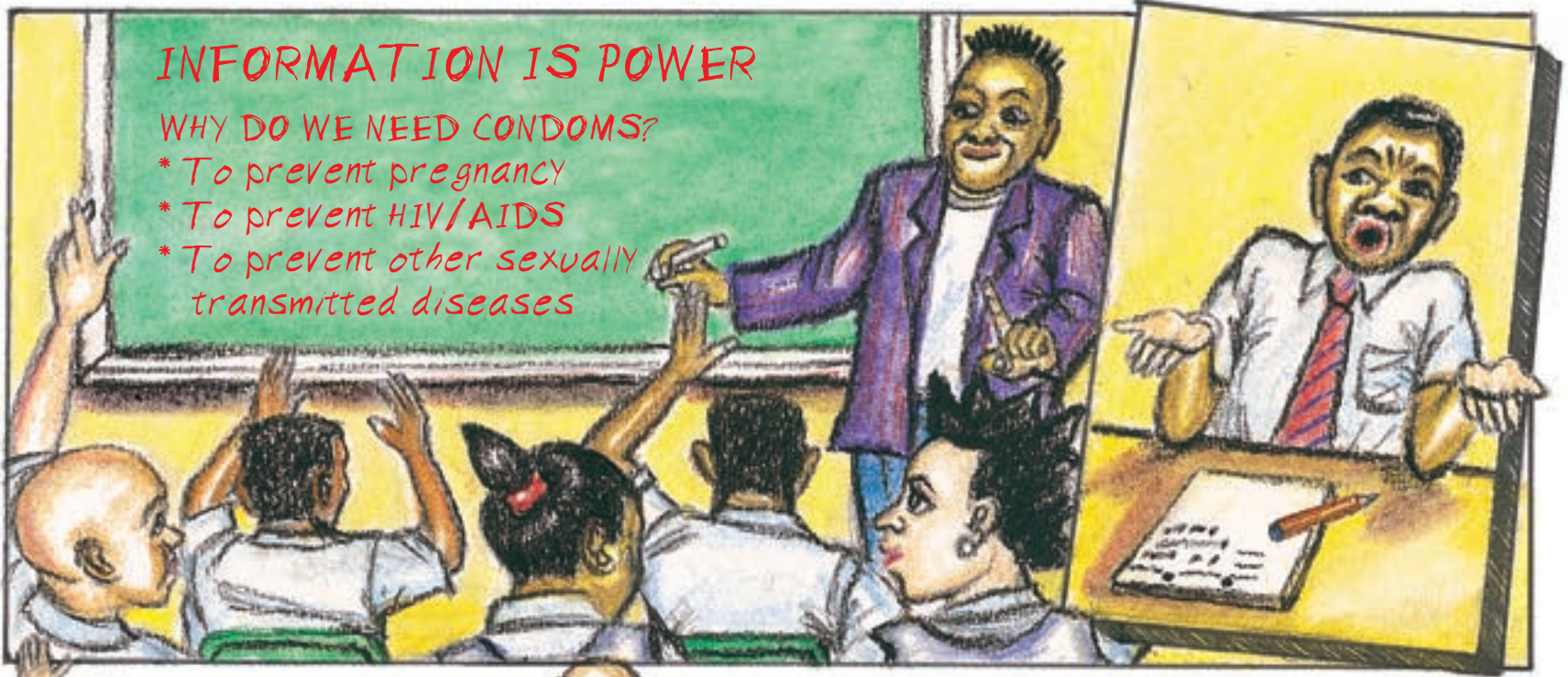
DEAF
AND PROUD



INFORMATION IS POWER

WHY DO WE NEED CONDOMS?

- * To prevent pregnancy
- * To prevent HIV/AIDS
- * To prevent other sexually transmitted diseases



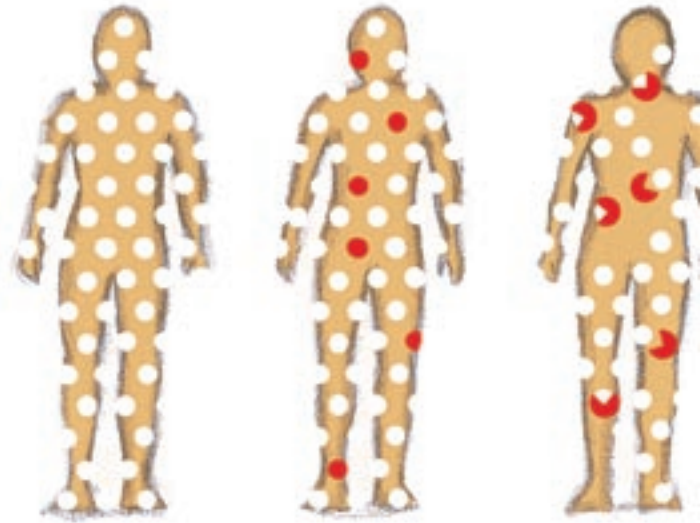
CLASS OUTING
TO CLINIC



**WHAT IS A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION?
A STI is when sex gives you a germ and makes you sick**

Some STIs:	Signs of an STI:	STIs can lead to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Syphilis * Gonorrhoea * Chlamydia * Chancroid * Herpes * Hepatitis * Genital warts * HIV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Burning when you go to the toilet * Strange fluid from penis or vagina * Bleeding * Itching and rash * Strange marks or lines * Sores * Warts * Swelling * Wee a lot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Pain * Serious illness * Cancer * Damage to penis or vagina * Blindness * Babies die in womb * Newborn babies die * People cannot have children * Death

HOW HIV/AIDS AFFECTS THE BODY



White blood cells protect the body against disease.

HIV gets into the blood.

HIV enters the white blood cells



ACTS YOUR BODY



HIV uses the white blood cells to make more HIV.



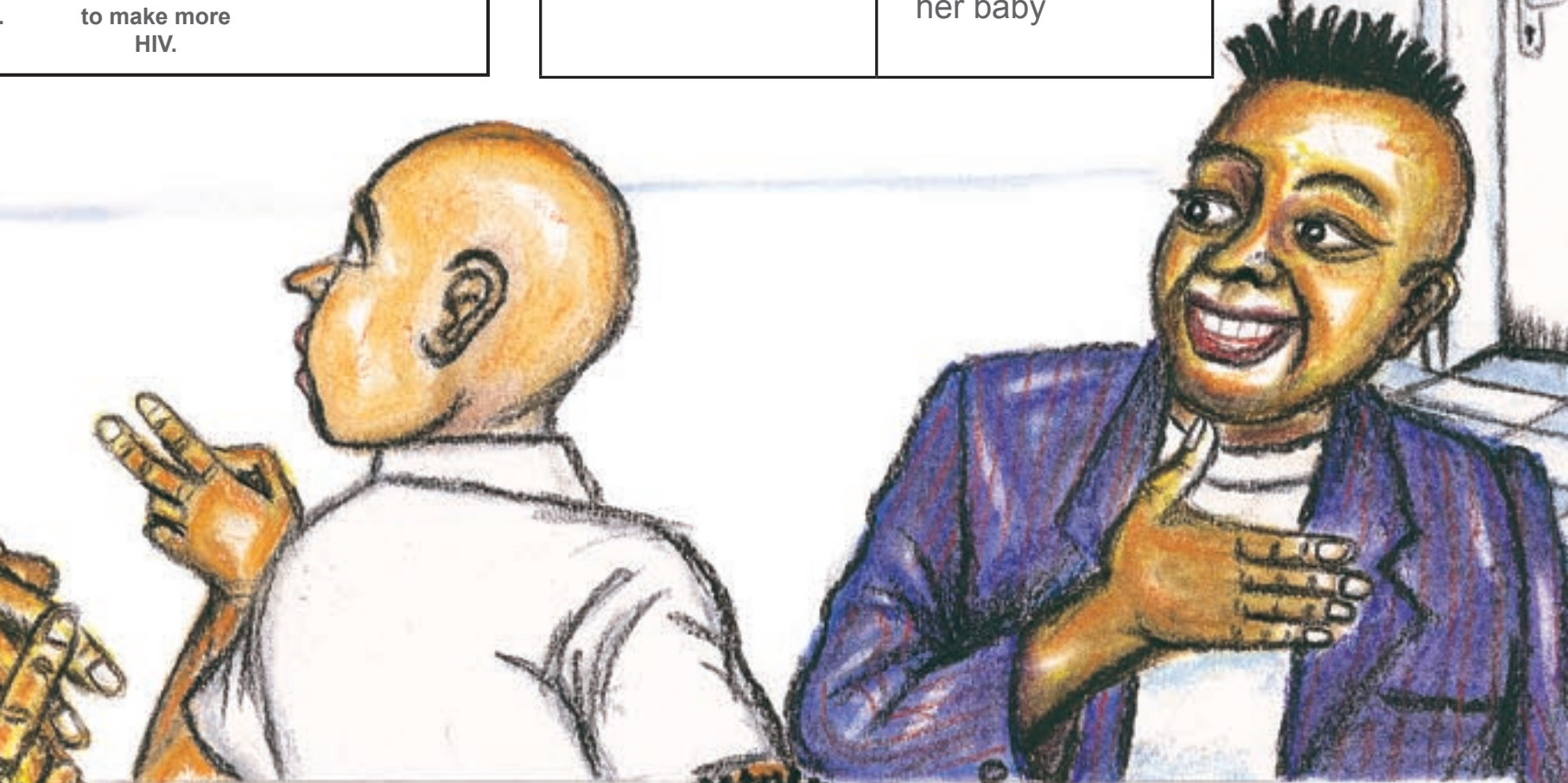
AIDS...

You CANNOT get HIV/AIDS from:

- * Holding hands
- * Kissing
- * Eating together
- * Sitting on the toilet
- * Sharing towels
- * Insect bites

You CAN get HIV/AIDS from:

- * Having sex with an infected person
- * Sharing blades or needles with an infected person
- * Infected blood enters your body through broken skin
- * Infected mother to her baby



Later that night...



YOU HAVE RIGHTS! To:

- * Say NO to sex
- * A good education
- * Safety
- * Information
- * Sign at a clinic
- * Be straight or gay
- * Justice



Are Your rights respected?



Know Your rights!
Take control
of Your
life.

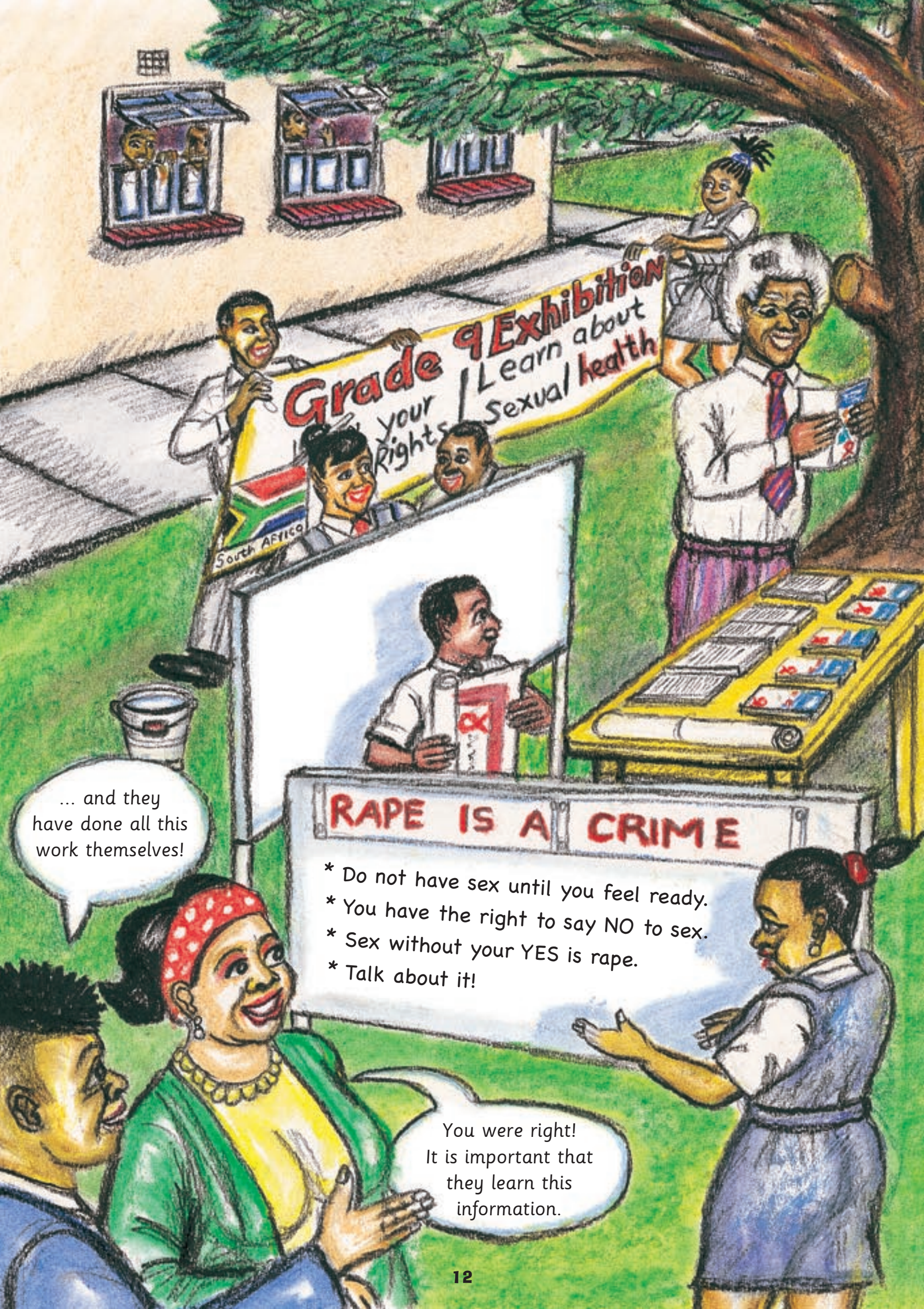


Later that evening...



The next morning...





Grade 9 Exhibition | Learn about
your rights | Sexual health

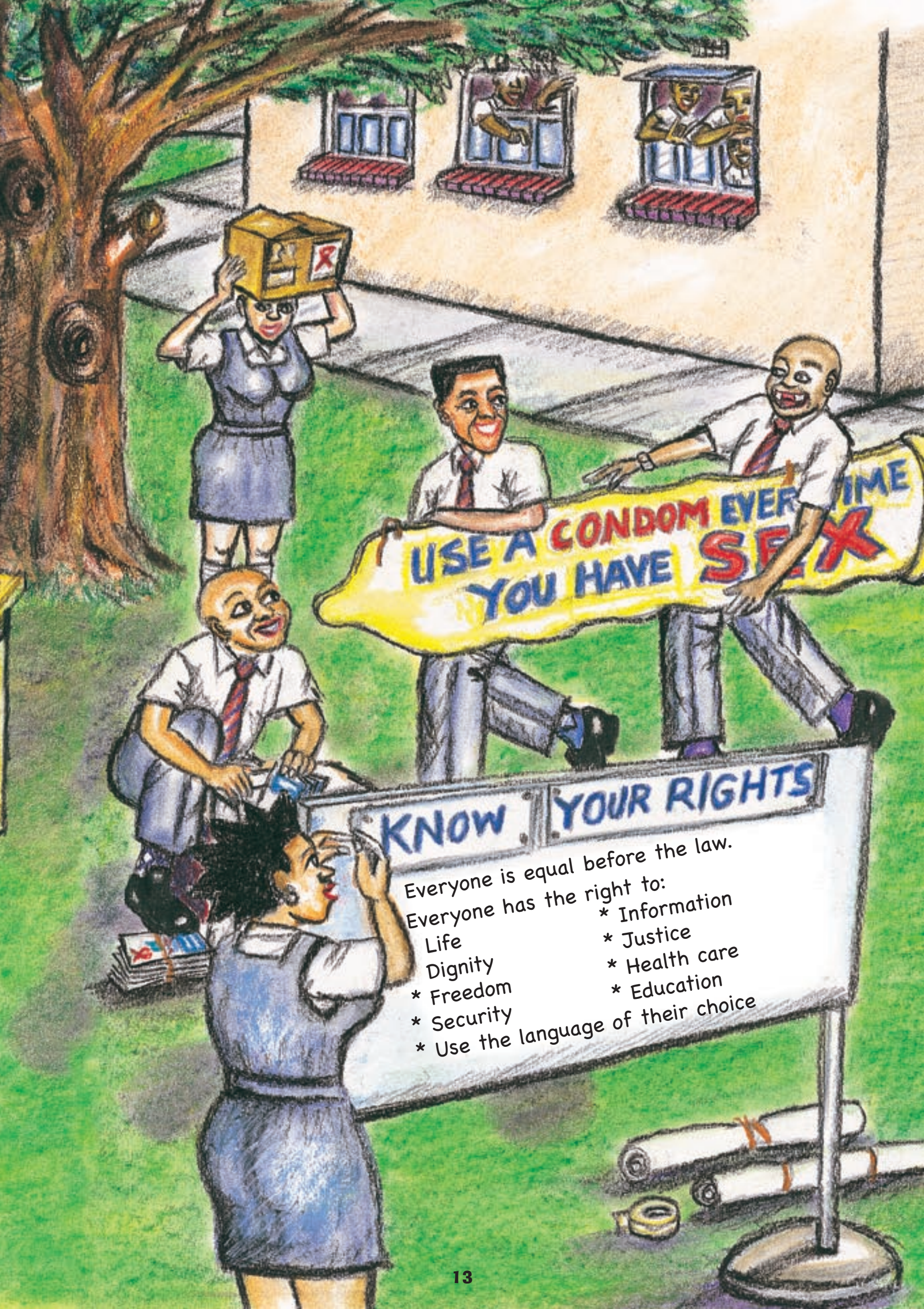
South Africa

RAPE IS A CRIME

- * Do not have sex until you feel ready.
- * You have the right to say NO to sex.
- * Sex without your YES is rape.
- * Talk about it!

... and they have done all this work themselves!

You were right! It is important that they learn this information.



USE A CONDOM EVERY TIME YOU HAVE SEX

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- Everyone is equal before the law.
- Everyone has the right to:
 - * Information
 - * Justice
 - * Health care
 - * Education
 - * Use the language of their choice

WORD SEARCH

n	c	n	c	d	e	a	f	s	m	i
i	o	o	m	e	i	b	c	n	e	m
t	s	i	n	e	p	u	i	c	i	o
d	e	t	t	i	m	s	n	a	r	t
n	x	a	r	c	c	e	i	o	h	p
r	u	m	c	h	e	a	l	t	h	m
f	a	r	o	h	s	f	c	a	i	y
l	l	o	s	d	e	t	m	n	a	s
d	y	n	f	a	n	r	h	i	v	i
e	r	i	e	a	o	o	d	g	n	e
f	a	m	i	e	d	s	c	a	i	i
m	a	m	i	e	e	a	n	v	o	r

hiv
school
aids
abuse
sexually

infection
condom
health
safe
transmitted

friend
information
vagina
penis
deaf

rights
clinic
nurse
teacher
symptom

Can you find all these words in the table above?



Choose characters from the story and act out your own scenes.



Discussion Questions:

- How can you get HIV? How can you not get HIV?
- Who should go for an HIV test?
- What can you do if you are sexually abused?
- Where can you get more information about HIV?
- Who can you talk to in your school about these issues?



Drama:

Act out the following scenes. Talk about the situations. How would you feel? What would you do?

- You think that your friend has been sexually abused...
- You are going to the clinic for an HIV test...
- Your friend tells you s/he had unprotected sex...
- Your best friend is HIV positive...



GET CREATIVE:

- Design your own posters.
- Draw your own comic stories.

