

Learning by Ear – Political Participation  
Radiodrama „Family Affairs – How to become a political player“  
Episode 10: “Time to get started”

## **Learning by Ear – Political Participation**

### **Radiodrama: “Family Affairs - How to Become a Political Player”**

Episode Ten: “Time to Get Started”

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CHARACTERS: Mapito (male, 40), Eveline (female, 19), Ronnie (male, 14), Betty (female, 12), Mayor (male, 40), Judge (male, 65), Mixed Crowd, Voice (male, around 40), Boy (15)

### **Intro**

**Narrator:** My people, welcome to the last episode of our Radio Drama, “Family Affairs” about how you can become a political player. Just before today’s final episode, the three family members each got a surprise. First, Ronnie was invited to play for the national under-16’s football team. Betty was disappointed that her choir was not picked to go and sing in front of the President, even though they won the competition. But Eveline got the biggest surprise when she entered the Town Hall as the new councilor of Milimani. What lies ahead for the three, now? Today it’s “Time to Get Started”!

### **Scene one: At the courthouse**

1. **JUDGE:** Last witness in the corruption charges case facing the former Member of Parliament is Eveline Mapito, Councilor for the Milimani ward.
  
2. **EVELINE:** I swear to speak the truth, and nothing but the truth.
  
3. **JUDGE:** What happened between you and the MP?
  
4. **EVELINE:** It's what I've said all along, honorable judge: he called me on my phone and invited me for coffee. When I arrived he tried to bribe me with money and even offered to give me a piece of land if I stepped down from the contest to win the civic seat for Milimani.
  
5. **CROWD:** **NOISY CONVERSATION**
  
6. **JUDGE:** **(shouts)** Order! Order in my courtroom. **(to Eveline)** Yes, Miss Eveline, go on.
  
7. **EVELINE:** Your Honour, I politely declined the MP's offer and from that moment on he became very angry and threatened me and my family. Little did he know that I was recording the whole conversation on my mobile phone.

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**8. JUDGE:**                    Would you please play the recording?

**SFX:   PLAYS THE RECORDED TALK BETWEEN MP  
AND EVELINE FROM EARLIER ON IN EPISODE FOUR**

Thank you Miss Eveline. You may sit. Does the  
Suspect have anything to say before I pass  
judgment?

**SILENCE...**

Member of Parliament, this court finds you guilty on  
counts of corruption and bribery and sentences you  
to three years in prison. In addition, the court also  
requests the Anti-corruption Commission to  
investigate how the Suspect accumulated so much  
wealth in such a short time. Case is now closed.

**SFX:   HAMMER BANGS ONCE**

**9. NARRATOR:**            Believe it or not, sometimes, one tiny pebble can  
cause discomfort to the whole foot. And yes,  
Eveline Mapito was causing many politicians a lot  
of discomfort. Listen to what happens later on that  
same day at the Mayor’s get-to-know-each-other  
party.

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## **Scene Two: Mayors Familiarization Party**

**SFX: PARTY SOUNDS + CLINKING OF GLASSES**

**10. MAYOR:** Maybe we are raising our glasses here and celebrating our victory but **our** comrade is in prison because of this newcomer. We need to do something before we all end up in the same boat.

**11. VOICE:** It won't be that easy, Your Excellency. She has managed to win the admiration of many, including the members of the International Community. And now even the journalists seem to like her.

**12. MAYOR:** She is only 20 years-old, for goodness sake. She knows nothing about politics

**13. VOICE:** But that's the whole point. She has a clean record. People think she is untainted and full of integrity

**14. MAYOR:** Stop with all that! No-one is clean, not in politics. Everybody has some hidden skeletons somewhere. I just need to find out where hers are and then confront her with them. Then, she will have no choice. She will either have to join us or resign. Drink up gentlemen and let's get to work.

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**SFX: CLINKING OF GLASSES AS WHEN PEOPLE DRINK WINE**

**15. NARRATOR:** The council was under pressure. They had either to defeat Eveline or get her to join them. As they celebrated and plotted, Ronnie was at his first training session for the National under-16’s team.

**MUSIC BRIDGE**

**Scene three: Ronnie’s first national training session**

**SFX: WHISTLE BLOWS**

**16. RONNIE: (Exhausted)** Phew...I am so tired. I never expected that football training could be this hard, and we haven’t even touched the ball yet. It’s like being in the army.

**17. BOY:** We represent our country now, not our schools, so we need to be in form, physically and mentally.

**18. RONNIE:** By the way I’m Ronnie. Ronnie Mapito.

**19. BOY: (Not amused)** I know. You are the boy from Milimani.

**20. RONNIE: (Cheerfully)** That’s right! I scored lots of goals when...

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- 21. BOY:** I know. But here it won't be that easy. Here, everyone is out for himself and only the Coach for us all.
- 22. RONNIE:** I'm ready to play and earn the captainship once again. I noticed I was the only one trying to play as a team.
- 23. BOY:** Watch your back, otherwise you will be out. Selection is very competitive.
- 24. RONNIE:** I'm ready. Just remember this is not tennis, it's football!
- 25. BOY:** What?
- 26. RONNIE:** Nothing, just something someone once told me.
- 27. NARRATOR:** So, my dear people, the battle lines have been drawn once again but thanks to his old coach and the experience that Ronnie gained while playing for his school, he was now ready for a greater responsibility. And as for our dear Betty...

#### **Scene Four: Mapito's Home**

- 28. BETTY: (singing her song)**

- 29. MAPITO:** I haven't got a good memory but it's not the first time I've heard you singing that song. It sounds so sweet.
- 30. BETTY:** Dad, I was so scared that you would leave us alone.
- 31. MAPITO:** No, I'd never do that. How could I leave such a beautiful daughter like you? Oh, and have you heard anything from Eveline about your school trip to State House?
- 32. BETTY:** Nothing yet, but I'm sure she will find a solution. She is so strong and so determined. I want to be just like her...or even better, become the President of our country.
- 33. MAPITO: (Laughs)** Now, that's something! I thought you wanted to become a singer.
- 34. BETTY:** I wanted to and now I am. But Eveline has made me realise that I could be whoever I want to be.
- 35. MAPITO:** True. I wish the many young people we arrest everyday for petty crimes like picking pockets or excessive drinking would realise their potential and

not waste their youth on harmful and useless practices.

**SFX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**

**36. MAPITO:** Oh Eveline, there you are.

**37. EVELINE:** Dad, how are you feeling?

**38. MAPITO:** I feel better now that you are here. So, how was your day?

**39. EVELINE:** Before I tell you, I have a question that's been bothered me since the shooting. Dad, do you think you getting shot was politically motivated? I remember the MP telling me that I was putting my life and that of my family in danger by not taking his bribe.

**40. MAPITO:** What in the world are you talking about? Didn't the people at the station tell you?

**41. EVELINE:** Tell me what? They just took me to the hospital.

**42. MAPITO:** Eve, this was an accident, I was cleaning my gun and it accidentally fell and fired. This was not a

robbery or a political shooting. Girl, you are not that popular yet. **(Laughs)**

**43. EVELINE:** Ah, Betty! I forgot. I have some good news for you.

**44. MAPITO:** All my children. They all just keep making news!

### **END OF EPISODE TEN**

#### **Outro**

**Narrator:** That’s right, Eveline had made the news. The news that a young nineteen-year-old had got a corrupt MP sent to prison. And she was promising to usher in a new era of politics that hopefully would benefit everyone. Ronnie and Betty continued to develop and mature in their respective teams and Mapito later retired from the police force to enjoy a quiet life. And with that, my story has come to an end. But for the Mapito's family it was just the beginning... This story was written by Chrispin Mwakideu. Before I leave you I’d like to remind you that you can still listen to all the episodes of this political drama and also send in your comments by visiting our webpage at [www.dw-world.de/lbe](http://www.dw-world.de/lbe). There, you will also find other radio dramas from Learning by Ear to listen to. Thanks for listening and good bye!