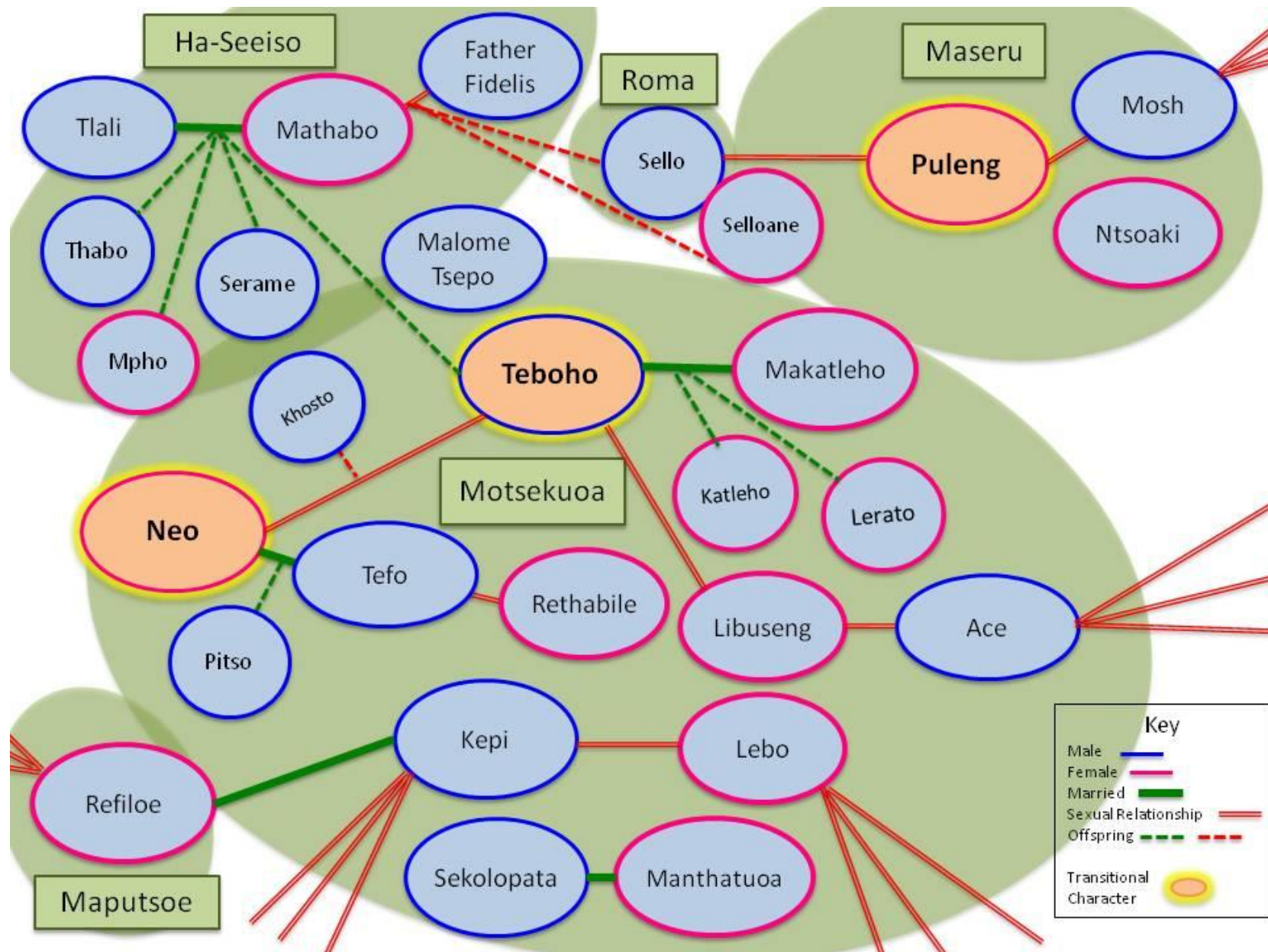


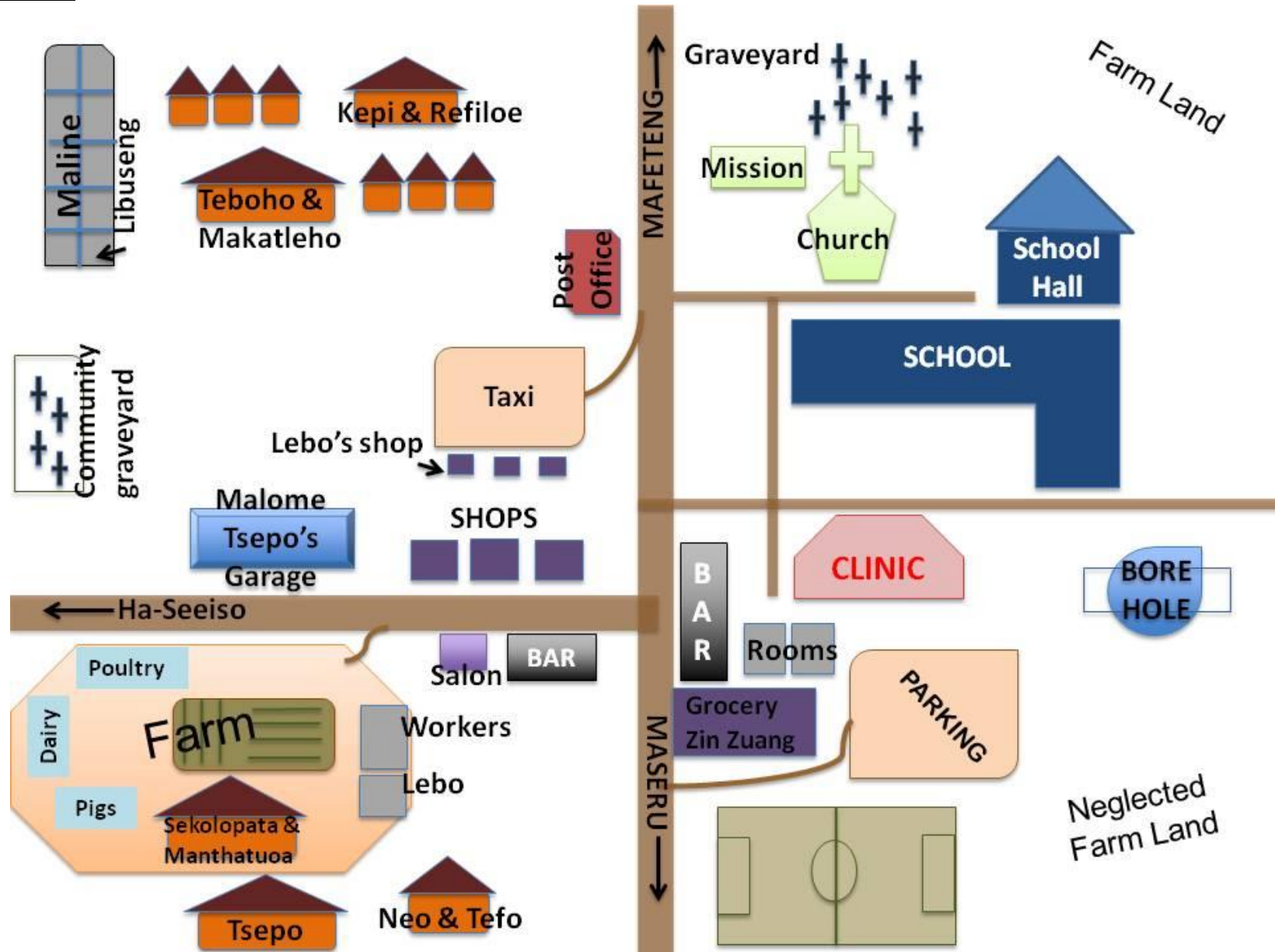
LETLAMA RADIO DRAMA CHARACTER PROFILES

CHARACTER MAP



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SETTING



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TRANSITIONAL CHARACTERS

TEBOHO

Age:	31 years
Marital status:	Married to MAKATLEHO (NTHEOSI) [29]
Children:	They have two daughters: KATLEHO [5] & LERATO [2]. He has a son- KHOTSO [10] from a previous relationship (summer ‘fling’) with NEO . Khotso lives with Neo and her husband TEFO. He does not see his son as often as he would like because NEO often denies him access (she is still bitter from their break up).
Econ &Ed:	Employed as a mechanic at UNCLE TS’EPO’s workshop in Motsekuoa. He earns a steady income and some from the side jobs he does as a handyman. He is a provider: he feels bound to be responsible for his son but doesn’t volunteer support; however when insists on financial support he tries to help out. He aspires to own his workshop someday.
Social Life:	He is very social and personable - a guy everyone likes to be around. He plays social football on an old stock team and tends to binge drink alcohol on the weekends and after games- especially if he is hanging out with his friend Kepi. He has some Christian upbringing but he does not go to church himself. He hangs out with his 2 good friends: KEPI and SEKLOPATA . Kepi works with Teboho and together they play football, go to bars and drink.
Family:	His Parents are MATHABO and TLALI . His father, Tlali, disappeared years ago while working in South Africa. He has three siblings: THABO [39]; MPHO [37]; SERAME [34] and 2 ½ siblings: SELLO and SELLOANE [20]. MALOME TS’EPO is his uncle and the owner of the mechanic workshop where Teboho works.

BCO: TO KNOW HIS HIV STATUS – GO FOR HIV Testing and Counseling
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Summary:

Teboho is married but at risk because he has occasional sex with his ex- Neo. He usually drinks and therefore exposed to more casual encounters with strangers. He has an ongoing sexual relationship with Libuseng who is a dancer in a traditional dance troupe. Libuseng also has

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other partners that he does not know about. He tries to always use a condom with her, Neo and other casual sex partners he may meet when drunk. He does not acknowledge that he has a drinking problem and still does not understand that he is at risk of STIs or HIV.

During the course of Season 1 and Season 2, Teboho will move through the stages of change moving from Contemplation to Action, questioning and assessing his risk until he tests for HIV in Season 2.

What factors will make him change?

- Thabo's death in Season 1: Although the family is in denial and stigma prevents them from accepting the real reasons for his death, Teboho learns that his elder brother died of AIDS. He later finds out in Season 2 how his brother was a womanizer and even fathered children outside his marriage. He realizes that not only his family depend on him, but his brother's children need him; affects his children also. Towards end of season beginning of season 3, he tries to reach out to his late brother's wife. Because he now has knowledge and understanding, he translates this into action by reaching out to give support to his late brother's wife and her children.
- His wife's suspicion about his extra-marital liaisons with Libuseng and Neo.
- Kepi falls seriously ill and nearly dies later in the following seasons: Kepi become a mirror of Teboho's actions and risk
- He gets more information about HIV transmission and how he continues to be a risk as a result of Kepi's illness. He still does little to change his behavior.
- He gets an STI in Season 2: He conceals this from his wife. This haunts him and makes him think about safe sex and whether he is indeed at risk of HIV infection as he does not want to bring disease into his family.
- However, Teboho is under the mistaken belief that the STI comes from Libuseng the dancer as he associates her with more partners. And so he assumes, even though they use condoms, the STI came from her. When he has unprotected sex with Neo, whom he regards as a more 'reliable' partner, the infection recurs.
- In Season 2, He gets treatment for the STI and tests for HIV. He is HIV negative.

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NEO

Age:	29 years
Marital status:	Married to TEFO who is stable and steady but boring. So she continues to occasionally sleep with her 'old shoe' TEBOHO and they seldom use condoms. She still harbors some ill-feeling towards Teboho for dumping her even though her marriage to Tefo seemed like a better more stable option. But Tefo does not satisfy her sexually and is also emotionally abusive; and so she seeks comfort or rather consolation from her first love Teboho.
Children:	She has a son, KHOTSO [10], with Teboho when they were 'dating'. She and Tefo have a son PITSO [5]. Both children live with her and Tefo.
Economic status:	She is a typical, traditional housewife. Tefo is the sole bread-winner and therefore emotionally and financially controlling. She has to basically beg for household money. Eventually, she gets a job at the grocery shop, to avoid relying on him every day. They stay in a two-roomed house which Tefo bought on a bank loan.
Social life:	Has a good friend LEBO who will later learn that she is HIV+ in Season 2. As result Neo shuns Lebo. Neo and Lebo are both friends with MANTHATUOA , who is a positive influence in the drama. She is also a member of the women's community group (stokvel)

BCO: TO BOOST HER SELF- ESTEEM AND COMBAT STIGMA (In Season 3) TO HAVE A HEALTHY PREGNANCY AND HIV – FREE CHILD
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Summary

Neo is a 'typical housewife' who loves her children and wants to please her husband, Tefo. She is very active in the community and is conscious about what people think and say about her. She is deeply influenced by her friends and family. She does not have a lot of self confidence- she made some bad decisions and got pregnant when she was a teenager when she had a summer fling with Teboho. She loves her family and husband but yearns for more excitement and passion- she is a bit 'broken down' by her circumstances. She spends so much time and energy trying to please and take care of others that she has forgotten to take care of herself. She works hard and has potential- but she doesn't realize it. She is very quick to judge others- and especially those who have HIV- she lacks the knowledge and information. Eventually, she

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contracts the disease (HIV) possible from her husband Tefo who has an affair with Rethabile (the secretary in his office).

Neo is vulnerable and craves affection, she maintains an 'on / off' sexual relationship with Teboho because her marriage to Tefo is unfulfilling. She still has feelings for Teboho despite her better judgment- he is her first love.

She has no idea that Tefo is in a sexual relationship with Rethabile – the secretary. This will later haunt her because when she does find out, she doesn't feel in a position to insist on her husband using condoms- despite the fact that he later gives her an STI in Season 2.

We see Neo grow over time, slowly gaining confidence in her as she is able to gain financial independence from her job at the Zin Huang Store and later the success of her delicious scones.

What Factors make her Change?

- Her financial independence on Tefo who only gives her money when it pleases him.
- A conversation with Lebo about taking control of her behavior and her marriage.
- Her suspicions and later (Season 2/3) revelation that her husband is indeed cheating.
- Constant talks with other women especially Lebo and Manthatua about HIV issues: in time she will realize that some of her fears are unfounded and seek more information from friends and experts.
- Lebo's revelation that she is HIV +
- In Season 2, Her own positive status; and her need to save her unborn child.
- She attends PMTC clinics and gets more information regarding HIV
- Her strong love for her family (especially her children) and her desire to provide a better life for them.

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PULENG

Age:	20 yrs
Marital status:	Single
Econ& Ed:	She is a student at Limkonkwing studying marketing. She aspires to work for ECONET or another type of big corporation that has fun and hip marketing and communications. She lives off-campus in Maseru sharing a room at the Malaene with her good friend, NTSOAKI - the fun loving virgin.
Family:	Mother is a retired teacher and she doesn't want to be a teacher at all. Father is a respected manager @ one of the shops in Buthe Buthe. He is authoritative at home.
Social life:	She likes to have 'fun' with the guys. She is dating both SELLO [20], a law student at Roma University and MOSH [45]. She enjoys good sex but not for transactional means. She always uses a condom with Sello but almost never with Mosh as he rejects the idea; because she does not have condom negotiating skills as she gets benefits in the relationship as well as the age discordancy. She and SELLOANE [20] (who is twin sister to Sello) are <i>Skwezas (a sister to once boyfriend)</i> . Puleng likes to go out and party at clubs and dance with her friend Ntsoaki. Enjoying the freedom of being away from home, the two roommates like to go and 'have adventures' around Maseru.

BCO: CONDOMISING AND MAKING CHOICES FOR HEALTHY LIVING UNDERSTANDING AND COMBATING RISKY BEHAVIOR.

Summary

Puleng is a beautiful, young marketing student who aspires to make it in the corporate world. She is fun-loving and a bit of a 'wild child' as she is living in Maseru and enjoying the University and city social scene far away from her family in Buthe Buthe. Puleng loves fashion and music and hanging out with her girlfriends. She is a bit of tease when it comes to men; she knows men find her attractive and she uses that to her full advantage. She does not always consider her risks when she is out having a good time- she gets wrapped up in the moment and does not always make the best choices.

What Factors make her Change?

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- She realizes that in order to be successful in the corporate world one needs to be more focused. And build a good reputation of a motivated, self-assured person. She also realizes that Sello is the one who actually loves her as opposed to Mosh and that she has what it takes to be that positive influential supportive partner.
- A false alarm of being pregnant.
- Bad performance academically
- The advice and constant positive support she gets from her friend Ntsoaki who keeps on advising her to reshape her life.
- Her desire to be successful
- In season 2, she meets a guy who approves of condom use and she gains the confidence to use condoms
- The loss of her 'best friend', Sello after she is caught cheating with Mosh.

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SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

MATHABO

Age:	57 yrs
Marital status:	Married to Tlali [he abandoned her 30 years ago.] he is assumed dead.
Econ & Ed:	Has gone up to Form 2 and brews traditional beer to earn extra income after her husband leaves her.
Social Life:	She has a (secret affair) with Moruti Fidelis and conceives her last born twins: Sello and Selloane. The relationship does not last as she knows the scourge she will bear from the villagers and her family.
Other:	She is part Christian and part traditionalist. She is very over-protective of her sons and despises her daughter in law – Khopotso (Thabo's wife) .

(UNCLE) MALOME TS'EPO

Age:	60 years
Marital Status:	Married but has a son who runs away to RSA because he impregnated the chief's daughter and stole money from his dad. He is ' Mathabo 's (Teboho's mother's) older brother. His nephew Teboho is more like a son to him- especially since Teboho's father has also disappeared in South Africa.
Econ & Ed:	He went to the old standard four and not very literate. His business (workshop) has done very well because he is committed and does favors for people, thus winning him popularity in his field. He handles his customers very well so they keep coming back.
Social life:	He is an outgoing person, who loves his pong-pong brew (the sophisticated s'qo) and the company of his employees. He also likes to spend time with some of his customers. He is the local CNN. He is a staunch Mosotho and doesn't like South Africa the country that stole his country, his soare (his brother in law) and his son. He is the comedic character saying the wrong things, very

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insensitively (o phatlooa feela, o lahla mollo, oa phasolloha, a hle a phape!) he thinks he knows, he is very, right! (thaka-ntona!)

MOSES/MOSH:

Age:	45 years
Marital status:	Married but has casual relationships with younger girls. He is extravagant with money and does not care on spending it as long as he can score 'some'. He is also in a relationship with Puleng and they rarely use condoms when having sex because he says its not the same, doesn't feel good, and also because he lives the good life and has money he doesn't think about HIV even though he sleeps around he doesn't think about risk factors.
Economic Status:	He is an engineer that works at LHWP. He drives a Mercedes and lives in the suburbs of Maseru.
Social life:	He is a party animal. Always out with young girls and drinking.

SELLO:

Age:	23
Marital status:	Single but later in a relationship with Puleng . He later finds out about Puleng's cheating and he is broken hearted. He ends the relationship with her but the attraction remains.
Economic Status:	He is a dedicated 2 nd year Law student at the NUL who aspires to be a politician. He is from a poor family in Ha Seeiso where his mother ' Mathabo , struggled to make ends meet selling traditional beer.
Social life:	He is Selloane 's twin. He is well behaved but likes a good time now and then. He enjoys and is very close with his twin.
Other:	He and Selloane are Moruti Fidelis ' secret biological children with 'Mathabo.

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SELLOANE:

Age:	23
Marital status:	Single
Economic Status:	A 2 nd year student at Limkwonkwing studying Marketing. Her mother struggled to bring them to school.
Social life:	She is Sello's twin. She is conserved, takes her studies seriously so she rarely goes out except with Sello and occasionally Puleng and Ntsoaki.

KEPI:

Age:	30
Marital status:	Married to Refiloe and they do not kids. The wife lives and works in Maputsoe.
Economic Status:	He failed his 2 nd year at Leloaleng and was expelled due to ill behavior and misconduct. He works at the garage with Teboho. He stays in a two roomed rented house in Motsekuoa.
Social life:	Doesn't like girls who are beautiful but has numerous partners- but fools around with numerous women, linked sexually with LEBO . He contracts HIV in the future.

REFILOE:

Age:	23
Marital status:	Married to Kepi and they do not have kids and their marital relationship is not bliss.
Economic Status:	She never passed her COSC and she got married young. Because of her husband's constant cheating, she has a job in a factory in Maputsoe. However she comes home once a month. She is aware of her husband's infidelities but does not feel she can 'control' him so she would rather escape to Maputsoe and have her own fun.

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SEKOLOPATA

Age:	35
Marital status:	He is married to 'MANTHATUOA and adores his wife. They do not have children but this seems to have strengthened their relationship though they have been trying for quite some time. He is HIV positive, his wife knows his status; they are a discordant couple. Their relationship is an ideal example for other couples.
Economic Status:	He has a degree but has chosen to work on the farm which he has inherited from his family. He rears cattle, poultry and piggery.
Social life:	Stays in Motsekuoa. Occasionally drinks responsibly with friends like Teboho and Kepi.

'MANTHATUOA:

Maiden name:	Ntheosi
Age:	30
Marital status:	Married to Sekolopata for the past seven years. They have no children but their relationship is steady and happy.
Economic Status:	She has a PTC from NTTC. She works as a teacher at Motsekuoa Primary. She earns a substantial income but still enjoys helping her husband at their farm.
Social life:	She is a city girl who used to be wild in her days. She sometimes had transactional sex, to make ends meet, because she was deprived as a child. Hubby compliments her character and tones her down. She enjoys life at the farm. She is good friends with Lebo and Neo .

LIBUSENG:

Age:	18 years
Marital status:	Single in relationship with Teboho and Ace who is a football star and has a Dance Troupe club.
Economic Status:	She is a traditional dancer in a troupe headed by Ace.

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LEBO:

Age:	25 years
Marital status:	Divorcee but in a sexual relationship with Kepi . She later discovers that she is HIV + she finds out when she gets an STI from Kepi, and goes to get tested. She must learn how to deal with her HIV+ status.
Economic status:	She owns an eatery and delivers food to offices and sells them at the taxi rank. She stays in servants' quarters in Sekolopata's farm.
Social life:	She is a friend with Neo but when their friendship fails, she befriends Manthatuoa . She is in women's stokvel.

TEFO:

Age:	34 years
Marital status:	Married to Neo with whom he has a child, but he is also in a sexual relationship with Rethabile – the secretary.
Economic Status:	He is a bookkeeper at the post office. He is often stingy with his money and rarely gives his wife enough to buy household items- he likes to assert his control over the household finances.
Social life:	He likes a good laugh and beer. He rarely goes out with the guys and he enjoys playing with his children.