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18<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Mr. Maluleke,

*CC: Randi Weingarten, President, AFT*

Thank you for your letter.

I would like to reassure you that this is a matter we have taken very seriously indeed.

As we said when this issue first came to light in July, we deeply regret the wording of such a sensitive and important topic in one of our South African publications. We do not believe the content included in the textbook is an accurate reflection of how the topic of responsible human development is taught. We have made a full and frank apology.

I would like to give you an update on the specific actions we have taken in this case.

As soon as we learned of the issue we immediately amended the language. We worked closely with teachers from the local school communities who originally highlighted this problem. We ensured that the updated content met with their approval and the Department of Basic Education (DBE). This new content has been uploaded to our [website](#) where teachers and schools can download it for free. We have removed all existing copies of the textbook from our warehouse and destroyed them. There will be no further reprints of this edition.

The teachers who initially raised this matter have contacted us to give their approval with how we handled this matter. We always engage with teachers and many of our authors are teachers or professors themselves - similarly, many of our employees are former teachers. We also of course work closely with education authorities such as the DBE.

We are keen to build a constructive dialogue with you and your members. I understand my South African colleagues, Brian Wafawarowa and Ebrahim Matthews have already been in contact with

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representatives from your union to organise a meeting in the coming weeks. I would value the chance to speak with you too. My office will be in touch.

We would like to work more closely with SADTU to reach our shared goals of improving access to education and learning outcomes for students in South Africa, and to discuss our commitment to community outreach programmes empowering the lives of girls and women in South Africa.

Pearson has a single, yet hugely important mission: to help people make progress in their lives through access to better learning.

I look forward to hearing from you.

My best,

John Fallon  
Chief Executive, Pearson