

Learning by Ear – Political Participation
Radiodrama „Family Affairs – How to become a political player“
Episode 6: “Rules of the game”

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CHARACTERS: Mapito (male, 40), Ronnie (male, 14), Eveline (female, 19), Betty (female, 12), boy (14), Boys team (14+), Choir (12+), girl (12), Coach (male, 35), Announcer (male)

Intro

Narrator:

Hello and welcome to our Learning by Ear radio drama “Family Affairs” - as we continue to look at how young people can get involved in politics. In last week’s episode we saw how media is playing an important role in Eveline’s campaign for the councillor’s seat. Samu is replaced by Ronnie as Captain and young Betty still faces the challenge of uniting her choir. In today’s episode we learn the “Rules of the Game”.

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Scene one: Football Pitch

SFX: FOOTBALL TRAINING + WHISTLE BLOWS

1. **COACH:** Boys! Everyone make a circle. Today we have a special guest, and I will let him introduce himself. Let's give him a warm welcome.

2. **BOYS: (Applaud and clap for Mapito) Wuuuuu!!**

3. **MAPITO:** Thank you. I don't remember the last time I received such applause. Anyway, I'm Sergeant Mapito. So, from my name you can tell that I'm Ronnie's father.

4. **BOYS: (More Applause) Wuuuuu!!!!**

5. **MAPITO:** I am a police officer and my work is simply to see that law and order is kept. You have to realise that laws are there for our own good. Without laws we are no different from wild animals.

6. **BOYS: (Laughter) Hahahaha...**

- 7. MAPITO:** It’s true. Any home, community or country must establish rules that govern its people. This is not to say that everyone will obey these rules, but when they are broken it’s my work to arrest and charge such people according to the law.
- 8. BOY:** Sir, Samu pushed Ronnie right here. He should be arrested.
- 9. MAPITO: (Sternly)** He did what? Ronnie, you never told me about that incident. But still Samu can’t be arrested under our law because he is a minor. That means that the law still sees him as a child, not as an adult.
- 10. BOY:** So, does that mean I can steal from the market and not get arrested? Is that what it is to be above the law?
- 11. MAPITO:** Nobody is above the law, child, not even me. So, don’t try that because if they catch you - and believe me they will - you will be taken to a reformatory school, and trust me, it’s not fun being there.

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12. RONNIE: Dad, who makes these laws?

13. MAPITO: Ronnie, in this meeting I'm Sergeant, also for you. I was officially invited by your coach. Anyway it's a good question. Laws are made by members of parliament who are chosen together with the president by the people during general elections. One or more MPs prepare a law which, at that time, is called a bill. He or she or they then take it to parliament for discussion. If it is agreed upon, the bill is taken to the President who signs it and makes it law.

14. RONNIE: But what if the MPs don't agree on the bill, Dad, eh sorry, Sergeant Mapito.

15. BOYS:(Giggle at Ronnie's mistake) Hehehe

16. MAPITO: If they don't agree, then the bill is put aside but any MP is free to bring it up again later.

17. COACH: Any more questions? None. Ok, I invited sergeant Mapito to talk about laws and why we need them because, as you all know we

have the Final coming up. And in football too we have the rules of the game. You break them; you get punished.

18. BOY: Coach, sometimes the referees punish us for simple mistakes or, like in the last match, they do it to favour the other team. Later we found out that the referee’s nephew was in the other team.

19. MAPITO: True, that happens, and it’s a sad thing. But it should not stop us from keeping the rules. Victory is always sweeter when one wins fairly and justly.

20. COACH: Boys, Sergeant Mapito needs to go. Thank you, sir, for that lesson. And I hope you boys will always follow the rules.

21. MAPITO: Thank you for inviting me. And good luck in the Final.

22. COACH: That’s it for today. I want you all to rest before the Final and to stay out of trouble. I don’t want any injuries before the match. Hip hip!!

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23. BOYS: HURRAY!

NARRATOR: The whistle’s blown, and the lesson has sunk deep into the minds of Ronnie’s team. On the other side of town Betty is still wrestling with a divided choir at the competition venue.

MUSIC BRIDGE

Scene two: At the Music Competition hall

SFX: CROWDS LIKE AT CONFERENCE CENTER

24. Announcer: (Through loud speakers) Welcome to the inter-primary school music competition. After a short break, we will have Milimani with their leader Betty Mapito, singing ... [insert name of popular song sung by choir].

(Outside the Music hall)

25. GIRL: Betty, me and my group are not going on the stage with you. We want to sing our own song.

26. BETTY: Please, listen, when I started this choir, it was not to start a popularity contest with you. The

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rules of the festival are clear, a choir must have more than ten singers and you know none of us has ten. So, let's treat this like an election. As you know, during elections people quarrel but afterwards they unite for the good of all the people. Let's unite now for the sake of our school.

27. GIRL: Hmm, I don't know. You know, if I agree to join you, it will be like you won.

28. BETTY: No, in this case, we both win when we unite and then we can focus on defeating our enemies who are the other choirs.

29. GIRL: I like that idea. Good, then we are friends. I and my group are with you.

30. BETTY: (Excited) That's great! Let's go behind stage.

31. GIRL: There is one more problem...

32. BETTY: What is it now?

33. GIRL: I don't know about the rest of you but I'm so nervous, my stomach feels like it's full of

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butterflies. I've never sung in front of people.

34. BETTY: I know. I'm also nervous myself. But let's just imagine there is no one else in the hall and let's enjoy ourselves, ok?

35. ANNOUCER: Please everyone, return to the hall now...
Milimani, the stage is yours.

36. GIRL: Oh no!

MUSIC BRIDGE

37. NARRATOR: I know you are wondering, did they succeed on stage? We will find out later, but at Mapito's home Eveline is really angry.

Scene three: Mapito's Home

38. EVELINE: (In a rage) It's not fair! It's not fair, Dad!

39. MAPITO: (Calmly) You aren't the only one, Eve. They do this to every politician who is new.

40. EVELINE: But we just put the posters up yesterday. And today, none are visible and those that are still

there have been altered. They have made my ears so long, that even Dracula looks prettier!

- 41. MAPITO: (Still calmly)** This is not a beauty contest, it's an election. You said you wanted to be a politician. Well, the drums are playing, so dance along to the tune, baby girl.
- 42. EVELINE:** Dad, isn't there a place I can go to complain? Those posters cost us a lot of money. Why can't people fight fair?
- 43. MAPITO:** I warned you that it wouldn't be easy. It's always very difficult to catch these people, but I guess you could take it up with the Electoral Commissioner.
- 44. BETTY:** Of course! He is in charge of the election. I'm going to see him tomorrow.
- 45. MAPITO:** Eveline, I'm scared that this thing is getting out of hand. It's become too big for you.
- 46. EVELINE:** But Dad, unless we young people take an active part in politics, we will never be taken seriously in matters concerning the future of

our country.

- 47. MAPITO:** Yeah, you’re right... But it’s getting late. Aren’t Ron and Betty home yet?
- 48. EVELINE:** Betty is at the music competition, but Ronnie, I don’t know where he is.
- 49. MAPITO:** I went to his team practice. But I completely forgot about the music competition...

END OF EPISODE SIX

Outro

Narrator: I’m sure you are wondering what happened at the music competition. Well, to find that out and go with Eveline when she visits the office of the Electoral Commissioner and also cheer Ronnie and his team at the Final, join us again next week for our radio drama “Family Affairs - How to Become a Political Player”. As always, you can listen to this episode again and send in your comments by visiting our webpage at www.dw-world.de/lbe. Good bye!