



BE FREE WITH MIZZB

ASK A
loveLife
COUNSELLOR



BULLYING HAS NO PLACE IN MZANSI

At some high schools and tertiary institutions, it's tradition for students entering their first year to go through initiation rituals. This is usually to make them realise they're now in a new environment and need to respect their seniors.

Orientation activities are meant to promote the independence of students and help them adjust to a new environment. However, sometimes harmful initiation practices cross the line into bullying.

Initiation can be fun and create a sense of bonding and community if it's properly controlled. But in some cases, it goes way overboard, causing pain and humiliation that can

take years to heal. Not only can initiation have devastating consequences, but so can seemingly harmless pranks.

Recently a primary school girl lost her life after a pupil pulled the chair from under her. Throughout the country, students who are bullied see school as a painful battleground.

Schools and colleges need to do everything in their power to put a stop to bullying and harmful initiation practices and "jokes". They have negative consequences, including causing children and young adults to become withdrawn, to lose their self-confidence and to perform badly.

He beats up the whole family

Dear MizzB

I'm in an abusive marriage where my drunk husband beats my kids and I. Our community knows him because of his work. I'm afraid no one will believe me.
■ Abused Wife

Dear Abused Wife

It can't be easy to face someone who makes life unbearable on a daily basis.

It's unacceptable for a man to abuse his wife and kids. Him being respected shouldn't stop you from taking action.

Your life is your responsibility and your kids count on you to protect them.

The law protects everyone from abuse, regardless of position. Visit the social development offices to get help from a social worker and send a Please Call Me to 083 323 1023 to talk to a loveLife counsellor.

Why can't she love me back?

Dear MizzB

I've known this woman for 16 years and I met her at church. In 2009, I told her that I love her. She's always used vulgar words to chase me away but I can't stop loving her! My feelings for her are so strong that I don't even desire another woman.
■ Concerned

Dear Concerned

It's clear you want to be with this woman but she's also expressed that she doesn't want to be with you. The fact that she threatens and swears at you shows she's really not interested in you. It sounds like you are hurt by the way she treats you. You don't deserve to be treated like that.

I want to date a sugar mama

Dear MizzB

I'm a man (22) and I want to date a woman who is eight years older than me. I don't know where to find her. I assure you that I can be the loving man she deserves. MizzB, please help me to find this woman.
■ Desiring

Dear Desiring

It sounds like you know exactly what kind of woman you want, but the challenge seems to be taking the first step. Unfortunately, I don't help people find partners, but I encourage you to follow your heart and find the woman you want to be with.