You are a 23-year-old gay man, of mixed race, living with HIV, and with average economic resources. You work in a company in the city where your office colleagues do not know about your personal situation.

ROBÈRTC

Young, gay professiona

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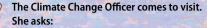
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Your family lives in the capital and turned their backs when they learned of your sexual orientation. They blame you for your illness.

Please elaborate your answers as you get into character! Share your character's thoughts and feelings with the group.

GAME PLAY INSTRUCTION



Why didn't you come to the neighbourhood meeting about the flooding? You explain that you have little energy at the end of a working day and need a rest. Discuss how people like you with chronic health problems could be more involved in consultations.

How has the neighbourhood flooding affected you and what would improve your situation? Sometimes when the floods peak, you are away at your city job; it's different every time. But there is always a huge mess to clear up and it's really difficult when you lack energy, face problems moving around the neighbourhood due to the flood water, and need to assure your employer you are still available for work (you can't afford to lose your job). Plus, your family has cut you off and will not help. Explain that you wish you felt more supported at these times of crisis.



Round One

This time, you manage to attend the neighbourhood meeting.

There is an idea for an organised network of volunteers that would support residents who need practical help during future floods, working any day of the week, days and/or evenings. Maybe you could contribute when your health is good, and call on others for support when you don't feel strong? Some neighbours know you are gay – many are accepting, but others are less so, and you fear discrimination ... Will people see you as an equal?

What else is on your mind? Discuss with the group.