Dear Auntie Stella

I am a boy aged I7 and my problem is that I have developed pimples around the head of my penis. When I was in Form 2, our teacher told us that this is an STI and a person with this problem will end up mentally disturbed if it is not treated. Is this true? What type of disease is this, and can it be cured? I'm afraid to go to the clinic because everybody says they are very harsh to teenagers if you have this kind of disease.

Jabulani



TALKING POINTS

What do you think Jabulani's problem is? Do you think he has an STI? What advice would you give him?

QUIZ: Sexually-transmitted infections (STIs)

Are these statements TRUE or FALSE? (Check your answers on the answer card)

- I You can't get an STI if you've never had sex.
- 2 You can cure STIs by having sex with a virgin.
- 3 Using a condom is the only way to avoid getting STIs.
- 4 All STIs make it painful to pass urine (wee).
- 5 Most STIs can be cured easily if you get treated quickly.
- Why are some health workers rude to young people if they have an STI? What can you do about it?