

Extract from *Ghost Gypsy* by Sharon Muiruri Coyne

Scene 2: Before the Fair: I don't know who I am

VIOLET, a young Traveller girl is getting ready to go to the Fair with her family and friends MAGGIE, LISA, PRICILLA and MARTINA

As the scene develops VIOLET receives offensive text messages from an unknown person on her phone. Violet is the victim of racist bullying. Explore the differences between Violet and friend, Pricilla's reactions. What would you do?

Event 1

What happens?	Violet's reaction	Pricilla's reaction
VIOLET looks at the phone. VIOLET reads the message...	<i>They say they'll get me. I'm not going to any fair. I'm not a Traveller any more.</i>	<i>But she's so annoying! A few idiots are ruining everything because VIOLET is letting them! (Pointing at VIOLET with her hairbrush.) You're not the first girl to get picked on for being Traveller. How do you think I feel? I live in a trailer on a Traveller site and every day when the bus drops me off outside the big sign with 'Council Site' they start on me. 'Going to your pikey caravan?' 'Where's your horses' 'Come on Pricilla tell our fortunes'. 'Why don't you move on to somewhere else and take your stinking rubbish with you?'</i>
Emotions shown in this phrase		
What would you say to Violet? What would you say to Pricilla?		

Event 2

What happens?	Violet's reaction	Pricilla's reaction
Pricilla takes the phone and reads the message.	<i>I have tried to ignore them. I have tried walking home different ways from school. Not eating near them. Hiding anything that might look a bit sparkly so they can't say 'what been choring again?' or 'Ahh wearing your Chav hair clips?'</i>	<i>It's prejudice and we've got to rise above it. We're different. Deal with it.</i>
Emotions shown in this phrase		
What would you say to Violet? What would you say to Pricilla?		

Event 3

What happens?	Violet's reaction	Pricilla's reaction
<i>Event 3</i> Pricilla passes the phone around to the other girls. There is a hush	<i>Yeah telling the gavers [police] is really going to help! Everyone would call me a grass! Gavers cars outside the house! Looking like we'd stolen something! Dirty thieving gypos!</i>	<i>Uncle Sam ...it's bad.</i>
Emotions shown in this phrase		
What would you say to Violet? What would you say to Pricilla?		

Use the accompanying guidance on language to help you through this scene and it is a great opportunity to reinforce the school's policies and practice around racist bullying and the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).