

SCENARIO FIVE

With a partner or in small groups, read the following scenario and discuss the follow-up questions.

Liz is in middle school and is the youngest of 4 kids. Liz grew up with older siblings who would often use the word “gay” when they were frustrated at a situation or were trying to express that they thought something was “stupid”. In Liz’s class, another student recently came out as a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Though she’s not best friends with this student, Liz has been more conscious of the things she says and the jokes she decides to listen to and laugh at. One of Liz’s favorite things to do at school is to play basketball with her classmates outside during lunch break. Today, an announcement came over the speakers saying that the whole lunch break would be held indoors today since there was some heavy rainfall outside. Liz exclaimed, “Ugh! That’s so g…….” but then stopped herself from finishing the word.

>Liz has a really good goal of avoiding using offensive words or language. She grew up where saying things like “that’s so gay” was alright. Now that the words she says have become a habit hard to break out of, what advice would you give to Liz to help her in her goal of not using the word “gay” in that context?

>What are some other words that she could use instead? How can you apply this situation into your own life?

