

JULIUS SIBISI'S

Advice

By Chris Ellis

Julius Sibisi was employed by a local company as a driver. One evening he had a car accident. His right arm went through the side window. I had to amputate it. "Doctor," he said, "you have taken away my right arm, you will have to find me a job."

I employed him as my Zulu interpreter.

One day after a clinic we fell to discussing this and that.

"How many children do you have, doctor?"

"I have three sons, Julius."

"Haauw, doctor, you don't have any daughters?"

"No, Julius, I don't....

How shall I have a daughter?"

"Doctor, the problem is you are too strong. To have a daughter you must have one testicle removed!"

I have four sons now.

Note: This poem is reprinted from *Ruminations from Rural Practice*, by Chris Ellis, with illustrations by Louis Hiemstra. Published by Academy Publications, 1994. For your copy please post a cheque for R50.00 made out to S A Family Practice, to: