

## Dear Sithabile

You are absolutely right to refuse this teacher's demands, which are wicked and wrong. Many people would agree with me that this teacher should not be allowed to teach in any school after behaving in this way. Please, Sithabile, don't stop going to his classes, but you must act quickly before he hurts you. Sexual abuse is wrong. Tell a friend, your parents or another teacher and get help.

If you don't think anyone will believe you, confide in a close friend and make sure that if the teacher asks you to stay behind, the friend stays too. If the teacher insists that you stay alone, make sure your friend remains close enough to hear. If the teacher repeats this behaviour, then scream and let your friend be witness to what is happening. Refer the matter to the head of your school immediately. You should also go to the police, or contact an organisation that helps children who are being badly treated, beaten or sexually abused.

**Auntie Stella**

## ACTION POINTS

- If any teacher or older person has done anything like this to you or a friend, tell a trusted person and report it to the police immediately.
- Children and adults in many southern African countries can get help if they phone or write to a 'helpline'. It is FREE of charge, and you can contact them from anywhere in the country. Find out the name, address and telephone number of the helpline in your area.

Phone or write to them if you need help, and tell your friends about them.

- Invite a police officer or someone from an organisation that deals with youth issues to come to your school to talk about rape and other forms of sexual abuse.

