

Jordan's story

Name: Jordan

Age: 17

Hobbies: football, MCing, street dance, boxing

Adopted, black, the budding footballer – Jordan is proud of who he is. But his path to a successful football career might be jeopardised by the fact that he's gay – something he hasn't yet told his friends and family. His friendship with Tega takes an initial turn for the worse when he plucks up the courage to tell him he loves him.



"Performing Arts – that's a bit bent, isn't it?"

"Families come in all shapes and colours, you know."

Jordan's story addresses **homophobia in sport** and **perceptions of gay people**.

Jordan's story should be used as part of the Citizenship curriculum at **Key Stage 4** to discuss "the changing nature of UK society, including the diversity of ideas, beliefs, cultures, identities, traditions, perspectives and values that are shared".

- Do you think Jordan should keep quiet about being gay? Do you think his sexual orientation will affect his career?
- What do you think about his parents' reaction when he tells them he's gay? Why does Jordan cry when he comes out to his parents?
- How do you think his brother Linus is feeling? How might their relationship change after he has come out?
- How is Jordan's family different or similar to yours? Do we all come from different families?
- Why do you think so few high-profile sportspeople are openly gay?
- Can athletes or entertainers be gay?
- Is it OK for premiership footballers to be openly gay? Would we feel differently about them if they were?
- How would you feel if your best friend told you they loved you?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Use statistics from Stonewall's 2009 research, *Leagues Behind*, which explores football's failure to tackle anti-gay abuse, as part of discussions on homophobia in sport.

www.stonewall.org.uk/documents/leagues_behind.pdf