

Karim is a 14-year-old boy. Let's see how he reacts to some everyday situations!



Hmm . . .
I want to spend
some time with Diane and
Olivia, and the movie actually
looks pretty good.

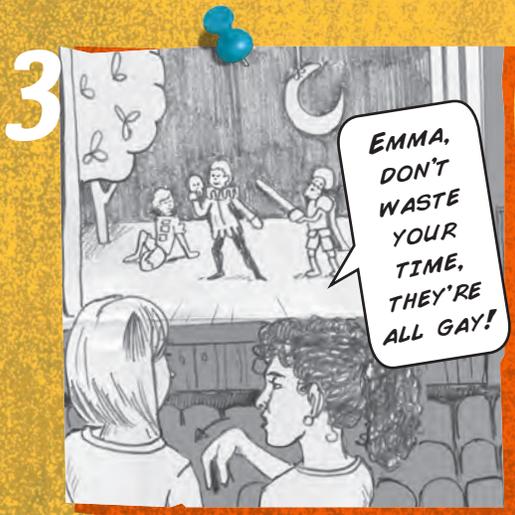
But the guys at school think
chick flicks are "gay"!

There's no way
I'm going to go to a
chick flick and listen
to you girls cry all the
way through it.
TALK ABOUT "GAY"!



They're right, this guy
is definitely weird.
His voice is really high and
it looks like he's wearing girls'
clothes. Too bad, but I have to
make fun of him too or else
everyone will think that
I'm just like him.

Get out of here,
"FAG," go hang out
with the girls,
where you belong!



I liked doing theatre last
year and I was pretty good at it.
But it's true that the other guys
were weird. They kept talking
about books and culture. For
sure, I won't do theatre again
this year or else none of the
girls will want to go out
with me!

So, when are you
guys going to put on
your tights?
And how about a kiss?

KISS, KISS, KISS!

Q1

Why does Karim act in this way?

Q2

Why do people worry about being labelled gay or lesbian?

Q3

Is it okay for Karim to feel uncomfortable in these situations? Why does Karim feel uncomfortable?

Q4

What does Karim say that shows that he is making judgments based on sexual stereotyping?

Q5

What is the hostile homophobic behaviour adopted by Karim?

Q6

What is the impact of Karim's thoughts and actions ON HIMSELF?

Q7

What impact do Karim's actions have ON OTHER PEOPLE?

Q8

How can you act respectfully toward yourself and others when you are faced with differences that make you uncomfortable?

IT IS DIFFICULT TO MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES,
to be true to yourself and to respect others when you are scared of being labelled homosexual or lesbian. Fear results in defence mechanisms that make it quite difficult to deal with others in a peaceful way. You need to develop enough self-confidence to assert yourself and express your preferences and interests, no matter what other people might think. That is a good way to respect yourself, making it easier to then respect others. Remember that fear or uncomfortable feelings never justify violent actions, whether or not they are homophobic!