

## The Story of Mrs. Lovely: Drama Skit

Mrs. Lovely got married at the age of 15 years to Mr. Lovely who was chosen by her parents. Five cows were given as dowry. She was now pregnant with her ninth child. During her previous pregnancy she had been advised by the health worker at the village clinic not to have any more children, otherwise she risked her life.

Mrs. Lovely was an extremely hardworking and obedient wife. On her husband's farm, she and her daughters produce pineapples, vegetables, and eggs for sale. The husband kept the money in the house in the drawer in the room where they slept.

Although her labor pains started two days before, she could not go to the clinic since her ten months old daughter was sick. On the third day, although she told her husband that she had to go to hospital, he simply went off to meet his village friend to finalize a business deal of selling him his farm products. Seriously short of money, Mrs. Lovely went to see a traditional birth attendant (TBA) whom she could pay in installment as and when she got the money.

Mrs. Lovely was in such a bad state that the TBA refereed her to the village clinic. At the health clinic it was realized that she needed a blood transfusion, which could only be done at the district hospital. Mrs. Lovely said she could not go to the hospital without informing her husband. The health worker informed her that it was a matter of life and death. She had to go to the hospital immediately.

This was a very tricky situation, after a lot of haggling and convincing, Mrs. Lovely was put in the ambulance to the district hospital, but her condition had deteriorated. In order to keep her awake, the nurse started talking to her. She asked her why she had risked her life again (it was the same health worker who delivered her 8th child). Mrs. Lovely replied "you see it is my husband who loves children, if I refused to have more children, he would get from other women, besides I need extra hands at the farm". By the time she reached the hospital Mrs. Lovely was announced dead. What she had not told the health worker is that her only son had been knocked by a lorry on his way to school the previous year. Mrs. Lovely was only 25 years old at the prime of her life.