

# media & advocacy

A Soap Opera about love, life  
and relationships

Scripts for Episodes 5 & 6



action

# Episode 5

The content of Episode 5  
is designed for **provoking  
community  
change**  
during the Action  
phase of **SASA!**

Use the CD (found in the back of this booklet) to broadcast the Soap Opera on the radio or play in soap opera discussion groups (see Local Activism Strategy). Use these scripts to translate and produce the **SASA!** Soap Opera in other languages.

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

### Drama Cast

Kasoa	Adult man, good friend to Musa, happily married to Fortuna
Musa	Adult man, husband to Sara
Fortuna	Adult woman, wife to Kasoa
Sara	Adult woman, wife to Musa
Children	Girls and boys (at school)
Head Teacher	Adult man (at school)
Madam Chambo	Adult woman, teacher to Margaret
Zam Zam	15-year-old girl, best friend to Margaret
Margaret	14-year-old girl, niece to Sara, daughter to Winnie

### Talk Show Cast

Zenya	Adult woman, host
Esther	Adult woman, mother of four children
Samuel	Adult man, local businessman and father of six children
Tumi	Adult woman, health care worker and local VCT counselor

## Introduction

 1. MUSIC: *Theme music – Fades under*

2. ZENYA: Welcome! Welcome very much to our fifth episode of “SASA!”—a Soap Opera about

life, love, relationships and all the issues that come along with them! I'm Zenya.


3. ZENYA: When we last left Margaret, she had visited the health center to get an exam and the police station to file a report. And Sara, well, she and Musa have started talking, making a plan to try and get back to peace in their home. Let's tune in and find out how our friends might take action to change their lives!

 4. MUSIC: *Theme music – Fades out*

## Scene 1

Inside / Kasoa and Fortuna's Home /  
Early Evening

5. KASOA: Fortuna! Fortuna! Where are you? Are you here?

 6. SOUND: *Doors opening, footsteps*

7. FORTUNA: Oh, yes Kasoa. I'm out here, in the garden.

 8. SOUNDS: *Outside sounds, birds, wind, etc.*

9. FORTUNA: You're home late today, Kasoa. How was the job?

10. KASOA: Fine. Fine. Fortuna. Well, I'm late because I stopped at the Most Excellent Bar.

11. FORTUNA: Oh, really? (*distressed*) I thought you were finished with those places? Why are you going to bars again?!

12. KASOA: Don't worry, don't worry Fortuna. I was just unwinding. Anyway, let's leave that for now. I wanted to talk to you about Musa.

13. FORTUNA: What of him?

14. KASOA: Well, we've been talking a lot at the bar . . . about his home life, the way he is with his wife.

15. FORTUNA: Oh, Sara? I just saw her at our women's group. She just came for the first time this week!

16. KASOA: Really? That's good news! Maybe it means Musa finally is beginning to think about our talks. Anyway, I know sometimes he can mean to be stubborn. But, I think he's changing.

17. FORTUNA: That's really nice that you've been talking with him.

18. KASOA: Thank you. At least as friends, it's important that we take some kind of action to help others.

19. FORTUNA: Yes, yes.

20. KASOA: By the way, I think it's a good idea, Fortuna, to stop by to see them. Talk to them some more. Maybe encourage them to go to the community meeting tomorrow.

21. FORTUNA: Yes, yes, that's a good idea. Let me just put these tomatoes away and get dressed.

 22. MUSIC: *Music bridge – Fades under*

## Scene 2

Inside / Musa and Sara's Home / Early the Same Evening

23. MUSA: Hello, anybody here? Sara, where are you?

 24. SOUND: *Footsteps, walking around house*

25. MUSA: Where is this woman? She gets a little bit of freedom and she just thinks she can do anything anywhere she wants! Where is she?!

 26. SOUND: *Door opens*

27. SARA: Hello, husband! I'm back! *(sounds happy)*

28. MUSA: Where have you been? I have been waiting an hour for you! What have you been doing?

29. SARA: Don't you remember my husband? I told you I had my women's meeting today.

30. MUSA: We agreed you could go, so long as you were back by six. And now it is past seven. I am thinking you shouldn't be going anymore. You are disrespecting me!

31. SARA: No my husband! I'm really sorry I am late. Please don't be angry with me.

32. MUSA: You are becoming a big-headed woman! You must remember who is the boss of this family! That is me! I won't have you running around and doing things behind my back! And I'm hungry. Where is my supper?! Where is my supper?

33. SARA: I'll go and fix it right now.

34. KASOA: Hello?

 35. SOUND: *Knocking*

36. KASOA: Musa? It's Kasoa. I'm here with my wife, Fortuna.

37. MUSA: Oh, oh, yeah, yeah. Hello (grunts). You're welcome. You're welcome . . . come in, come in, come in.

38. KASOA: Thank you.

 39. SOUND: *Utensils banging in kitchen*

40. MUSA: *(shouts into the kitchen)* What are you doing in there, Sara? Stop making all that noise! Where do you think you are?

41. FORTUNA: Good evening, Musa.

42. MUSA: *(grunts)* Eh, Fortuna, hello. Excuse me, I have a bad temper. Please, have a seat, have a seat.

43. FORTUNA: Thank you. But I think I'll go in the kitchen and help Sara.

44. KASOA: Fine. Fine, dear.

45. KASOA: So Musa, what's going on? Seems like you are having some problems?

46. MUSA: Yeah, it's just the wife! She's taking advantage of my goodness. She was late today from that silly women's group, and didn't have my dinner ready. It's one thing for her to be going out—it's another entirely if she forgets her responsibilities at home. I won't have it!

47. KASOA: Musa, does she come home late all the time?

48. MUSA: Well, uhh, no. This is the first time.

49. KASOA: Oh, but I thought maybe she was regularly inconsiderate of you?

50. MUSA: Well, uh . . . I guess not. But still, a man needs his dinner on time!

51. KASOA: Tell me. How has it been before tonight? Have things been better at home?

52. MUSA: Umm . . . Yeah, I guess they have been—

53. KASOA: *(interjects as Musa speaks)* Really? Are you sure?

54. MUSA: We don't quarrel so much. And I haven't hit her even once. But I'm still finding it hard to respect her sometimes. I find myself shouting, yelling. But what can I do about it anyway?

55. KASOA: Yes, I understand, Musa.

56. MUSA: But, now that I think about it, Kasoa, there is more happiness at home. And do you know what? *(starts to whisper)* I must say that even sex has been nicer.

57. KASOA: Are you sure?

58. MUSA: It seems like Sara wants to have it more often *(laughing)*.

59. KASOA: Ha! That's really great, Musa.

60. MUSA: And the children, they seem less afraid of me. My boy actually came to me the other night to ask me a question about his school work. He said he thought I would know the answer because I am clever! Can you imagine!

61. KASOA: *(laughing nicely)* Oh my gosh, that's really good news!

 62. SOUND: *Dishes being carried*

63. SARA: Here's the dinner. Let's all sit down and eat. Come . . . let's eat.

64. MUSA: Come, come, come, come.

65. FORTUNA: Sara, the meal looks sweet.

 66. SOUND: *Dishes, food being served*

67. KASOA: This is lovely. Hey Musa, why did everyone wait around for Sara to get back home and cook? If everyone was so hungry, why didn't you cook? Don't you know what to do in the kitchen?

68. MUSA: Ha ha ha ha!

69. KASOA: Come on man, I'm serious!

70. MUSA: You're joking!

71. KASOA: I'm not joking! You will really come to my house. I and Fortuna will prepare you a wonderful meal.

72. MUSA: Ha! I'd like to see that! And does your wife put on a suit and go to the office! Ha!

73. FORTUNA: Very funny, Musa! But it's true. Kasoa is a good cook. He makes a very sweet chicken!

74. SARA: Wow! That's really something.

75. FORTUNA: It really is, Sara. Having his help and support has really helped me and our family. And we really enjoy spending time together, talking and sharing.

76. MUSA: Sure.

77. KASOA: Listen, I think we have really enjoyed this company tonight. We have to go though. Thanks so much for dinner, Sara.

78. FORTUNA: Yes, Sara, thank you. I'm really happy to know your home! And it's nice to have you in our women's group, too!

79. SARA: You're most welcome, Kasoa, Fortuna. Thanks for visiting us. It has really been nice. Don't you think so?

80. KASOA: Of course. And don't forget about the community meeting tomorrow. Everyone will be there.

81. SARA: I shall be there Kasoa!

82. KASOA/FORTUNA: Bye! Bye!

 83. SOUND: *Footsteps, door opening and closing*

84. MUSA: That Kasoa! He's a funny man! Ha ha!

85. SARA: He's really funny. He is very nice. And Fortuna is always so happy. Did you see her?

 86. SOUND: *Gathering dishes*

87. MUSA: Here, let me help you with these dishes by the way.

88. SARA: Really? Oh my gosh! Thank you my dear! What a nice evening!

89. MUSA: You know. I'm very sorry about yelling at you earlier this evening. Of course you should keep going to the meetings.

90. SARA: Oh, thank you so much my dear. You know, I understand. You know what? I have to go to my sisters in the morning. You know about the problems with Margaret. I told you.

91. MUSA: Yes, yes. I remember.

92. SARA: We are very worried about her. We took her to the doctor and to the police. She's still going to school, but her marks are suffering.

93. MUSA: I know, I know. Something has to be done about this. But I am happy that Margaret has you to talk to and that you are trying to help her. The family must stay united and strong.

94. SARA: You know what my husband? Let's go to bed, dear.

95. MUSA: Really?! *(laughing happy)* Let's go!

 96. MUSIC: *Music bridge – Fades under*

# Scene 3

Inside / Margaret's School / Day

97. *SOUND: Children playing, talking, sounds of school yard*

98. CHILDREN: Good morning, teacher. Our class motto is "Education is the way to a brighter future!"

99. HEAD TEACHER: Thank you. Good morning to you too, children. You may now sit down.

100. CHILDREN: Thank you, teacher.

101. *SOUND: Chairs moving as children take their seats*

102. HEAD TEACHER: OK, children. Listen to me. Quiet, quiet, quiet. We are announcing a new addition to our weekly class schedule. Beginning today, we are going to have two new groups. They will be discussion groups, one for boys and one for girls.

103. *SOUND: Children talking*

104. HEAD TEACHER: OK, silence. Silence. Madam Chambo is going to lead the girls' group, and Mr. Ally the boys'. Madam Chambo, do you have anything to say?

105. MADAM CHAMBO: Thank you, Mr. Head Teacher. I am very happy we are going to have this group. It will be a nice space, a place where we can talk about all kinds of things. We can share experiences and learn from each other. We can talk about our feelings about many things like love and relationships and our rights as boys and girls. We start today, after the assembly. Is it OK?

106. *SOUND: Noise of children talking*

107. CHILDREN: Yes, Madam Chambo!

108. HEAD TEACHER: Alright. Thank you, Madam Chambo. I think that is all. Now children, return to your classrooms and pick your books, and get ready for your discussions.

109. *SOUND: Children leaving, lots of talking*

110. HEAD TEACHER: Alright, see you then.

111. ZAM ZAM: Wow, I think this will be a nice group. Don't you Margaret?

112. MARGARET: Yes, I think so.

113. ZAM ZAM: Maybe it can even help us to think about what to do in situations like you and Mr. Daudi.



114. MARGARET: Please, Zam Zam, I don't want to talk about it. I don't want everyone to know.

115. ZAM ZAM: Oh, Margaret, I understand. But you don't have anything to be ashamed about. Maybe we can talk about it after some time, yeah? It might really help other girls.

116. MARGARET: I suppose you're right. But it will be a fun group—there are so many other things we can talk about! And I love Madam Chambo! Don't you?

117. ZAM ZAM: I like her too.

118. MARGARET: She is my favorite teacher!

119. ZAM ZAM: Me too, she's very nice! We can trust her and learn so many other things from her.

120. MARGARET: Let's go! Let's go. I don't want to be late.

121. ZAM ZAM: Let's go. We'll talk more after.

## Scene 4

Inside / Talk Show Studio / Day

 122. MUSIC: *Theme music – Fades under*

123. ZENYA: OK. That was the fifth episode of our Soap Opera “SASA.” Now we say welcome. Welcome very much to our show. I'm Zenya.

124. ZENYA: Looks like everyone is starting to take action to change their lives! Kasoa and his wife Fortuna are helping Sara and Musa, by talking to them and supporting them. And even Margaret's school is taking action to address the issue of transactional sex.

125. ZENYA: Let's bring a few guests on the show to talk about what it means to take action, and how we all have the power to initiate change in our own lives and in our communities.

126. ZENYA: Joining me now is Esther, a parent of four children.

127. ESTHER: Thank you, Zenya.

128. ZENYA: Samuel, a father of six and a local businessman.

129. SAMUEL: It's a pleasure, a pleasure to be here.

130. ZENYA: And returning to the show once again is Tumi, a health care worker and a VCT counselor.

131. TUMI: I am really glad to be back.

132. ZENYA: You know, you are all most welcome. OK, well then, let's start talking! We found Sara and Musa at home, and Musa was angry because Sara was late. Tumi, what do you think? Did he have a right to be angry?

133. TUMI: I think it's hard, very hard, to change. But what's really nice is that Musa is really trying. And Sara is growing and changing in the process too—finding herself, and reclaiming her strength.

134. SAMUEL: Well, for me, if it was my wife?! No way could she take advantage like that! No way!

135. TUMI: What do you mean "take advantage"? She was just going for a meeting and then—

136. SAMUEL: Well, whatever . . . but she has a responsibility, first and foremost, to take care of her husband.

137. ESTHER: Samuel, I think it's nice. Their whole relationship is changing! Although Musa was yelling, he also realized he was doing

it. He looked at his actions, and he even apologized!

138. SAMUEL: Apologize?! To your wife? What for?

139. TUMI: Oh, come on Samuel! It's about respect.

140. SAMUEL: Which kind of respect is that?

141. TUMI: It's a good thing that they are communicating well. I think it shows that when two people respect each other in a marriage, that they are much happier.

142. ZENYA: Yes. Exactly! . . . Now, let's look at Kasoa and Fortuna. I like how they were taking concrete action to help Musa and Sara, how they talked to them, supported them. And they were telling Musa about how they share the cooking at home. What do we think of this? Do we think sharing power in the relationship means that men have to do the "women's" work and women have to do the "men's" work?

143. SAMUEL: Ha! I don't think you'll ever catch me cooking, or washing the clothing.

144. ZENYA: Really? Why not?

145. SAMUEL: I'm a man! Look here. What would people think? I go to the job, provide the necessities.

Keep my home safe and secure. It's my wife's responsibility to run things at home.

146. ESTHER: Ahh . . . Samuel . . . there are so many people who think like you! Even my husband, he won't come in the kitchen!

147. ZENYA: Look here. I think what we need to look at is this idea of roles.

148. TUMI: Yes. In equal relationships it means that partners are considerate of each other and help each other, instead of sticking to specific roles that society says men or women should do. Men don't do "men things" and women "women things." Everyone helps with everything.

149. ZENYA: Let's move on. What about these new discussion groups at Margaret's school? What do you think of those?

150. SAMUEL: It's not a good idea for our young people to be taught about sex. It spoils them! It'll make them do more and more! They should just be taught to abstain—to save themselves until marriage.

151. TUMI: What?!? OK, OK, abstaining is a good choice, but it is only one option! Our young people need to be given all the options. They need education to make safe choices.

152. SAMUEL: Choices? About sex?! The only choice is to wait!

153. TUMI: Well, no. It's not the only choice. Young people need information. They need to know how to protect themselves. Look at Margaret—if she had been told about people like Daudi, maybe she would have been more prepared.

154. ZENYA: OK, Samuel, Tumi, I want to bring in one more issue. In the beginning of our show, we were talking about both violence and HIV. Do you think both of these issues are still relevant in our friends' lives?

155. ESTHER: Well, Musa is controlling his anger, so the violence is less. But, as I recall, Musa and Sara were going for an HIV test. I wonder what happened?

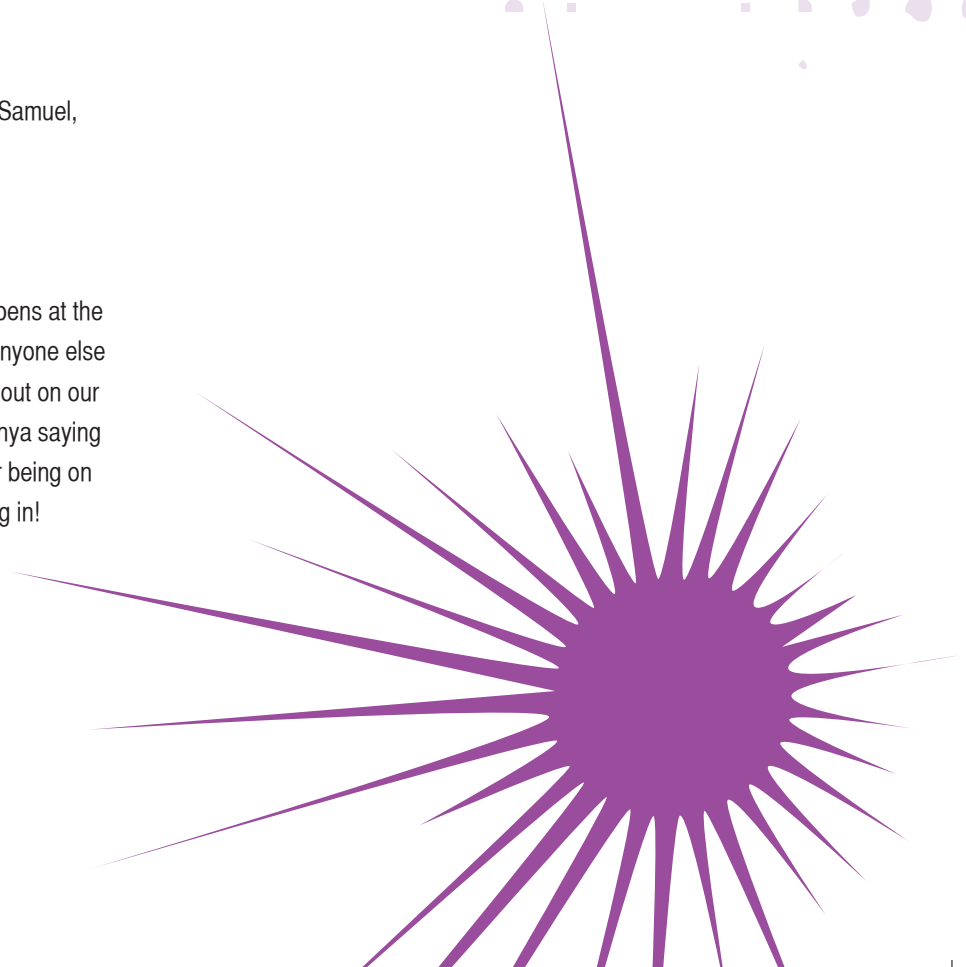
156. TUMI: You're right, we still don't know! But regardless of what their status is, they can still improve their relationship by respecting each other, isn't it?

157. ZENYA: Just so, Tumi. Because what we do know is that Musa's behavior earlier in the show—his violence, his forcing Sara to have sex—clearly put her at risk for HIV.

158. ESTHER: Yeah, yeah! It's true.

159. ZENYA: And what about Margaret and Daudi?
160. SAMUEL: You know, after the last show I was thinking I was a bit harsh on Margaret. I wasn't thinking of this HIV issue. But you are right— Daudi really put Margaret at risk for HIV.
161. ZENYA: Well, this discussion really brings the point home—that violence clearly increases women's and girls' risk for HIV.
162. TUMI: Yes!
163. ZENYA: I want to thank my guests, Esther, Samuel, Tumi—great and lively discussion!
164. ALL: Thank you, Zenya! Thanks!
165. ZENYA: Join us next time to hear what happens at the upcoming community meeting. Is anyone else responsible for taking action? Find out on our next episode of “SASA.” This is Zenya saying thank you very much, thank you for being on the show and thank you for listening in!

 166. MUSIC: *Closing theme music – Fades out*



# Episode 6

action

# Episode 6

The content of Episode 6  
is designed for **provoking  
community  
change**  
during the Action  
phase of **SASA!**

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

### Drama Cast

Chairman Asimwe	Adult man (at the community meeting)
Community Members	Adult women and men (at the community meeting)
Sara	Adult woman, wife to Musa
Fortuna	Adult woman, wife to Kasoa
Man 1	(at the community meeting)
Woman 1	(at the community meeting)
Woman 2	(at the community meeting)
Man 2	(at the community meeting)
Musa	Adult man, husband to Sara
Kasoa	Adult man, good friend to Musa, happily married to Fortuna
Man 3	(at the community meeting)
Winnie	Adult woman, mother to Margaret, sister-in-law to Sara
Madam Chambo	Adult woman, teacher to Margaret

### Talk Show Cast

Zenya	Adult woman, host
Sara	Adult woman, wife to Musa
Musa	Adult man, husband to Sara
Margaret	14-year-old girl, niece to Sara, daughter to Winnie

# Introduction

 1. MUSIC: *Theme music – Fades under*

2. ZENYA: Welcome very much to our sixth and final episode of “SASA!”—a Soap Opera about life, love, relationships and all the issues that come along with them! I’m Zenya.

3. ZENYA: Things are really changing for our friends. Last time, Kasoa and his wife Fortuna paid a visit to Sara and Musa, and they had quite a nice evening. And Margaret’s school took some action to help young people talk about their lives. Let’s tune in and find out what happens at the community meeting they are all planning to attend.

 4. MUSIC: *Theme music – Fades out*

# Scene 1

Outdoors / Community Meeting / Afternoon

 5. SOUND: *Lots of people talking, meeting noise*


6. CHAIRMAN: OK, OK, OK. Alright. Quiet, quiet, quiet. Thank you for coming everyone.

7. CROWD: Greetings!

8. CHAIRMAN: I am Mr. Asimwe, the chairman of this area. Yes, today I want to talk about some problems we are facing in the community. Please let me introduce the first speakers Madam Fortuna and Madam Sara.

9. SARA: Greetings to everyone! We are happy to talk to you today. Chairman, thank you very much for inviting us.

10. FORTUNA: Yes, thank you! Many families are having problems. There is fighting and unhappiness in families in our community. It is important that we start talking about it.

 11. SOUND: *Crowd noises, talking (stays behind during the entire scene)*

12. MAN 1: What are you saying?! What unhappiness? Women are always complaining! Why don't you just mind your own business?!

13. WOMAN 1: Eh eh eh, excuse me. In our area there are several homes where women are experiencing violence. We hear their shouts every night.

14. WOMAN 2: So what if we hear their shouts! What can we do?! What happens behind closed doors is private!

15. SARA: OK, I understand how you feel, but if we don't do anything it means we think that violence is OK in our families. But people, do we think like that?!

16. MAN 1: What is all this violence talk!? Slapping one's wife is good discipline!

17. MAN 2: And showing love! Ha ha ha!

18. CHAIRMAN OK, OK. Alright. Many men think like this, and even women, too. This is exactly why we need to start talking about it! Violence isn't good for anyone—women, men, children, our entire community! It's not good.

19. FORTUNA Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, that's true. If women are feeling afraid of their own homes, if children are miserable, it's bad for everyone!

20. MAN 1: You mean it's bad for women! Us men are enjoying just fine!

21. CHAIRMAN I wonder though if you really are. Is it nice to come home to so much unhappiness? And let's not forget that violence brings lots of other problems, like HIV.

22. MAN 1: What!? HIV is HIV, violence is violence. Mr. Chairman, are you confused?

23. SARA He's not confused! When there's violence in a relationship, women are at more risk for HIV infection.

24. SOUND: *Crowd talking, some saying true, others confused, disagreeing all at the same time*

25. CHAIRMAN OK, OK then. Listen to me. There is much to be discussed here. We will come back to this issue, but first, let's take a short break. Alright.

26. SOUND: *Crowd keeps talking*

27. SOUND: *Men laughing*

28. MAN 2: Musa. Musa. Musa. What is your wife doing up there speaking?

29. MAN 1: Yeah, man. You let her act like that?



30. MUSA: Eh, what's wrong with it?

31. MAN 2: You mean, she's now wearing the pants in the family?!

 32. SOUND: *Men laughing*

33. KASOA: You people, what are you laughing at?

34. MAN 1: Oh, Kasoa! Can't you see? It's because that woman has got too much power!

35. KASOA: What do you know? Musa and I both know it's OK when a husband and wife balance power in a relationship. And the relationship is stronger, not weaker.

36. MUSA: Listen. Kasoa knows what he is talking about. My wife and I are happier. We don't quarrel so much anymore . . . and get this . . . she actually likes being with me now. I don't have to convince her anymore!

37. KASOA: It's like that, it's true! It takes a strong man to understand that everyone has equal rights in a relationship—that a strong woman and a strong man make a strong family.

38. MUSA: That's right! Do you think being harsh, being violent to your wife and children makes them want to be around you?

39. KASOA: Yes, that's my man, that's my man! Tell them that!

40. MUSA: They're afraid of you then, and they stay away. Why have a family that you can't enjoy?

41. MAN 2: Well, uh , maybe . . .

42. MUSA: I know, I know. It's hard to understand. But just think about it, OK?

43. MAN 2: Yeah, I guess.

 44. SOUND: *Crowd talking*

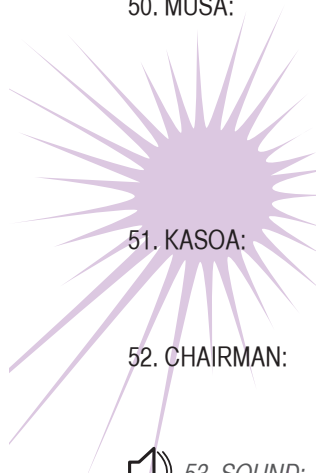
45. MAN 3: Excuse me, Mr. Musa? I was wondering if I could talk to you, in private? I have some problems at home. I thought maybe you could help me?

46. MUSA: Yeah, yeah.

47. WOMAN 1: Madam Sara? Madam Sara? That was a really good issue you raised. How did you come to be so confident?

48. SARA: Oh, thank you so much. You know, I just feel strongly about this issue and my husband supports me. Isn't that right Mr. Kasoa?

49. KASOA: So true! It's nice to see how things can really change. The two of you have come a long way, Musa and Sara!



50. MUSA: Yes. And we have to thank you. Not just for this new peace in our home, but for the respect we get in the community. Look at all these people asking us for advice! We are big people now! So, I say thank you a lot really!

51. KASOA: Oh . . . look . . . I can see Chairman Asimwe looks like he's about to speak.

52. CHAIRMAN: OK, OK. I think you have had your break. OK. Please.

 53. SOUND: *Crowd settling in*

54. CHAIRMAN: Now, we also want today to talk about a problem many of our girls are facing in our community.

 55. SOUND: *Crowd talking*

56. CHAIRMAN: But I want to think about how it is that our young girls are at risk of getting HIV, because of the violence they are experiencing.

 57. SOUND: *Crowd talking (stays under)*

58. CHAIRMAN: Many girls are being forced or coerced into sex with older men after these men give them money or gifts. They are confused and tricked into believing these men are their friends. They are desperate for a way to pay school fees, or to get help for their families. What do we think? Is this a problem for us?

 59. SOUND: *Talking, shouting*

60. MAN 1: I agree it's a problem. But it's not the man's problem. It's because young girls today are spoiled.

61. MAN 2: I've got a point here. Girls these days are so materialistic. Yes! They want nice things for themselves! Imagine, they trick men into buying them things, which are very expensive. What do you expect from these men?

62. WINNIE: Oh, I disagree! These men, these men should know better, should understand that it's wrong to exploit young girls for their own needs. Such exploitation is violence, and it also means girls are exposed to HIV, because they can't protect themselves.

 63. SOUND: *Crowd talking (fades behind)*

64. WOMAN 1: Just because it happens to some girls, doesn't mean all our daughters are like that. Maybe they are doing something to deserve it?!

65. WINNIE: Hold on. Our young girls do nothing, let me repeat, NOTHING, to deserve violence against them. This is sexual abuse.

 66. SOUND: *Crowd talking, crowd shifting, people leaving*

67. MADAM CHOMBO: I want to say something. I am Madam Chombo, a teacher here at the secondary school. I think Madam Winnie is correct. I see many girls at our school who are in such situations. Many girls who don't have even the small, small money needed to buy laundry soap or a pencil. And I see some men trying to take advantage of this. No one talks about it to these girls. We must stop looking the other way when we see older men with young girls. The men are adults. They must be accountable for their actions.

 68. SOUND: *Crowd talking*

69. CHAIRMAN: OK, OK. Thank you, Madam Chambo. We've had a good discussion here. But time is running out! Let's focus on what to do about the problems we have discussed this afternoon—that of domestic violence and transactional sex between older men and girls. What can we do about these problems together? Does anyone have ideas?

70. WINNIE: Chairman, I have an idea. Well, for starters, we should have a policy in school that protects girls from any sexual harassment or coercion from teachers.

71. MADAM CHOMBO: Yes, yes yes. Good idea! I will bring it up at our next teacher's meeting with the head master. And another idea, I think if we

see men with girls, we must talk to them and confront them, telling them that it is wrong and we are watching them.

72. MAN 1: Who do you mean "we"? That's difficult to confront someone like this!

73. WOMAN 1: Yes, no one is saying it's easy. But we must try. If we as adults can't speak out to them, how can we expect our girls to do it alone!?

74. MUSA True! True! True! And same thing for violence in homes, I think we need to start speaking out when we know violence is happening in homes and relationships—to talk about it instead of ignoring it!

75. MAN 2: Chairman, what if we get slapped in the process!! Ha ha ha!

76. KASOA My friend, my friend over there. Of course we have to be careful. But the more we speak out about it and challenge those using violence, and support those who are experiencing it, the less it will happen.

77. MAN 1: I'm not even convinced about this violence issue at all. I think you all want our women to become big-headed. We men will lose control of our families!

78. CHAIRMAN OK, OK. Gentleman, gentlemen. Quiet, quiet. I think many men are still a bit worried. Seems like it needs more discussion. What about forming a men's group? Would you men be interested in this?

79. SOUND: *Men in crowd, some saying yes!, others grumbling maybe*

80. CHAIRMAN Now, Kasoa, maybe you and your friend Musa could work together on this?

81. KASOA Sure, sure, that is right! And I think it would be a very good idea to have a women's group to discuss these issues of violence and relationships too. Maybe my wife Fortuna, over there, would you like to do that?

82. FORTUNA Sure, sure and I'll have Sara to help me.

83. CHAIRMAN OK, OK. Other ideas to take action?

84. WOMAN 1: Well well, I think we could even pass a bylaw in our community that says if any man is caught having sex with an underage girl he will be taken to the police—no exceptions!

85. CHAIRMAN Alright, alright. And maybe also a bylaw about violence in our homes. Sincerely, why are we still letting this happen!?

86. MAN 1: Chairman, you just want to rest!

87. SOUND *Crowd laughing*

88. CHAIRMAN: All right!! (laughing) Thanks everyone for your energy and ideas. Each of us—now listen to this carefully—each of us can do something to make our community safer! Thank you, thank you!

89. SOUND: *Crowd talking, laughing*

## Scene 2

Inside / Talk Show Studio / Day

90. MUSIC: *Theme music – Fades under*

91. ZENYA: OK. That was the sixth and final episode of our Soap Opera "SASA!" Now we say welcome. Welcome very much to our show. And I am Zenya.

93. ZENYA: What a fantastic community meeting that just took place. Lots of issues raised, lots of people willing to take up and take action. As you know, this is the last episode of our program—I've got a surprise for everyone. What I'd really like to do is to bring out Musa, Sara and Margaret . . . so they can tell us a few things . . . is that OK?

94. ALL: Oh, oh that's great!

96. ZENYA: OK. Let's bring them out now! Musa, Sara, Margaret, you're welcome to the show!

97. SARA/MUSA/

MARGARET: *(all talking at once)* Thanks everyone! Thanks for listening to our story!

98. ZENYA: Let's start with Margaret. Margaret, maybe you can tell us a little bit about how it felt for you, going through all these things.

99. MARGARET: Sure! Sure! You know, dealing with this wasn't easy. That Mr. Daudi really confused me. But I was lucky in the end. I had people in my life who believed me, and who supported me.

100. ZENYA: It makes a big difference, doesn't it?

101. MARGARET: You bet it does!

102. ZENYA: Was it hard, Sara? To help Margaret?

103. SARA: Well, yes, in some ways, it was. In the back of my mind, I was worried that people might blame me, you know, for what happened to Margaret. And I was also worried that people would blame Margaret, and she would feel shame. So at one point I did consider just keeping quiet, but of course that won't help! If we talk about things and face them, then the shame feels much less.

104. ZENYA: What about you Musa? You went through some pretty intense changes in your life. Can you tell us how that felt? To go through such a process?

105. MUSA: Yeah, yeah, yeah! Change is really tough, no matter how you look at it. I mean, at first, you feel like you're not doing anything wrong. That life is just stressful, because that's the way life is.

106. ZENYA: Yes, that's true.

107. MUSA: But then you see that some people are having a tougher time—like my friend Sunday. Ahh! It was rough hearing about his HIV. But then you also see that there are some people who are not having such a tough life, and you start to ask yourself, why?

108. ZENYA: Like Kasoa.

109. MUSA: Yeah, like Kasoa. He's a good friend. For someone to take the time to talk with me like that. It's really something, because he could have kept quiet. Which could have been easier too! Because I gave him grief at first—I can be stubborn! *(laughing)*

110. SARA: For me, Zenya, the idea that I hope people get from this is that so many things in our lives are connected, you know, like this problem of violence. I had a hard time with Musa there for so many years. And while I always felt scared of being infected with HIV, I didn't exactly connect it to the violence or connect it to lack of respect in our relationship. But it was very, very much related.

111. ZENYA: That's it exactly. We must create that **awareness**—that when men have **power over** women in relationships, it increases their risk for HIV. Margaret, what's the message you want people to get from your story?

112. MARGARET: Well, for me, the most amazing thing was experiencing the support of my friends and my family. My friend Zam Zam was great. She really helped me see I wasn't alone. And my mom and auntie . . . everything they did for me was just so great.

113. ZENYA: Bravo! So you're telling us that when people join each other for **support**, that they have more **power with** others than they do alone! Excellent . . . and Musa, what's your contribution?

114. MUSA: For me, I just can't get over what a big difference people can make when they decide to do something. I mean, taking action to change our lives is hard, but when people take action, when they take responsibility to change, it helps not just them, but everyone around them.

115. ZENYA: So true! So true!

116. MUSA: My friend Kasoa is a great example of that. He took action to change his own life and make it happier, sweeter. But he didn't stop there! He took action to help me change my life.

117. ZENYA: Musa, that's fantastic! You're so right. It's up to all of us to do something. We all have the **power to take action** to make our families and communities happier and safer!

118. ZENYA: Well, we're finally out of time. This has been a most excellent program. Thank you, thank you very much for a great show! Let's remember, now is the time, and I mean now, to prevent violence and HIV . . . *SASA! SASA! SASA! SASA! SASA!*



119. MUSIC: *Closing theme music – Fades out*

## Don't stop here!

Continue to share the *SASA!* Soap Opera with others — friends, colleagues, neighbors, family members

**Make copies** and give to: shop owners, long haul bus companies, city mini-buses, beauty salons and barber shops, schools, youth groups, market vendor associations — the ideas are endless!

**Make your own Soap Operas!** Tell the stories of your own community and how you are dealing with issues of power, violence and HIV/AIDS. Your community's story can be a powerful tool for becoming aware, giving support and taking action — *SASA!*

A Soap Opera about love,  
life and relationships

Action: Episodes 5 & 6



Preventing Violence Against Women and HIV

[www.raisingvoices.org/sasa.php](http://www.raisingvoices.org/sasa.php)