

Deutsche Welle, Learning by Ear 2011, Girls' Rights, Episode 3

## **Learning by Ear – Girls' Rights**

### **Episode 03**

**Title: Sexual Harassment- A story of Girls' Rights**

**Author: Njoki C. Muhoho**

**Editors: Andrea Schmidt, Katrin Ogunsade**

**Proofreading: Michael Lawton**

## **Characters**

### **SCENE 1 SCHOOL PLAYGROUND**

Narrator - Male - 30s  
Ciro – Female - 15 years  
Fatuma - Female - 14 years  
Cheptoo - Female - 15 years  
Abdi - Male - 16 years  
2 boys - Male - 15-18 years

### **SCENE 2 LOCAL VILLAGE PATH**

Ciro – Female - 15 years  
Cheptoo - Female - 15 years  
Fatuma- 14 years  
  
Man at village path - age unimportant  
  
Narrator - Male - 30s

### **SCENE 3 BREAKTIME PLAYGROUND**

Ciro – Female - 15 years  
Fatuma - Female - 14 years  
Cheptoo - Female - 15 years  
Abdi - Male - 15 years  
Narrator - Male - 30s  
2-3 Boys (just for laughter) 14-16 years

### **SCENE 4 GIRLS' PARLIAMENT-INCLASSROOM**

Teacher Mona – Female - 35 years  
Ciro – Female - 15 years  
Cheptoo - Female - 15 years  
Abdi - Male - 15 years  
Fatuma - Female - 14 years  
Narrator - Male - 30s  
Mixed boys and girls in class (14-16)

**01. INTRO**

**02. MUSIC: THEME MUSIC**

**03. NARRATOR**

Hello and welcome to Episode **Three** of our "Learning by Ear" **Girls' Rights** series. In the last episode, the friends, **Ciro** and **Cheptoo** had to save their younger friend **Fatuma** from female circumcision. They learnt that some traditional practises, though expected and followed by some, can be harmful to young girls. The girls realised that they have many challenges which they would wish to share with each other and for which they want to find solutions. A 'Girls' Parliament' was born.

Today, they get the opportunity to discuss sexual harassment.

**SCENE 1: SCHOOL PLAY GROUND**

**04. SFX: BELL RINGS. DOORS OPEN AND SLAM**

**05. SOUNDS: STUDENTS NOISE AS THEY FILE OUT OF CLASSROOMS INTO THE PLAY FIELDS**

06. **CIRO** Fatuma!... Fatuma!.. over here. I've been waiting for you and Cheptoo. It seems your teacher kept you longer in your last class?
07. **FATUMA** Yes Ciro, she insists on me catching up with what I missed when .....
08. **CIRO** (LAUGHS) yeah, when you were under house arrest being fattened up for marriage.
09. **FATUMA** Come on, don't laugh at me. You are bigger than I. Does that mean your parents are fattening you up for marriage?
10. **CIRO** Well, I have good hips that boys can't stop staring at.
11. **FATUMA** I hope that is all they do.. stare, that is!
12. **SFX: SOUND: NAUGHTY WHISTLING AND CAT CALLS FROM BOYS (studio)**
13. **FATUMA** Aaahh it's that cousin of yours, Abdi and his friends. They are whistling at ... or is it Cheptoo . . . ?
14. **CIRO** (LOUDLY) Cheptoo! Cheptoo! Over here.

15. **ABDI** (FROM AFAR) Heya... Cheptoo.. you look so groovy.. let me walk next to you.
16. **CHEPTOO** (CHEEKILY) Feast your eyes, Abdi
17. **CIRO** (AMAZED) Cheptoo, don't encourage them. It's.. it's.. very unladylike.
18. **ABDI** (NOW CLOSER). Weee wee.... Let me feel that...
19. **SFX:** **LOUD SLAP**
20. **Abdi:** Oh.. its hot and fresh
21. **CIRO** (DISGUSTED) Abdi, how dare you.. how dare you slap her bottom! Stop that, Abdi.
22. **CHEPTOO** Well.. he and his friends find me hoooooot!
23. **CIRO** No, no, no Cheptoo.. you encourage them. What they are doing is bad.
24. **FATUMA** Cheptoo, CIRO is right. (PANIC), they are all coming towards us.. look... look.. at what they are doing with their tongues.. rolling their tongues out at us like... yukkk.. it's disgusting.
25. **SFX: BELL RINGS**

26. **CIRO** Thank goodness.. let's run.. run.. run back to the classrooms. Cheptoo.. come on, move your fat behind before someone else slaps it for you again.
27. **CHEPTOO** (DROOLING) Come on CIRO, stop being such a baby! Can't you see the power we have over these boys.
28. **FATUMA** Oh God help us and our bottoms!
29. **NARRATOR** Cheptoo may not be aware, but what she's going through is sexual harassment. But she imagines, because it is from people their age it is fun. Is she right in thinking this? Do the boys know they are wrong, that they are harassing her? Listen on and let's see if they will discover this for themselves.

## **SCENE 2 LOCAL VILLAGE PATH**

### **30. SFX: SOUND OF NATURE: FOOTWORK ON DIRT PATH**

31. **FATUMA** CIRO, Cheptoo, you really are true friends of mine.... you are always walking me home.

32. **CHEPTOO** Fatuma, we are afraid if we let you out of sight, next time we see you, you will be married to a 70 year old!
33. **CIRO** You are like our younger sister, we have to take care of you.
34. **SFX: SHUFFLE OF FEET AND BUSHES**
35. **CIRO** Hey..look.. look at that man who just passed us... the one in front?
36. **CHEPTOO** What is he doing... Ooh no, it's not what I think?
37. **FATUMA** He is only responding to a call of nature.
38. **SFX: URINATING SOUND**
39. **ALL GIRLS** Yeeeeek.....
40. **FATUMA** Oooh no.. he is not going to.....
41. **CIRO** oooh.. he is turning around
42. **CHEPTOO** (AMAZED) ... Oh heavens.. what are we looking at?
43. **FATUMA** Ooooh no... I am closing my eyes before I go blind.
44. **CIRO** He is ... he.. is... exposing himself to us. How dare he?

45. **FATUMA** Why are you still looking. Look away.  
He wants you to see.. see his... his  
private parts. CIRO, Cheptoo, close  
your eyes.
46. **SFX: SMALL STONES RUBBING ON EACH OTHER.**
47. **CHEPTOO** Close my eyes? Then how do I get to  
collect a few rocks?
48. **FATUMA** Rocks? What for?
49. **CHEPTOO** To beat the offending object away.  
(HEAVES)
50. **SFX: HEAVING. ROCKS LANDING ON SOFT SURFACE.**
51. **SFX: A MALE GRUNT AND PAINFUL GROWL**
52. **SFX: FEET RUNNING AWAY: GIGGLING.**
53. **NARRATOR** They may be laughing and giggling as  
they run away, but the girls know what  
they have witnessed is not right. Do  
these girls know they can be  
empowered enough to stop this? Listen  
on...

**SCENE 3 BREAK TIME. PLAYGROUND**

54. **SFX: STUDENTS PLAYGROUND NOISES**



55. **CHEPTOO**            What happened to Fatuma? She is still in her class, and they are delayed again. Can't wait for next year for her to join us on this side of the school.

56. **CIRO**                Well, she is catching up with her studies. Or (LAUGHS) she is afraid to see another man expose himself in front of us.

**(ALL LAUGH)**

57. **CHEPTOO**            Lets go to my classroom. There is something I want to show you.

58. **CIRO**                Something nice? Will I like it?

59. **CHEPTOO**            Well.. you have to see it, don't you?

60. **SFX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.**

61. **SFX: MUTED CLASSROOM NOISES**

62. **ABDI**                (LOUD WHISPER) Here they come.  
Silence. JAMES quickly, get under the desk.

63. **CHEPTOO**            Let me get it from my desk

(SCREAMS!)

64. **CHEPTOO**            What are you doing under my desk  
Abdi?

**65. SOUND: LAUGHTER FROM BOYS! CONTINUES THROUGH THE SCENE**

66. **CIRO** What did they do to you?
67. **CHEPTOO** (VERY ANGRY) get out of there!! How dare you ... how dare you.... You... you!!
68. **CIRO** Cheptoo...are you ok? What did he do..? why is he lying face up under your desk.
69. **CHEPTOO** (VERY HURT), he was looking under my skirt!
70. **CIRO** (VERY ANGRY) Abdi, you may be my cousin, but this time, you and your friends have pushed it too far.
71. **CHEPTOO** (VERY ANGRY)I have had it, it is time to call our Girls' Parliament.
72. **CIRO** Lets.... I will go call the other girls and Teacher Mona. This has to stop!
73. **NARRATOR** Well, there is reason to summon the Parliament indeed! Teacher Mona joins them for the necessary guidance and moderation. Join the girls' parliament, listen on:

#### **SCENE 4 GIRLS PARLIAMENT**

74. **TEACHER MONA** Girls and Boys, as you know, CIRO and her friends formed 'A Girls' Parliament' to discuss and debate issues that affect the girls. In this Parliament, girls from different classes, both upper and lower schools are invited. This time, we have invited you and the boys as well. In this parliament, you are encouraged to talk openly.

Ciro, you summoned the parliament, please state the motion.

75. **CIRO** I, Ciro, propose the motion that girls should be respected and sexual harassment must stop.

76. **CHEPTOO** I, Cheptoo, second the motion.

77. **TEACHER MONA** Let's debate. Who goes first?

78. **CIRO** Just this week, Abdi slapped Cheptoo's backside in a manner that .. well was not appreciated. We call it, 'bad touch'. A man urinated in our presence and exposed himself to us deliberately and now, Abdi was looking under Cheptoo's skirt.

**79. SOUND: UPROAR: WHISTLING: AMONG BOYS.**

**80. TEACHER MONA** Order.. Order.. boys, if you have something to say, you do it in an orderly manner. Abdi. Do you have something to say to the girls?

**81. ABDI** They wanted it. Cheptoo enjoys it. She asks for it.

**82. CHEPTOO** (ANGRY) Me.. I asked you to do.. do those things....? You must be out of your mind.

**83. CIRO** (ANGRY) We asked that man to show his private parts to us?

**84. ABDI** You were probably giggling and admiring what you saw. Just like Cheptoo loved our teasing. One minute she is enjoying it, the next she decides it's bad. Make up your minds girls!!!

**85. SFX: GIRLS SCREAMING**

**86. TEACHER MONA** Order! Order! Boys, you have to stop this! You are harassing the girls.

**87. ABDI** Teacher Mona, we don't mean harm, we were just having fun.

88. **CIRO** (ANGRY) Speak for yourself. You are having fun at our expense.
89. **CHEPTOO** (ANGRY)... even us. ..us girls, we can look for bad things to do to you and we can make sure we enjoy punishing you.
90. **TEACHER MONA** Order, Order.. no way. That is not the way to go about this. You must all understand what sexual harassment is.
91. **ABDI** Tell us, Teacher Mona. We want to know where we are going wrong.
92. **TEACHER MONA** Girls and Boys, listen to me and listen keenly. Every girl or boy has a right to be the sex they are. They can not be made fun of because they are boys, or because they are girls. You must all respect each other for who we are. Right? Right?
93. **ALL** Right! Teacher Mona.
94. **TEACHER MONA** But what is sexual harassment? Why is one group having fun while the other gets offended?
95. **ALL** Tell us, Teacher Mona.

- 96. TEACHER MONA** If anyone says something or touches you in a manner that makes you uncomfortable. Uses words or does things that are of sexual nature, whether that person meant it or not, it is sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined by how the receiver takes the behaviour.
- 97. ABDI** That is not fair. So, if I touch Cheptoo and I do not mean harm, but she reads it as sexual harassment, then I am in trouble.
- 98. TEACHER MONA** Actually, that is true. But Cheptoo must first tell you that she does not like what you are doing. If she says 'Stop'! and you continue, then, you are harassing her.
- 99. CHEPTOO** So, you see boys, when we say stop, you must stop...
- 100. TEACHER MONA** Hold on.. hold on.. it works two ways. You girls must also respect the boys and not mistreat them or harass them. They too, if you touch them in a manner that is not good, they have a right to say what?

101. **ALL** Stooooop!!!
102. **TEACHER MONA** Let me hear it again and again
103. **ALL** STOP! STOP! STOP!
104. **TEACHER MONA** What about if it is out there, at home, with relatives, family friends etc. What do you say?
105. **ALL** (LOUDLY) STOP STOP STOP STOP
106. **CHEPTOO** What happens if I shout stop and the man continues to touch me.
107. **CIRO** Maybe we could report it to an adult?
108. **TEACHER MONA** Such as ????
109. **CHEPTOO** You, Teacher Mona
110. **TEACHER MONA** Yes
111. **CIRO** Janet the Social Worker
112. **CHEPTOO** Our parents and adult relatives
113. **FATUMA** I could also report at the church or the mosque?

114. **TEACHER MONA** That could also work, Fatuma. The important thing is you say STOP and also report the matter. One last word: you must recognise what is a good touch, a bad touch, a good look and a bad look. Can we do that?

115. **ALL** Yes!!!

116. **CIRO** We have now debated our motion. Those for end of sexual harassment say Yea!!!

117. **ALL** Yea!

118. **CHEPTOO** Those for continued sexual harassment say Yea!!.

**SILENCE**

119. **CIRO** The Motion has won the day. We all say NOOOOO to sexual harassment.

120. **ALL** No to sexual harassment.

**121. THEME MUSIC**



## **OUTRO**

### **122. NARRATOR**

The girls as well as the boys have learnt a lot about Sexual Harassment and respecting each other.

Join them in our next episode and find out what other motions they will debate at their parliament.

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