



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Come to Grandpa**  
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**(SCANDAL! Mondays-Thursdays at 7.30pm)**

Daddy's home – and Mo ain't happy. Patrick (Geoffrey Mbenge) is the father of the Molefe sisters, Morongwe (Nthathi Moshesh) and Mmadika (Masechaba Moshoeshoe). His arrival smashes the family into pieces – many unresolved issues and secrets are going to be revealed over the next few weeks.

The family history (as Dika knows it) goes like this: when Mo was 11, and Dika five years old, their parents divorced and the girls hardly saw their father until their mother died four years later. The girls then went to live with their maternal grandmother who did not get along with Patrick, and so did not encourage contact at all with their father, who worked in the education department as an administrator.

Dika, now senior features editor for The Voice, is the champion of her dad and in favour of a family reconciliation. She grew up knowing their father was not a good husband (presuming that he had lots of affairs) and that Mo has not forgiven him for that. When she was 18, Dika went to seek him out and has had a fairly good relationship with him (although distant and sporadic) ever since.

On the other hand, Mo, the corporate strategist for NZH holdings, has no relationship with her father, and Dika knows Mo does not like the fact that she is in contact with their father. She thinks Mo is hard and unforgiving towards him.

That's why she's acted as peace broker by inviting her dad to stay with her, to meet Alex, Mo's husband (Shona Ferguson), and the twins, as well as to mend fences with Mo – without the latter's knowledge.

Dika accuses Mo of being unfair and unfeeling towards an old, sick man (their dad is in remission from cancer), when the usually controlled Mo retains her hardcore, continuous, and adamant rejection of their father whom she so obviously despises. Why is there such an atmosphere of terrible tension whenever Mo and her father meet? Dika will investigate the past to find out.

“The storyline is a difficult one, but I seriously think, that we as a society, should start talking about taboo issues. Patrick is completely different to who I am, so my approach was that I would play him to the best of my ability, although I didn't have anything to draw from in terms of personal experiences. I can't wait to see how people react to the story. That's what I love about doing what we do, you get people into debate about these things,” comments Geoffrey.

Born in Krugersdorp, Geoffrey became very involved in Martial Arts while growing up. It taught him discipline. “In 1969, I went to Japan for the first time to obtain my 1<sup>st</sup> Dan Black Belt. It wasn't until 1982 that I really got involved in acting - I played a detective in the police series, Sajene Samadula. However, I think people will remember me from more recent shows: The Missing Link, Zero Tolerance, and Yizo Yizo 3, among others,” says Geoffrey.

Geoffrey has started a feeding scheme, in conjunction with an upmarket food and clothing chain store, which provides food twice a week for 72 kids in Daveyton. “I also try to regularly contribute to other charities, especially those helping the aged,” he adds.