

Lutho Hopa
Portfolio
Xenophobia





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Dear Sir/madam

I am a history student at Sunward Park High School. I am conducting research on the dilemma of foreigners entering and living in the country. In this project I will interview both South Africans and foreigners. I would like your assistance by allowing me to interview you and for you to share your views on this matter and how you feel about the actions of South Africans during the attacks and at present.

I sincerely hope this will meet your approval.

The interviewee

Lutho Hopa

I, Bagani Stenela hereby give Lutho Hopa the right to interview me on the topic of xenophobia and hereby give him permission to use my views and opinions to his discretion in his assignment.

Interview questions

1. What do you think of South African's attitudes towards foreigners?
2. What would your response be to the statement that foreigners are stealing jobs?
3. Do you think the attacks on foreigners might erupt again? - *NOT open ended.*
4. What effects did the attacks leave behind in the community?

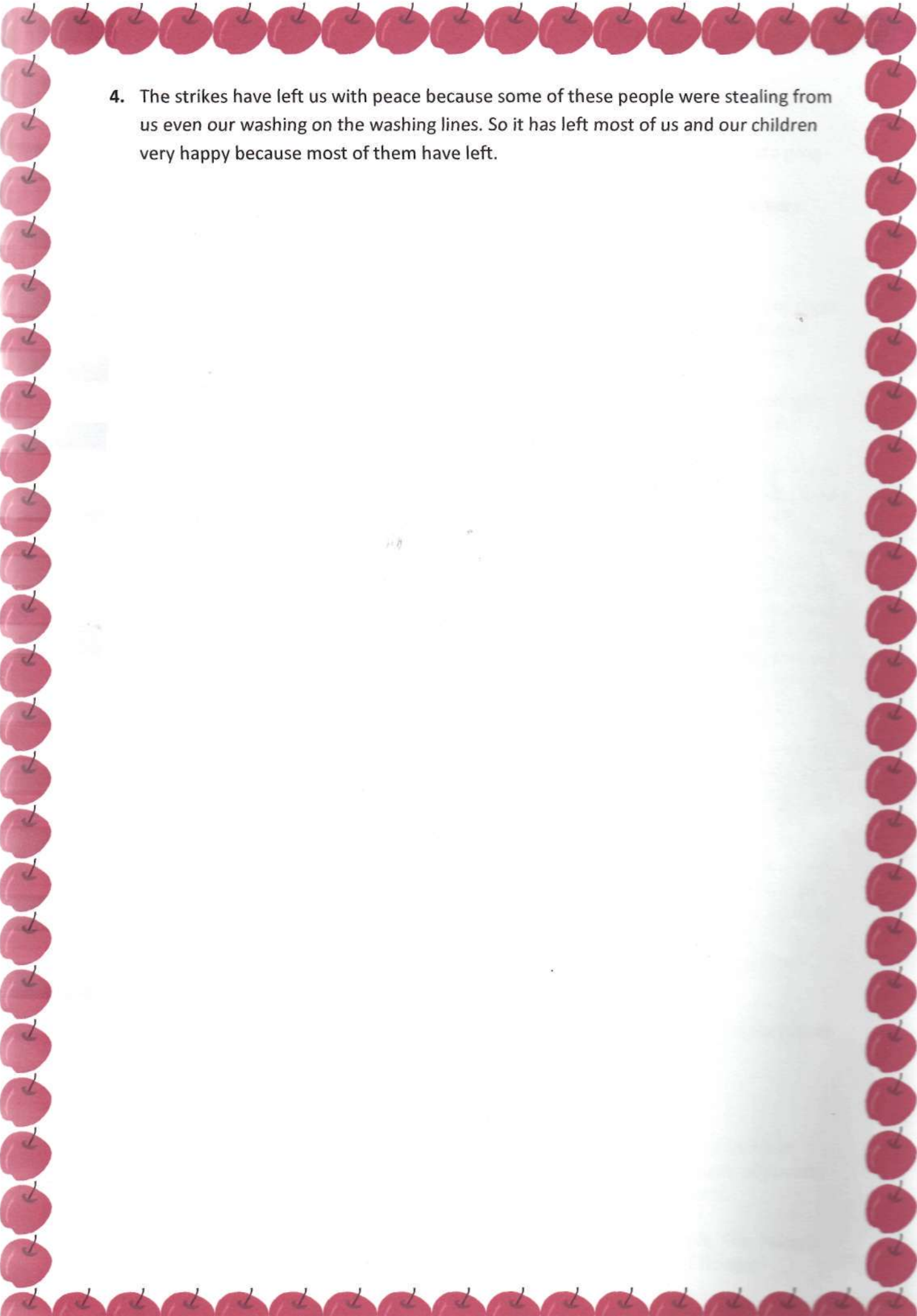
Responses:

Pedro

1. I am totally disgusted by the attitudes of especially the people in my community because we had been living together for more than thirty years but once the attacks begun they also started targeting us even though we had already started to think of them as our bothers and our sisters.
2. When I am not fixing cars I am growing vegetables I sell for extra money, I am not stealing jobs from South Africans but doing work locals are simply not interested in doing, some of them don't want to work. When I was away they could have taken over my vegetable garden but they didn't, when I came back all my vegetables had been taken but no planting had been done.
3. I would like to hope not but you can't be sure because it has happened before.
4. The people in the community now don't get along as we used to before because us foreigners live in fear of maybe your friend will just take out a gun or pick up a rock and strike you with it. As I am sure most people saw what happened with the man they burnt with the police watching.

Bongani

1. I think foreigners are running away from their problems and coming to disturb us in our country.
2. Yes they are, we are not educated, so when we go looking for work and they find that many of the foreigners are taking our jobs and taking less money for the jobs. So we even loose our jobs because employers tell each other about these people and they take us out of work to save money.
3. If the government does not listen to our complaints for jobs we will start again. We also don't like these Somalian owned shops because their things are too cheap.

- 
4. The strikes have left us with peace because some of these people were stealing from us even our washing on the washing lines. So it has left most of us and our children very happy because most of them have left.

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Foreigners in South Africa (speech)

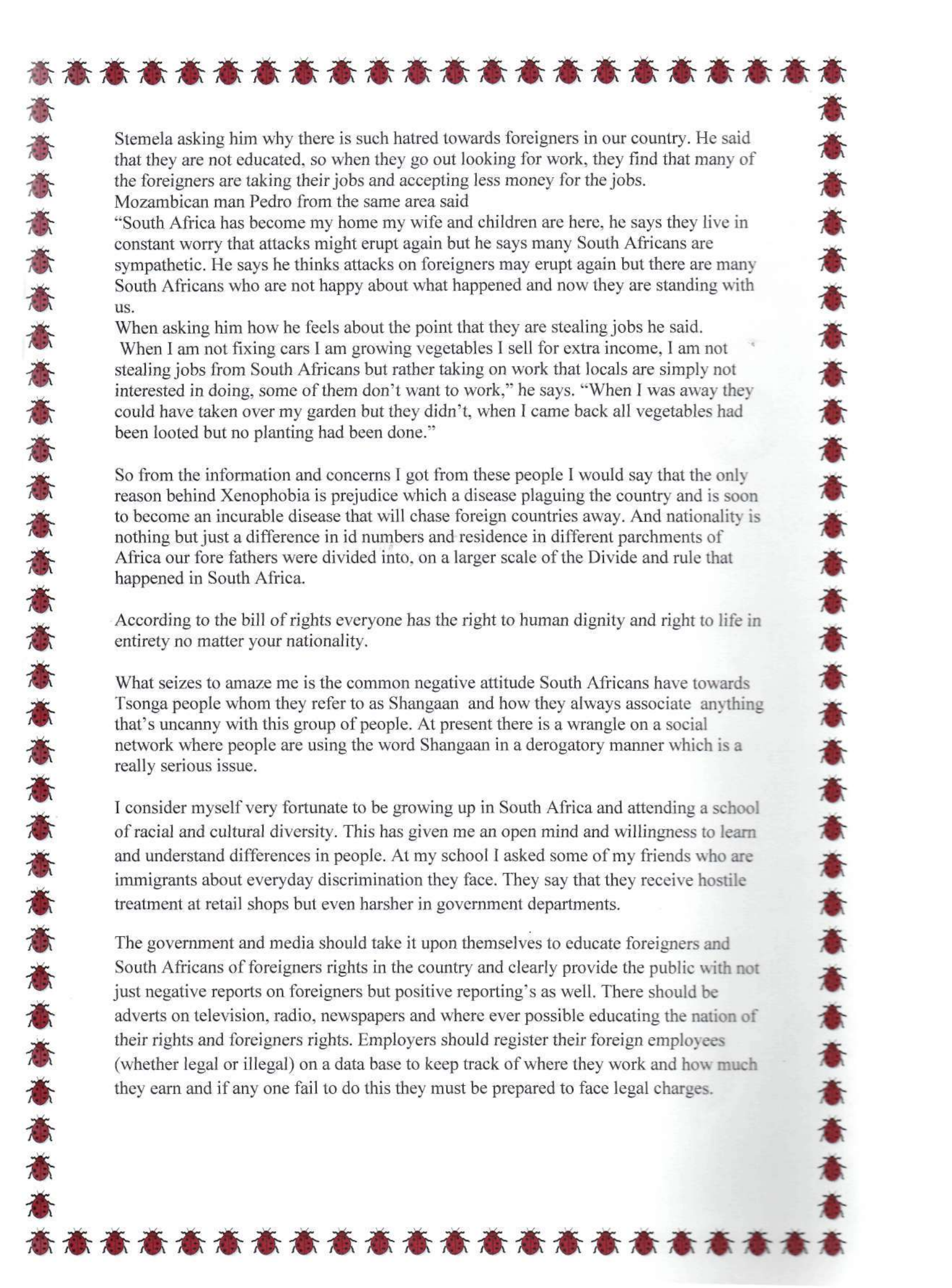
At least 50 people have died, more than a thousand injured, scores of women were gang-raped aren't we tired of always hearing this on TV, radio or reading about it in newspapers. Are we not tired of the constant anti-foreigners reporting, the derogatory headlines about aliens in South Africa. Are we not tired of xenophobia?

Xenophobia can be defined as the deep dislike of foreigners of a recipient country. It's based on the violation of human rights. The movement of these people across borders has caused and continues to cause problems between nationals and non-nationals. The reasons for this are competition for scarce resources, for the country's scarce public services, insufficient space for informal trading and job opportunities, ignorance and prejudice of some people and with some for personal gain. However international migration and xenophobia cannot be taken to mean the same. People's attitudes towards foreigners are dominated by the perception that their presence in the country is a great cost with no benefit for our country. These are some of the myths that mislead people into thinking that foreigners are just here to provide cheap labour and be burdens to our country. But then South Africans are not hostile to all foreigners. There is a link between xenophobia and racism and there are regional variations in South Africans attitude to foreigners. South Africans ignore the fact that not every foreigner is an illegal immigrant. The racist perception is very real at all levels even at government level this can be also linked to the apartheid era where it was almost like a crime to be non white. There is growing perception that immigrants from Europe are investors whereas all African immigrants are illegal resource wasters. Foreigners say there has been an increase in xenophobia since 1994 and that during apartheid years the relationship was better, as they were all fighting the same enemy. Certain political parties are also to blame for fostering the xenophobia among South Africans. Unrealistic expectations having been created in the minds of the population and now the scapegoat is that foreigners are taking, amongst other things, all the promised jobs and space for housing. Politicians also blame foreigners for all social evils in the country as it is easier to do so than to address issues and take responsibility. Leaders should bear the responsibility to discourage expressions of anger and hostility towards foreigners. The media must also take some responsibility for its portrayal of foreigners entering the country. The economic and social effect of foreigners on South Africa is influenced by the structure of the South African labour market. This sector is however also responsible for the exploitation of foreigners. Many migrants work as temporary or contract workers. Certain sectors, such as construction, and domestic work depend heavily on this form of labour.

Border official corruption together with the Game farms that are not monitored are part of the cause of the influx of illegal immigrants in the country.

Attacks on foreign people, especially poor foreigners trying to make a living in South Africa, by poor South Africans, only deters people from seeing the real causes of poverty which are high interest rates, high food prices and other legacies of apartheid.

During the course of this assignment I got to interview a number of people. One being a South African man from Ramaphosa informal settlement by the name of Bongani



Stemela asking him why there is such hatred towards foreigners in our country. He said that they are not educated, so when they go out looking for work, they find that many of the foreigners are taking their jobs and accepting less money for the jobs.

Mozambican man Pedro from the same area said

“South Africa has become my home my wife and children are here, he says they live in constant worry that attacks might erupt again but he says many South Africans are sympathetic. He says he thinks attacks on foreigners may erupt again but there are many South Africans who are not happy about what happened and now they are standing with us.

When asking him how he feels about the point that they are stealing jobs he said.

When I am not fixing cars I am growing vegetables I sell for extra income, I am not stealing jobs from South Africans but rather taking on work that locals are simply not interested in doing, some of them don't want to work,” he says. “When I was away they could have taken over my garden but they didn't, when I came back all vegetables had been looted but no planting had been done.”

So from the information and concerns I got from these people I would say that the only reason behind Xenophobia is prejudice which a disease plaguing the country and is soon to become an incurable disease that will chase foreign countries away. And nationality is nothing but just a difference in id numbers and residence in different parchments of Africa our fore fathers were divided into, on a larger scale of the Divide and rule that happened in South Africa.

According to the bill of rights everyone has the right to human dignity and right to life in entirety no matter your nationality.

What seizes to amaze me is the common negative attitude South Africans have towards Tsonga people whom they refer to as Shangaan and how they always associate anything that's uncanny with this group of people. At present there is a wrangle on a social network where people are using the word Shangaan in a derogatory manner which is a really serious issue.

I consider myself very fortunate to be growing up in South Africa and attending a school of racial and cultural diversity. This has given me an open mind and willingness to learn and understand differences in people. At my school I asked some of my friends who are immigrants about everyday discrimination they face. They say that they receive hostile treatment at retail shops but even harsher in government departments.

The government and media should take it upon themselves to educate foreigners and South Africans of foreigners rights in the country and clearly provide the public with not just negative reports on foreigners but positive reporting's as well. There should be adverts on television, radio, newspapers and where ever possible educating the nation of their rights and foreigners rights. Employers should register their foreign employees (whether legal or illegal) on a data base to keep track of where they work and how much they earn and if any one fail to do this they must be prepared to face legal charges.



VISUAL PRESENTATIO N

FOREIGNERS IN SOUTH AFRICA



Shameful send-off



REFUGEE CAMPS



INJURED



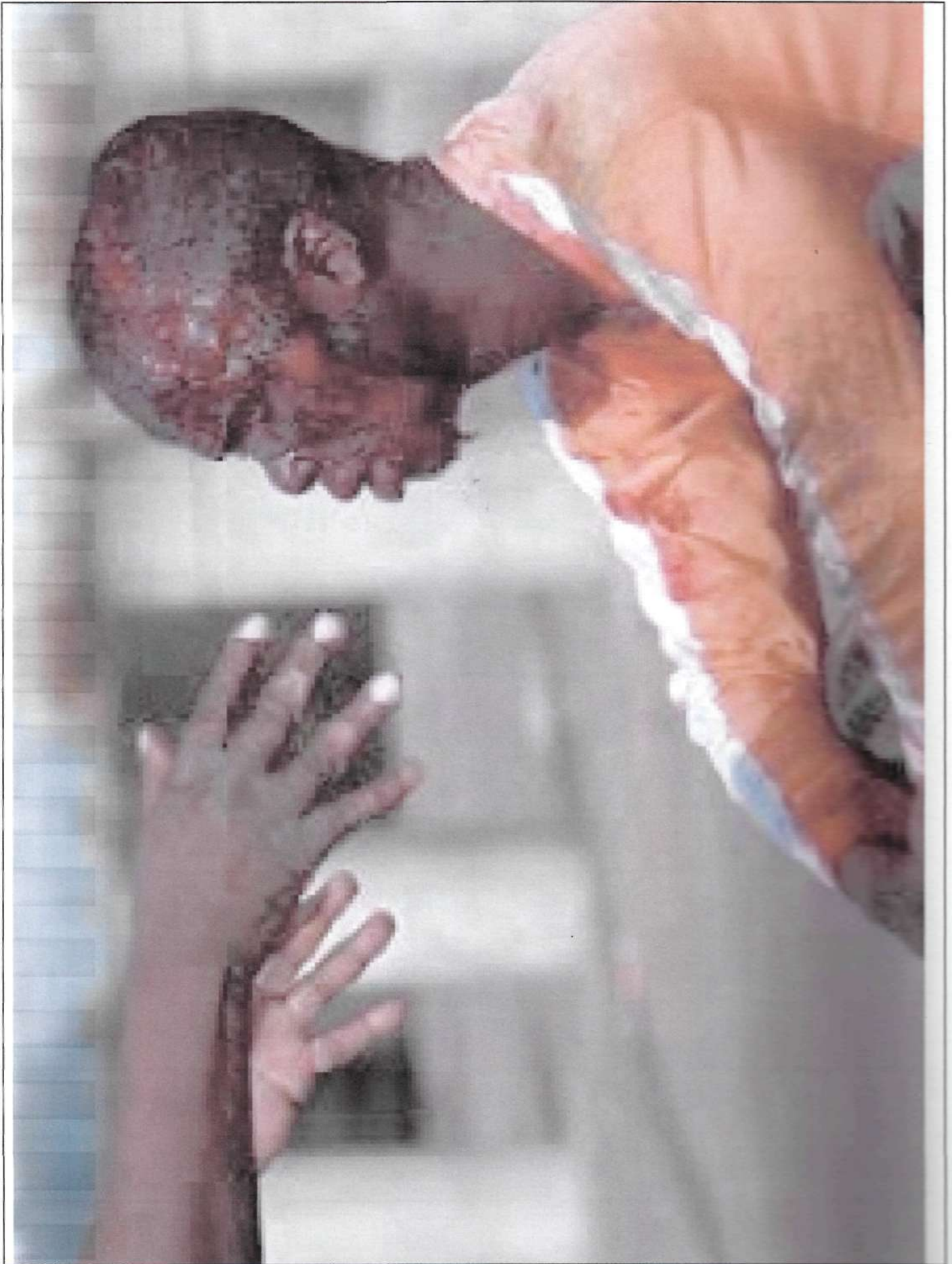
WOUNDED MAN

RECEIVING

TREATMENT





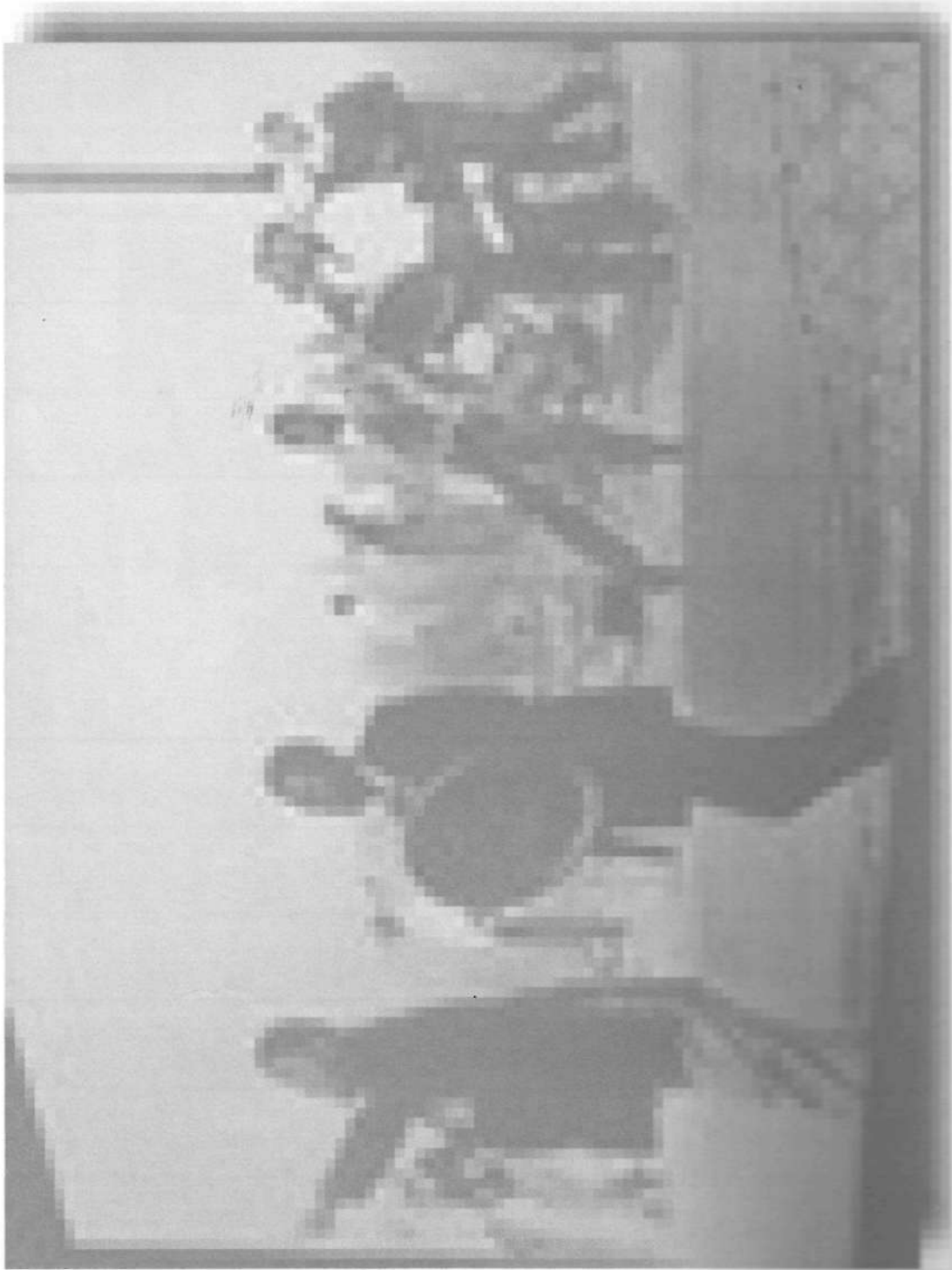


Apartheid tensions



Encarta Encyclopedia, UPI/Corbis

APARTHEID



DUNNOON SOMALI SHOPS



Living conditions in Zimbabwe



Encarta Encyclopedia, James G. Teer

Ndebele shaman or Xhosa imbhongi?



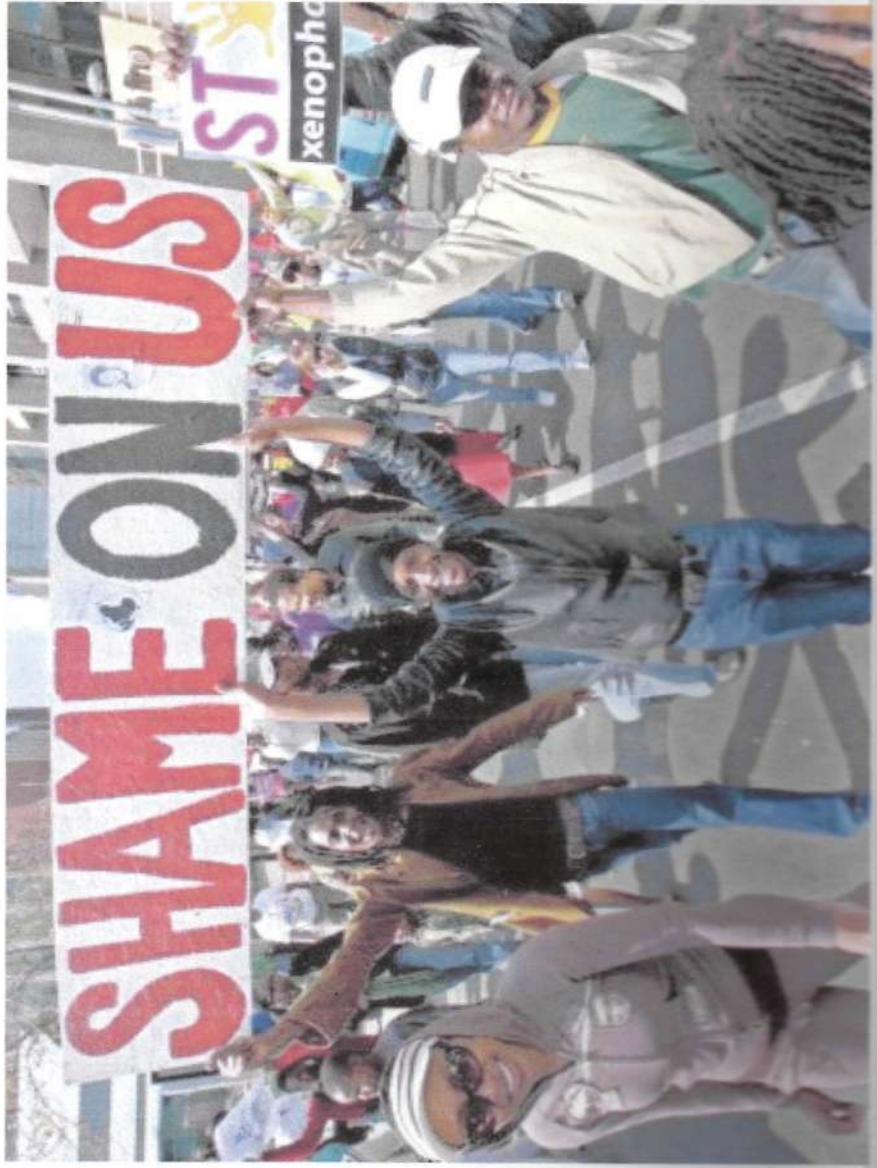
Encarta Encyclopedia, Lindsay Hebbard/Corbis

Mostly foreigners working at a vineyard.



Encarta Encyclopedia, D. Boroughs/The Image Works

CELEBRITY AND PUBLIC
MARCH



EVERY ONE
IS A
FOREIGNER
SOMEWHERE



DEPARTMENT: HOME AFFAIRS

Section 22 of the Refugees Act No. 130 of 1998



PTAZWE09011108



ASYLUM SEEKER TEMPORARY PERMIT

REFERENCE NO: PTAZWE09011108

Permission is hereby granted to the following person as holder of this permit to remain in the RSA of part thereof as determined in part B hereof:

A. PERSONAL PARTICULARS OF HOLDER

SURNAME: MWALE

FIRST NAME(s): HILARY TAFADZWA

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS
PRETORIA REFUGEE OFFICE

R

DATE OF BIRTH: 31/05/1988

GENDER: Male

2008-11-10

NATIONALITY: Zimbabwean

SIGNATURE
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

PERMIT NUMBER: PTAZWE09011108

PLACE OF ISSUE: Pretoria

EXPIRY DATE: 10/02/2009

B. CONDITIONS

- The holder of the permit may reside temporarily in the Republic of South Africa for the purpose of applying for asylum in terms of the Refugees Act No. 130 of 1998.
- The permit holder shall, without expenses to the state, leave the Republic on or before 10/02/2009 or such later date as duly authorised by a Refugee Status Determination Officer if his/her application for asylum has been rejected.
- The permit entitles the holder to: MAY WORK AND STUDY IN RSA
- The holder of the permit will be dealt with in terms of Section 32 (b) and Section 22 (b) of the Refugees Act 1998.
- All permit holder are obliged to respect the laws of South Africa
- This permit will lapse if the permit holder does not appear in person as required at the designated Refugee Reception Office or if he/she departs from the Republic without prior authorisation from the Director General.
- All other permits issued prior to the issuance of this permit are automatically nullified.

8. Other conditions COLLECT DECISION RSDO SACRI SERA

9.1 MWALE HILARY TAFADZWA agree to the above conditions and understand that a breach thereof will result in an offence in terms of Section 37 of the Refugees Act.

PLACE: Pretoria

DATE: 10/11/2008

REFUGEE RECEPTION OFFICIAL

NAME: RATSHILAVHI, JONES

APPOINTMENT/FORCE NO: 20556365

DATE: 10/11/2008

PLACE: Pretoria

ORIGINALLY ISSUED ON Pretoria NUMBER OF EXTENSIONS: 0 PERMIT EXPIRY DATE: 10/02/2009

PERMIT HOLDER SIGNATURE: *Hilary Mwaile*

REFUGEE OFFICIAL SIGNATURE: *Ratshilavhi Jones*



103369805

ONLY VALID IF BOTH BAR CODES ARE THE SAME



103369805





**HLANGANANI MA AFRIKA
HLANGANANI**

“AFRICANS UNITE”



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petown](http://www.expatcapetown.com.xenophobia.insouthafrica.situationofforeignersinca
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phobia](http://encartaupdate.msn.com/?Lang=A&tname=07searchmsn&Year=2009&q=xeno
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