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**Cover photo by Rashid**

**Lombard**

## COMMENT

We enter the New Year no nearer to peace than we were at the beginning of 1992.

Almost daily we hear new reports of secret security force projects, of dirty tricks and corruption. The government must take responsibility for these dirty tricks against our people and take honest steps to prepare for free and fair elections, if we are to believe they really want democracy in South Africa.

In the New Year we have to commit ourselves to looking for ways to end all forms of violence, not only political violence, but also personal abuse.

The Jazzart Dance Theatre group in Cape Town has started doing this. Jazzart shows, through dance, the violence between men and women in the home. The group looks at ways of ending the cycle of domestic violence in our society.

A woman Nobel Peace Prize winner for 1992! We share our delight in Guatemala's Rigoberta Menchu's award with you. This is a victory for all Indigenous people who have protested against the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's shameful journey to America. It is also a positive way to start 1993 which the United Nations has declared the Year of the Indigenous People. Christmas is the time when women take care of everyone but themselves. Our health and advice articles encourage you to take care of your health this Christmas.

Our message to SPEAK women readers - don't be a slave, it's your time to have a holiday too! ☺

# Talk back

### Call for support from Cuba

We Cuban women are asking for solidarity from South African women.

We need your support to fight a new law in the United States which aims to toughen the US economic blockade (sanctions) against our country, destroy our revolution and end the achievements of our people.

What is the US government trying to do to us? They are trying to suffocate us by increasing the financial and trade blockade against us. They are also trying to stop other countries investing or trading with us in order to stop our chances of development. This new law - the Torricelli Law - is dangerous to all independent countries - not only Cuba. It means a country like the USA can ignore all the international principles of self-determination (allowing countries to decide policies for themselves), non-intervention (banning one country from interfering in the affairs of another country) and respect for different political beliefs in the world.

We ask all of our friends in South Africa to send messages to the US government condemning this action.

*Federation of Cuban Women  
Havana, Cuba*

*The address of the US Embassy in South Africa is: 7th Floor, Thibalt Building, 225 Pretoria Street, Pretoria, 0002.*

### Vote for women

I very much enjoyed reading issue no 37 of SPEAK - the first time I have seen it. I especially appreciated Morgan Gomati's thoughtful article "How the Union Changed My Life".

Black women are lucky some of their men are beginning to understand how undemocratic it is to insist "the man's word is final" - thanks to their own battle for democracy.

Mr Gomati sees child-care as a parent's issue, not only a woman's one. I hope that in his daily life he is promoting women's freedom from the controls of tradition.

The first thing South African women need is the presence of far more women in the decision-making bodies of this country - in parliament, Codesa, political organisations' executive committees, churches, town councils and so on.

One complaint: I wish you would drop the title 'Comrade' - it's so self-conscious, anti-individualist and primitive in today's world!

*Pam Barnes  
Howick, Natal*



**Thanks...**

Thanks for my book "No Turning Back" which I won in a competition in SPEAK. I was very happy when I received the news I had won. I really enjoyed my book. It has taught me important things.

I believe as a progressive man in our country we have to understand that women are human beings like us. Long live SPEAK!

*Mduduzi Zuma  
Embalenhle*



**...And kisses!**

I am the happiest lady in the Northern Transvaal. Thanks ever so much for the wonderful prize of the book "No Turning Back". I have had so many congratulatory messages and kisses! Turning back is now a thing of the past for all women in South Africa including us in the rural areas - like the dusty and dry Sekhukhuneland.

*Margaret Mminele  
Ga-Marishane Village*

*If you weren't one of the lucky winners of "No Turning Back", make sure you don't miss out! You can order the book from SPEAK. If you live in southern Africa, just send us R14.00 and your name and address and we will send it off to you. If you live elsewhere, write to us for other rates.*

**Thanks to all readers who have written.**

**Please keep your letters flowing in.**

**We are often forced to shorten letters because of space.**

**Send your letters to:**

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**More Congratulations!**

**Here are the winners of the book "On Our Feet":**  
**PN Linyando of Otjitarongo, Namibia;**  
**Petros Tshabalala of Inanda, Natal;**  
**Gloria Ramela of Tembisa, East Rand;**  
**WR Mphahlele of Mphahlele, Northern Transvaal and Abigail Johnson of Rocklands Location, Bloemfontein.**

**A Winner!**

Congratulations to TB Tshisikule from Johannesburg! You are the lucky winner of our camera competition.





Old habits die hard. When ANC's Gill Marcus and Pallo Jordan recently went for a meeting at the SABC, the receptionist announced: "Gill Marcus is here - with a black man!"

\* \* \* \* \*

A friend's daughter was going on a trip with the Girl Guides recently. The daughter gave her mother a form to sign. The form said: "To be signed by father/legal guardian". Good parent that she is, my friend gaily crossed this out, signed the form and put "mother" next to her signature. The form was returned with the message that if it was not signed by the child's father,

## Kwa-Sophie



the child would not be allowed to go on the trip. My friend immediately went to the Girl Guides to find out why her signature was not good enough. She was told some bad news - according to South African law, the father of the child is the legal guardian. We women are not guardians of our own children - we only give birth to them.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Citizen reported recently that police are investigating an alleged ANC plot to make the SAP look inefficient in front of United Nations (UN) monitors. The Transvaal region of the ANC is accused of falsely reporting to the police that weapons have been found, while police are changing shifts. The UN monitors are then taken to where the weapons have been hidden to wait for the police. Because they are changing shifts, the police are always late. The UN monitors are then allegedly told how inefficient the SAP is. Want to break the law? Do it while the police are changing shift.

\* \* \* \* \*

Quote of the month:

"Many of us find it difficult to talk about sex to our children, but nature's truth is that unless we guide the youth towards safer sex, the alternative is playing into the hands of a killer disease."

Nelson Mandela at the National Conference on AIDS, 23 October 1992

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# Jazzart Dance Theatre

## “Unclenching the fist”

Photos by Rashid Lombard



**“You can unclench your fist” that is the message from a Cape Town group in a dance-drama about domestic violence.**

**By Gaye Davis**

“If we can think, feel and move, then we can dance”. Someone has written these words outside the entrance to Jazzart Dance Theatre’s second floor studios in Cape Town.

It is this attitude - that dance is for everyone, not just people with special training - which has taken Jazzart along the road to becoming one of the country’s best known dance groups.

*Please turn over*



Jazzart was started 15 years ago. One of its aims was to bring dance into the lives of as many people as possible - not just those who could afford to pay for high-priced tickets at city theatres.

Since then, Jazzart has grown from strength to strength - but it still keeps its roots firmly in the community. True to its goal of bringing dance to the people,

Jazzart has run workshops and staged performances in townships all over the Cape Flats. Working with organisations, Jazzart has used dance in new and exciting ways to tell people about all sorts of things.

**T**hat is what contemporary (present day) dance is all about," says Jay Pather. "It is dance which is expressive - which tells stories and communicates feelings, like pain and joy."

Pather is the director of Jazzart's latest project called "Unclenching the Fist" - a powerful dance-drama dealing with the issue of violence - not the political violence that is tearing apart communities, but the violence between men and women that can shatter families and destroy lives.

The idea for it came when two doctors asked Jazzart to create a piece of dance theatre based on their research on violence between men and women in South Africa.

"One of the things the doctors found was that for every person who dies in political violence in South Africa, seven people die through personal violence," says Alfred Hinkel, who choreographed (worked out the dance steps and movements) for "Unclenching the Fist".

The doctors looked mainly at violence against black women.



**"Unclenching the Fist" performed by Jazzart Dance Theatre is a powerful dance-drama which deals with violence between men and women**

After three months of reading all the information collected by the doctors, Pather set to work.

Pather and Hinkel wanted to show, through dance and words, the kind of attitudes which lead to violence between men and women. They also wanted to give a message of hope by showing that if people's attitudes change, there will be less violence of this kind. That is why they chose the title "Unclenching the Fist".

"I wanted to create a dance-drama which looked at the issue in a way which could help people deal with violence and the victims of violence," says Pather.

"Middle-class people can go and visit a marriage counsellor if they are having problems. Poor people don't have the time or the money to do this."

A big problem, says Pather, is that personal violence usually happens behind closed doors. No-one talks about it. "People pretend it doesn't exist, yet we all know that it happens."

Jazzart performed "Unclenching the Fist" at the Grahamstown Arts Festival.

"With all our works we do one version and then another before we decide on the final version. The way we performed "Unclenching the Fist" in Grahamstown was straight to the point. A rape was acted out on the stage and we showed arguments,

insults and beatings.

"Some people came to see it expecting a pretty dance. They were disappointed. Some of them left before the end. Other people found it moving."

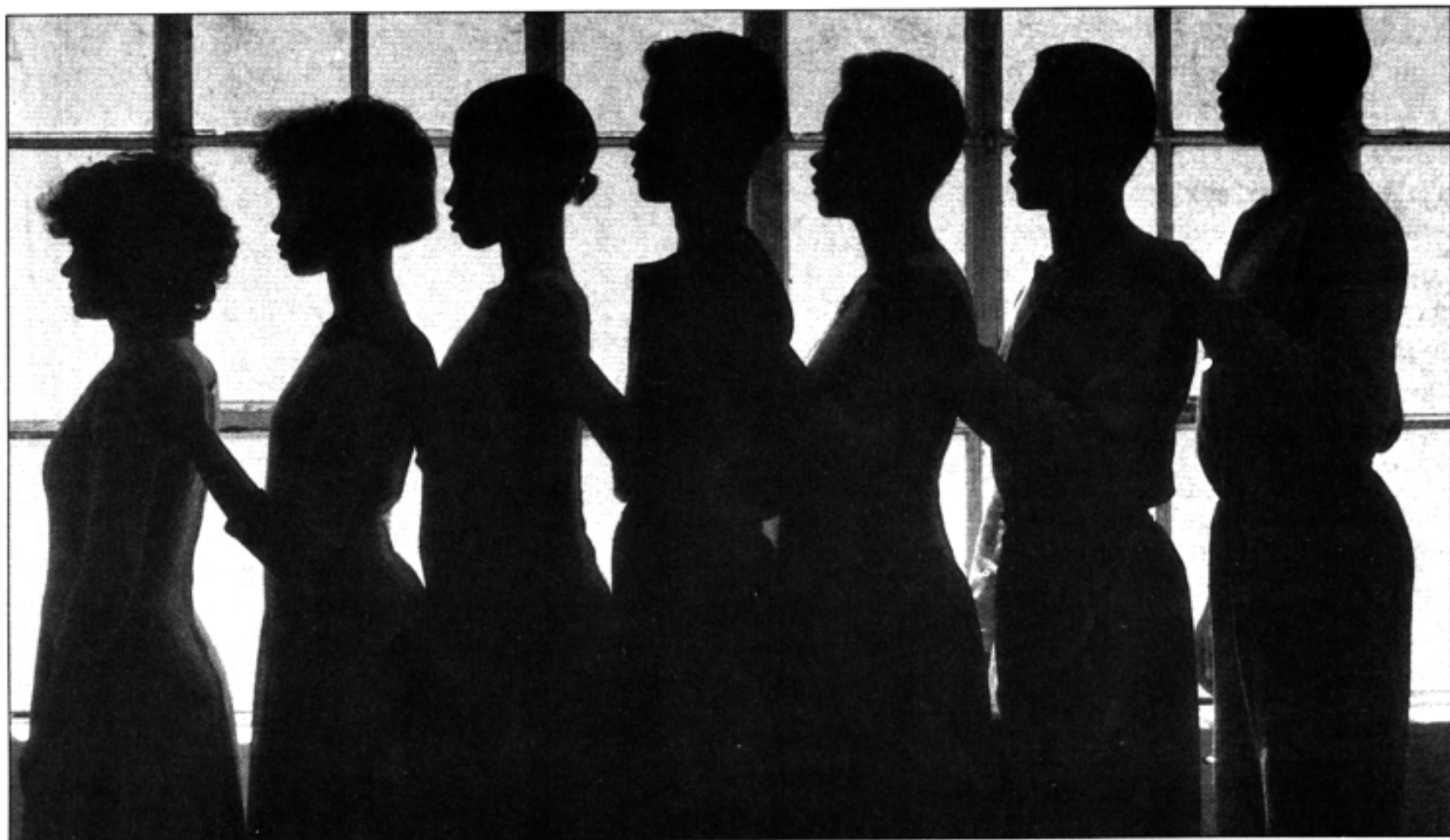
Pather remembers how a middle-class white woman came up to him and said: "This is not dance. Dancers don't speak from the stage!"

"We get this violence rammed down our throats all the time," she complained.

He also remembers a black man coming to him and saying: "Thank you for doing this. I never saw things quite in this way before."

kindly towards each other. The drama ends with everyone together, arms around each other, smiling. The message is clear. The audience claps and whistles.

Jazzart now plans to take "Unclenching the Fist" to factories, clinics and play centres around Cape Town from the beginning of next year. "We want to do a powerful first half and then stop and ask the people in the audience what they think," says Pather. They hope to perform "Unclenching the Fist" in other parts of the country if they get the money to do it.



Jazzart Dance Theatre wants to bring dance into the lives of as many people as possible

After the Grahamstown performances, Pather and Hinkel perfected the piece, taking out the words and changing the movements. SPEAK went to see a performance of the new version at the University of Western Cape.

On a darkened stage with dramatic lighting, the dancers - five women and three men - act out the darker side of life. A woman struggles with two men while the other women look the other way - they do not want to get involved in this fight. The pace gets faster and the stage explodes into a mass of dancers, leaping and whirling. Then there is a change. Something tender and loving happens between two couples. They have broken the cycle of violence by acting

Pather and Hinkel see "Unclenching the Fist" as "theatre that heals".

"Unclenching the Fist" is a three-year project. Hopefully, at the end we will have a piece of theatre which will help people deal with the violence all around us.

"I hope that men and women in the audience will be able to see themselves in it and understand things a little bit more. I hope they will realise that violence can be spoken about and that to unclench their fists is not an impossible task but a very important one.

"Political change will not end violence. We must break the cycle of violence we have inherited by ourselves." ●



# IN HER OWN WORDS

**1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner,  
Rigoberta Menchu  
from Guatemala, tells her story**

Rigoberta Menchu is a daughter of the Mayan people - one of the groups of Indian people in Latin America.

In Menchu's home country, Guatemala, 100 000 people have been killed by the government over the past 30 years, and 45 000 people have disappeared.

Menchu's story is like that of many of her people. She has been forced into exile. Her mother, father, brother and many other family members and community members have been killed.

To celebrate her winning the Nobel Peace Prize, SPEAK brings you pieces from her speeches and from a book she has written.

## **On her people**

"You can't imagine how proud I feel to be a grand-daughter of the Mayan people..."

"I call upon you to try and feel the problems of our countries today, to try and feel the tears of our mothers and the pain of our children...I call upon you to dream and hope with us for a world where Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples can work together and respect each other.

"It can never be one individual who makes history; only many people together can change this world."

*At a rally in England, 1992*

## **On her mother**

"My mother couldn't express her views about political things, but she was very politicised through her work...She said what was important was doing something for our people. She said it would be sad to die without doing anything..."

*From her book, "I, Rigoberta Menchu"; published by Verso Press, 1984*



**Rigoberta Menchu the 1992 Nobel prize winner**

**On women**

"I realise that many companeros (comrades) never lose the feeling that their views are better than those of any women...I came up against revolutionary companeros, companeros who had many ideas about making a revolution, but who had trouble accepting a woman could participate in the struggle..."

"Many women so often take other people's problems upon themselves and push their own to one side. This doesn't do us any good..."

"Our struggle has shown us that many companeros have clear ideas, but if they don't follow in the footsteps of their women, they'll be left behind..."

*From her book "I, Rigoberta Menchu"*

**500 years of resistance**

"Rigoberta Menchu has won the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize!" I shout with joy. My two children look at me in surprise. I try to explain how wonderful it is that an Indian woman from Guatemala in Latin America has won the prize in October 1992 - the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas.

I see the questions still in their eyes. "Columbus, the guy who discovered America?"

What does he have to do with a Guatemalan woman winning a prize?"

How do I explain 500 years of colonialism and resistance to them? I sit them down and try.

"In 1492 Columbus sailed from his native country Spain

to try to find a new route to India, to get gold and spices. On October 12, Columbus arrived on the island of Guanahani, off the coast of America.

"When Columbus returned to Spain he was welcomed like a hero.

"They said he had "discovered" a new part of the world. The European nations raced across the world for the gold and other riches in the Americas.

"The Indigenous Americans, who are also called Indians or First Nations People, were killed in their millions or turned into slaves by the European invaders.

"To say Columbus "discovered" America is to insult the original people of America, who were there many

thousands of years before Columbus.

"This is why many people in America refused to take part in Europe's celebration of Columbus's arrival in America in 1992. African people too have no reason to celebrate. Columbus started the slave trade. Millions of people from Africa were sold into slavery in America.

"Those who celebrate what Columbus did are dancing



on the graves of millions who have been made into slaves or killed.

"Rigoberta Menchu is one of the many people who has fought against this oppression of Indian people in Latin America. Her winning the Nobel Peace Prize is a victory for indigenous people in the Americas and all over the world - Africa too."

I look at the serious faces of my children. Do they understand? Suddenly they jump up and run down the street shouting: "Down with Columbus! Long live Rigoberta Menchu!"

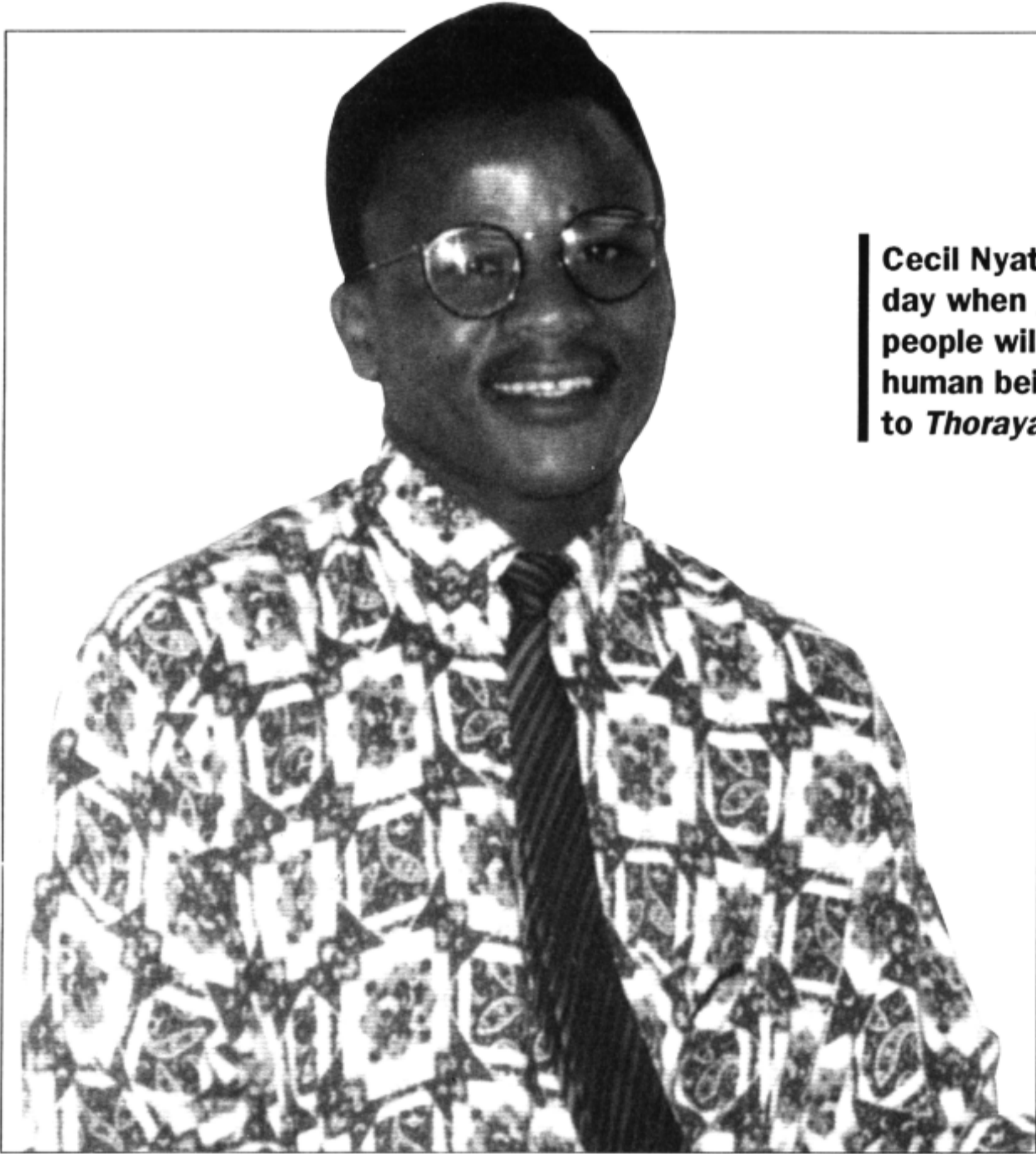
I smile to myself. Yes, they do.

*By Elinor Sisulu* ●

**Thanks to Spare Rib for photo and ideas**



# Gay and proud



Cecil Nyathi longs for the day when gay and lesbian people will be seen as human beings. He spoke to *Thoraya Pandy*

"Stop calling us makotis or stabane," says Cecil Nyathi

**T**wenty-three-year-old Cecil Nyathi speaks with sadness of the pain and suffering he went through accepting he was homosexual.

Homosexual or gay men love men not women. Lesbian women want to be with women not men.

Nyathi, who is president of the Gay and Lesbian Organisation of the Witwatersrand (GLOW), was 12 when he first realised he was gay.

"For years I believed there was something wrong with me. I

wanted to see a sangoma to take the sickness out of me, but I was too scared!" he said.

"I lived with my confusion until one day my school teacher told me he was in love with me. It was a turning point in my life. I did not feel alone any more.

Photos by Thoraya Pandy, SPEAK

There was somebody just like me - and he was my teacher!"

Nyathi had a secret sexual relationship with his teacher for five years.

"We were scared of being rejected by our families and community. I'm an only child and my parents kept telling me I was the only one to carry on the family name," he said. "How could I tell them I'm gay?"

Nyathi said he even had a girlfriend because of the pressures from his family and friends.

Two years ago, while he was at university, Nyathi joined GLOW. After joining the organisation, his family found out he was gay.

"I wanted to die when my mother asked me if I was gay," he said. "Things became so bad, both my mother and I tried to kill ourselves. She was ashamed of me and blamed herself for my homosexuality."

He said it took his mother a long time to understand and accept he is gay. He is now more open about his homosexuality.

"It was difficult, but it is something that must be done so society can begin to accept and respect us," he said.

SPEAK asked Nyathi about GLOW.

"GLOW was formed in 1989 because other gay and lesbian organisations did not really have a place for blacks. They were dominated by white, middle-class men. Many of us did not feel comfortable in these organisations," he said.

"Our membership has grown from 100 when we started, to 1 000 today. We are still growing."

Nyathi said most of GLOW's members are African. He believes thousands of other people would join, but are scared to openly admit they are gay.

"After another magazine interviewed me recently, we received over a thousand letters from African men and women who are too scared to open up because they fear for their lives," he told SPEAK.

He said it was more difficult for African women than it was for men.

"Women cannot say they do

the law.

"Homosexuality is against the law in this country and we want this done away with. We want to be treated as human beings," said Nyathi.

"We have been called moffies, fagots, stabanes, sissies, makotis, queers, undesirable elements, dirty, AIDS spreaders, half-men and half-women... We just want all this to stop."

Nyathi said the lesbian and gay community is not different from other communities.

"There are people of different

racess, cultures, religions, political ideas and so on. We have, amongst us, racists, liberals, feminists, radicals, conservatives, sexists...

"What is different is our sexual choice and, of course,



Gay and lesbian people march for their rights

not want to get married or to have sex with men. They just have to. An African woman who does not want to marry or have children is seen as an outcast," said Nyathi.

SPEAK asked him what he says about the view that homosexuality is "against tradition".

"Many people say that and say we are not African. It is not true. Homosexuality has always been there in our culture," he said.

GLOW is demanding that gay and lesbian rights are included in

that we are not accepted by society," he said.

Nyathi longs for the day when people will see gay and lesbian people as human beings before they see them as homosexual.

"The way my mother and friends have learnt to see me!" ●

See inside back cover for addresses of lesbian and gay organisations in South Africa





Photos by Claire Keeton

**T**hey do not carry guns or knives, but they know they can defend themselves.

These women are students of a style of karate called Goju Kan.

A new trainee, Tobeka Obose, told SPEAK how she stopped one man in his tracks when he harassed her in the street.

“He insulted me so I answered back. He grabbed me by my collar and pulled me. I punched and threw him to the ground. I left him lying there.

“I feel strong now,” says Obose.

The man, who sees her everyday, has not tried his luck again. She believes learning karate builds both mental and physical strength. This view is shared by all the women karate trainees in Mdantsane who were interviewed by SPEAK.

Karate started in Japan hundreds of years ago when people began using their hands and feet to defend themselves because carrying of weapons was banned in Japan.

Since the beginning of this century karate has become the fastest growing martial art (fighting sport).

Karate is now a very popular sport and a safe way of self-defence. All the women doing karate told SPEAK they wanted to learn how to protect themselves.

“It is dangerous here with robbers and tsotsis. I can do nothing against a gun but if a person attacks me with a knife I can try to defend myself,” says

# Don't mess with me!



**Karate trainee Amanda Williams has her sight set on a black belt**

Peggy Mgobozi, who runs a supermarket with her husband.

"I wanted self-defence and I have learnt it," says advanced karate trainee Amanda Williams.

Williams and her sister, Antonia, started karate three years ago and are well on their way to being black belts.

A beginner starts with a white belt and when she or he is properly prepared does a "grading" for the next belt.

The belts start with white and go on to yellow, orange, green, blue, purple, brown and finally to black.

Twenty-year-old Williams is a purple belt and is aiming to get her black belt. She says she feels fit and healthy - another reason why women start karate.

"Doing karate involves a lot of exercise. This helps prevent diseases like heart illnesses," says Mgobozi.

Her friend, 39-year-old Olive Luvuno, says: "Karate is tough and I had stiffness and cramps when I started about six years ago."

The trainees attend clubs in Mdantsane four times a week, for an hour or more.

The classes start with stretch-

ing and vigorous exercises like sit-ups and push-ups. When the trainees are warmed up, they learn the correct body positions, punches, kicks and blocks through a sequence of movements called "kata". Practise fights with a partner are known as "kumite".

In the national karate championships in 1990, Williams won a silver medal for "kumite" and she has done well with "kata" in competitions.

Though karate is often showed in films as a deadly skill aimed at killing the enemy, it is in fact a disciplined sport with strict rules.

The women in Mdantsane are followers of "non-contact", Goju Kan style. Other karate styles

the accident, Siyapi was unconscious for months. Blind and unable to move when he regained consciousness, he is now teaching again.

Doctors said Siyapi's life was saved because he was very fit and had a strong "fighting spirit". Siyapi says this is thanks to karate.

Although he encourages women to take part in karate, about 90 percent of his trainees are men.

Some men in Mdantsane say it is not proper for women to do karate. Others complain that it has made women too independent. Some people believe that women who do karate cannot have children.



**Doing karate involves a lot of exercise. Amanda Williams demonstrates**

like Shotokan do involve contact and free-fighting but even this is carefully controlled by the instructor.

A karate instructor is called a "sensei". The Goju-Kan instructor at two Mdantsane clubs is sensei Mafuza Siyapi. Siyapi recently had every bone in his body broken in a car crash. After

This is not true.

The women who work hard at karate say they have not experienced hostility from men. Most have the support of their families and friends.

"They ask why I am doing it and how long it will take to be perfect. They even say they will join," says Luvuno. ●



# “An injury to teachers is

**Teachers in Bosmont recently put down their chalk. Three women teachers told *Kate Truscott* why they went on strike**

In early October this year, teachers at so-called “coloured” schools, were shocked to find out the Department of Education was planning to retrench about 6,000 teachers. All over the country, teachers protested against the retrenchments. At the beginning of November the Department of Education said it had stopped its plans to retrench teachers.

SPEAK interviewed three women teachers, Lameez Saloojee, Glynis Martin and Nawaal Meyer. All three teach at Chris J. Botha school in Bosmont, Johannesburg. They tell SPEAK readers how they organised against the retrenchments.

“We were all very shocked when we heard about the retrenchment plans. We weren’t even told officially. Someone found the document and passed it on to our union, the South African Democratic Teacher’s Union (SADTU). We were very angry. The Department seemed not to care about us.



Photo by Kate Truscott

Teachers, parents and students joined hands to stop retrenchments in so-called “coloured” schools

We felt as if we had been thrown aside.

If the retrenchments had taken place women teachers would have been hardest hit.

**To destroy teachers is to destroy the culture of learning**

The retrenchments were aimed at temporary teachers who are mostly women. Schools have not been taking on permanent staff for some time. Instead they take on temporary teachers just for one school year. Temporary teachers don’t get things like housing subsidies and pension. They are on one month’s notice, so their

position is never secure.

In a school like this, the average class size is about 30 pupils per teacher. If you got rid of the temporary teachers, sizes of classes could increase to 50 or 60. Imagine one teacher for 50 to 60 children. That’s not teaching!

The retrenchments were also aimed at ‘temporary-indefinite’ teachers. When a woman teacher gets married, she becomes a ‘temporary-indefinite’ teacher, even though she may have been permanent before. These teachers don’t qualify for subsidies or other benefits. It is very sexist because it is only married women teachers who become ‘temporary-indefinite’.

# an injury to students”

When we heard about the retrenchments we had a mass meeting of all the teachers in this area. We decided that just demonstrations and placards were not enough and wouldn't affect the Department. People were very angry and emotional. One woman who has always been quiet before, said: 'Now is the time for action.' Most people voted in favour of a 'chalk down' (strike).

We have a good Students Representative Council (SRC) in this school. They understood the issues and supported us. It was more difficult for the parents because it was coming up to the matric exams. We called a mass meeting for all parents in Bosmont. The parents were worried about the schooling being disturbed, but we said: 'Do you want your

kids to be in a class of 60 next year?' So they said: 'OK, OK, we support you'.

We stopped teaching, but we did supervise the exams. Every morning we picketed along the main roads. One morning the parents blocked the main Maraisburg Road with drums and tyres. We picketed the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), because it was not covering our struggle. We had a sit-in at the Department of Education and several marches.

We saw an incredible change in some women who have never been active before. Mothers joined the pickets with their doeks and babies in tow. This is quite a conservative community, but now women were saying: 'I'm not cooking tonight, I'm staying on the

picket line. I'm not going home'. It really showed us that parents are concerned about the future of education.

Some people said our action was bad for our children's education, but the Department is destroying teachers. To destroy teachers is to destroy the culture of learning. Our action has helped teacher unity and community solidarity around education in this area.

As black women teachers, we have always taken orders from higher authorities. Now we have made a positive stand, we realise that as women and teachers we do have power. We have an equal role to play in a new South Africa.”

## STOP PRESS

Just before SPEAK went to printers, President F.W. de Klerk said the Ministry of Education had no right to withdraw the retrenchments and all retrenchments would go ahead as planned.

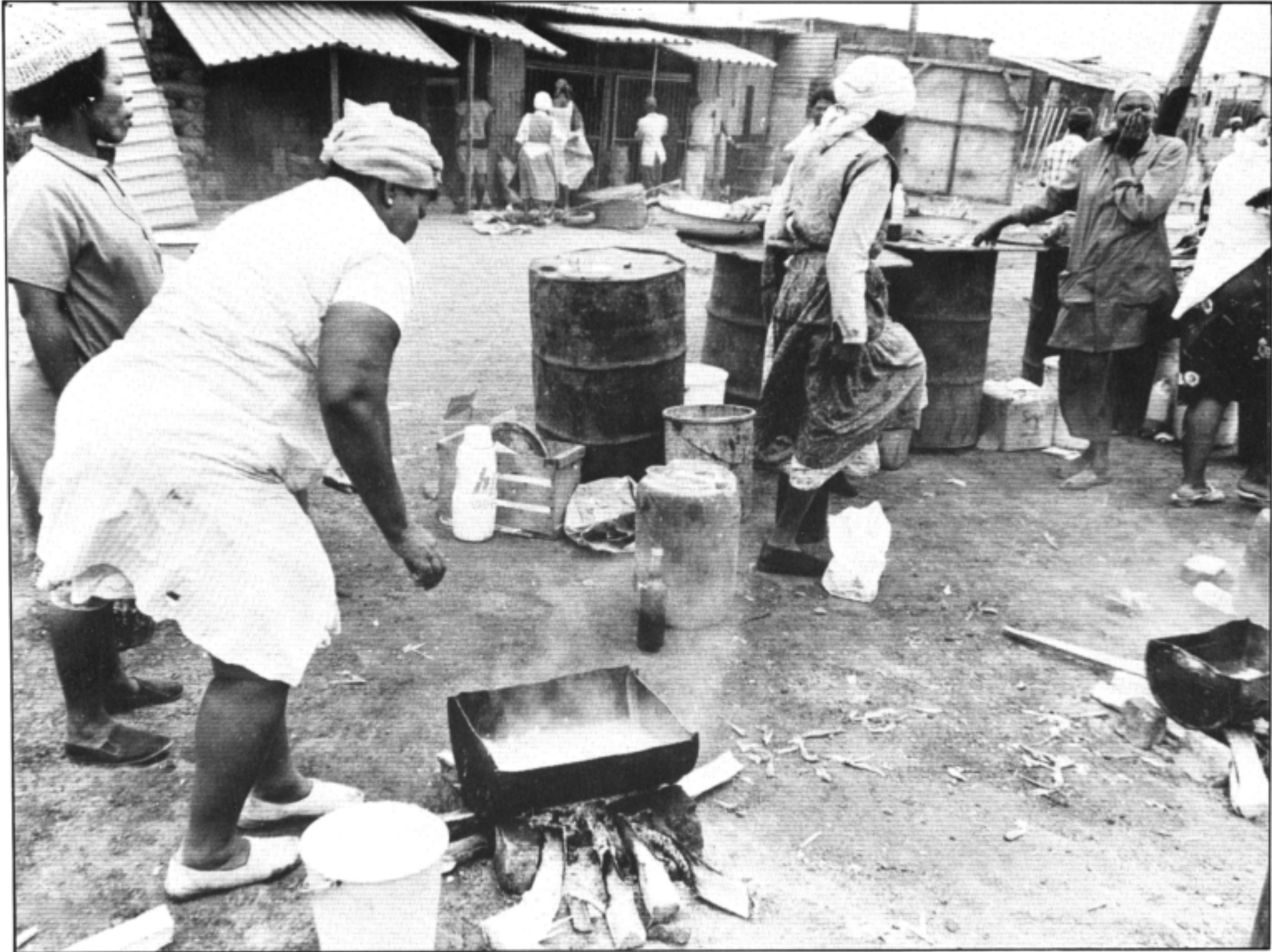
SPEAK contacted teachers Saloojee, Martin and Meyer. They said Transvaal teachers under the Department of Education have decided to continue fighting the retrenchment plans. They will do this by withholding exam results and reports from the Department of Education and from parents. ☺



"No more retrenchments" say teachers Nawaal Meyer, Lameez Saloojee and Glynis Martin



# THE BATTLE



**Cooking out in the open. Informal settlement, "Soweto", outside Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape. Photo by Cecil Sols, 1989.**

***Women are the backbone of communities - they are the ones who keep house and home together. In informal settlements (often called 'squatter camps'), the battle for survival is more difficult. These photographs from Dynamic Images photographers, Elmond Jiyane and Cecil Sols, show some of that struggle. They show the need for the government to see that each person has basic services, like secure homes, sewerage systems, running water and schools.***

# TO SURVIVE

**Forced to move.  
Municipal police  
bulldozed down  
people's homes in  
Dobsonville, Soweto,  
Southern Transvaal.  
Photo by Elmond  
Jiyane, 1990.**



**The struggle to make a living.  
"Soweto", outside Port  
Elizabeth, Eastern Cape.  
Photo by Cecil Sols, 1989.**

**The endless wait for water at Chicken Farm in  
Kliptown, Soweto, Southern Transvaal.  
Photo by Elmond Jiyane, 1992.**





# WORKERS' COLLEGE CHALLENGES SEXISM



Photo by Workers College

One of the classes of worker - students

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**Gender awareness is included in all the courses at the Western Cape Workers College. Pregs Govender told *Thoraya Pandy* why**

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**G**ender, gender, gender! Why must gender be part of every subject we do?" one of the male 'worker-students' asked Western Cape Workers College (WCWC) co-ordinator Pregs Govender recently.

"If we do not look at gender we only look at things from a man's point of view," she said.

The college was started two years ago to educate workers about labour issues and to build worker leadership. At first gender was not part of the courses, but now it is included in every course the students do.

SPEAK asked Govender what this meant. "It means looking at issues from the point of

view that women are not taken seriously in society.

"Almost everything in our society is seen from a man's point of view, for example, our school text books are full of ideas in favour of men.

"Even unions and progressive organisations are guilty of this," she said.

"We use Cosatu's policy booklet to explain to workers why it is important to be gender sensitive," said Govender. "Women workers, who work equally hard to build the Federation, are not considered in the booklet.

"Other educational materials we use are also full of sexist language and ideas. We challenge this sexism in all our classes and in this way raise gender awareness."

Not all the students were in favour of this. Some accused Govender of making it part of every course because she is a woman.

"We expected some workers to respond in this way, so we did not force it on them."

She said workers at the college discussed whether or not this idea should be put into practice.



Photo by Anna Zieminski

**Western Cape Workers College co-ordinator Pregs Govender: "We challenge sexism in all our classes and in this way raise gender awareness"**

"After some discussion, they agreed to include gender awareness and sensitivity in the course," said Govender.

The college was set up by Cosatu, Nactu and independent unions in the Western Cape about two years ago. It is still under their control.

The course includes subjects like labour law,

collective bargaining, organisational management and the history of trade unions in South Africa. Workers are also taught how to pass on these skills to other workers.

"Every three months we get a group of about 20 workers chosen by their unions," said Govender.

"Companies allow workers time off for the full three months. The college pays the salaries of the workers, which we call a bursary."

**"If we do not look at gender we only look at things from a man's point of view"**

Since last year, two groups of students have graduated.

At the time SPEAK interviewed Govender, another batch of workers was already in the benches.

At the end of every course workers prepare an educational-cultural event. They decide on the theme and different groups are set up to organise the event.

"I was surprised, and pleased, when the first group they set up was one looking at gender.

"The very man who accused me of raising gender issues because I am a woman was the first to volunteer to be part of that group," she said.

Govender added that men were in the majority in the gender group.

SPEAK asked Rachel Visser, who attended the college, what she thought of the course.

"It was wonderful learning to understand things like labour law and the trade union movement.

"I really learnt a lot and I strongly believe workers should be taught these things - not only union officials."

She said including gender awareness was good.

"It really opened my eyes to things I did not even think about.

"Today when I look at the Cosatu logo, I ask myself, 'Why does it have to be a man who is turning the wheel?' But the answer is simple. It does not have to be a man."

Suleiman Staggie told SPEAK, "Because of the college I realised how big and serious the problem of sexism is in our society, and also how difficult it is going to be to tackle it." ●



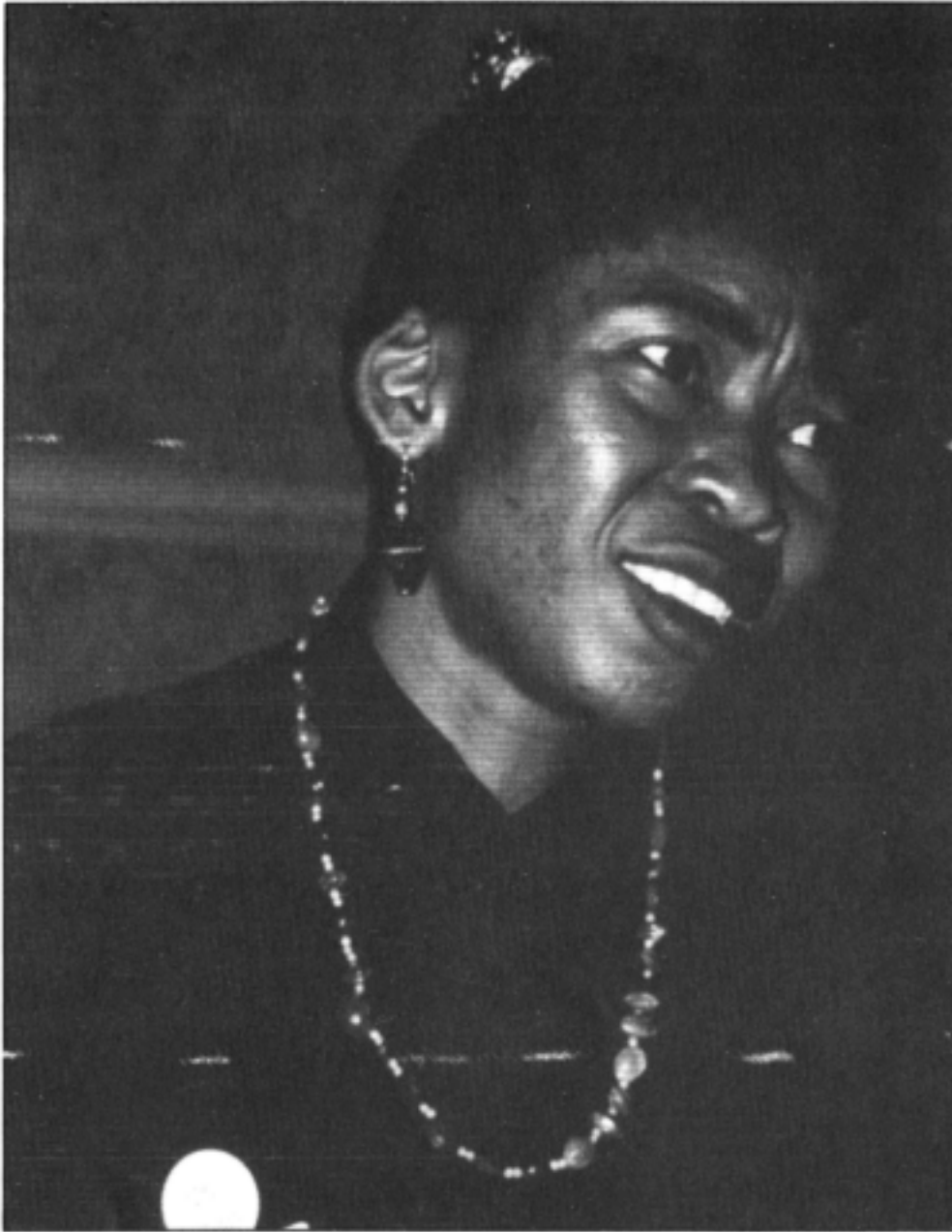


Photo by Tribune Magazine

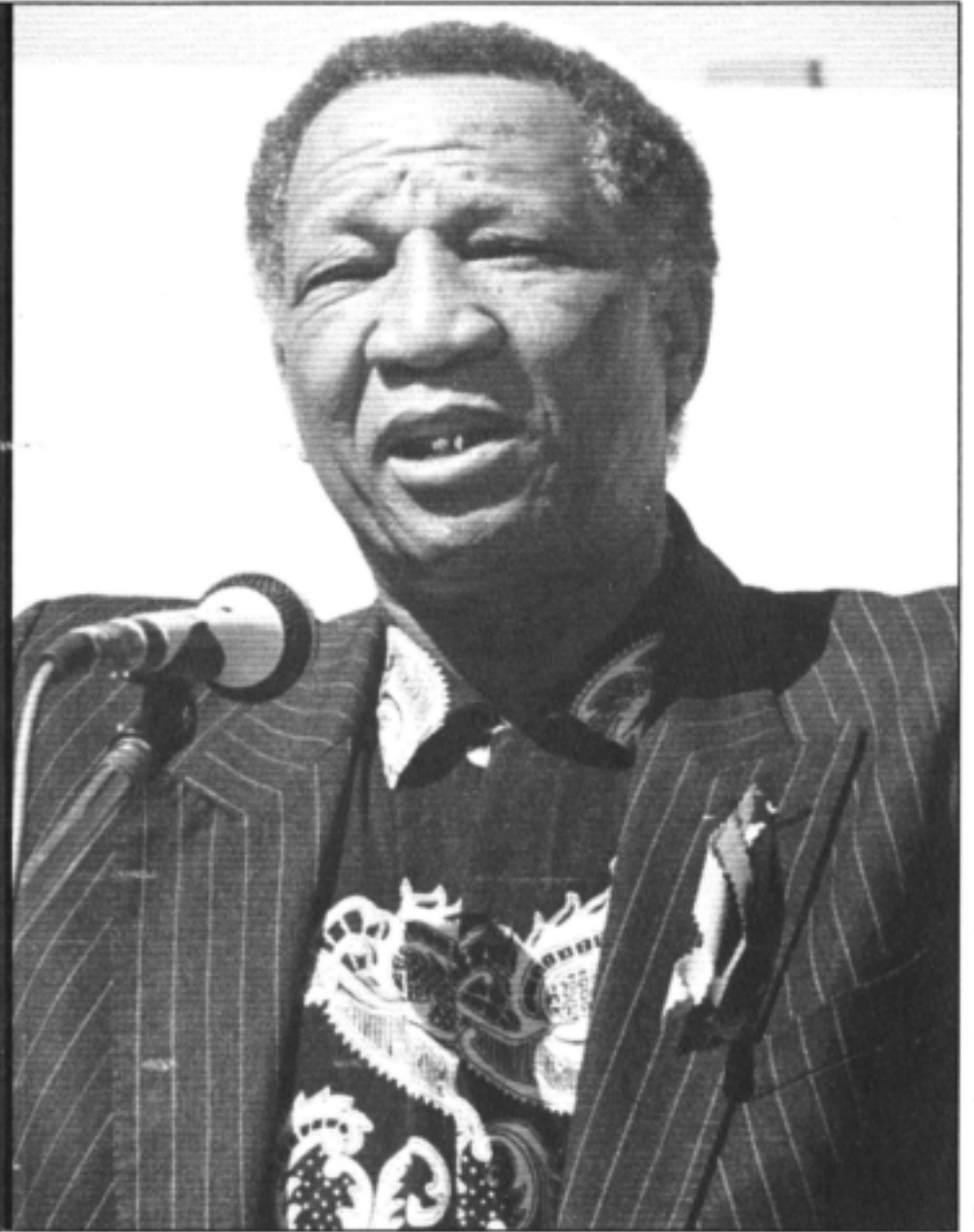


Photo by Elmond Jiyere Dynamic Image

Gcina Mhlope the writer of "The Singing Dog"

Don Mattera the writer of "The Five Magic Pebbles"

# Books for Our Children

**Treat your children to a book this Christmas and give them the gift of reading. Boitumelo Mofokeng looks at two South African children's books which could make possible presents**

**T**wo well-known South African writers, Don Mattera and Gcina Mhlope, have each written a book for children - books with which children and parents can identify with. I certainly enjoyed reading both of these books.

Mattera's 'The Five Magic Pebbles and other stories' is a collection of five folk tales about Africa. It is a book for older children who can read in English as well as young children. Parents who wish to read this book to their children would have to know about the rich cultural past of people of Africa.

I found that the most interesting and empowering story in the book is 'Rise Eagle Rise'. This story tells of how a university educated man believes he can make an eagle act like a chicken if he wants to. He says this will prove you can make people into anything you want as well. An old wise village man, who hasn't had all the university education, says this is untrue and wrong. He says you can't suppress the spirits of birds or people. The two take a bet on who is right.

Mhlope's book, 'The Singing Dog' has two stories inside. I really appreciated the way she

writes and the words she chooses and could often picture her telling the story herself.

The title story tells of how the dog, the very one we have in our homes, could sing in the olden days. In the story Mhlope says animals used to live as friends. Dog's best friend was Rabbit but Rabbit got jealous of Dog's sweet voice and ruined it. Since that day, Dog has never been able to sing and can only bark with a rough voice.

Both Mattera's and Mhlope's books have beautiful drawings in them, though sometimes the artists miss details of the written descriptions. In one of Mattera's stories, for example, the story teller is said to have her breast showing, but the picture shows her fully covered.

My son, who also read the books, spotted a few typing mistakes.

My other problem is that both books are not easy for children to hold. Pages could also easily fall apart as little hands struggle to keep the book open.

**South African writers Don  
Mattera and Gcina Mhlope  
have each written books with  
which children and parents  
can identify**

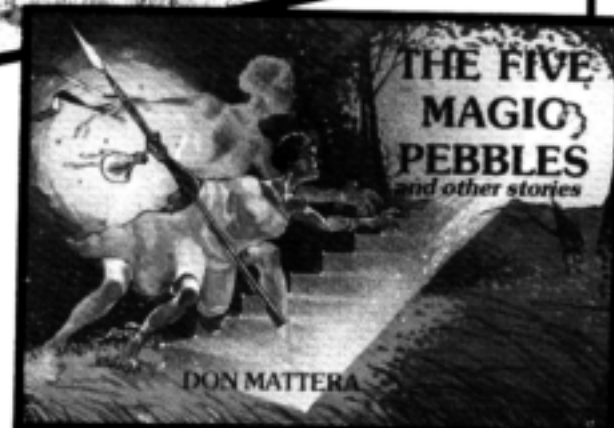
Since our own writers are now writing children's books, I think publishers should begin to rate these books and say what age group they are for. This would help parents choose books for their children.

'The Five Magic Pebbles' by Don Mattera and 'The Singing Dog' by Gcina Mhlope are both published by Skotaville Publishers. You can order these books from Skotaville Publishers, PO Box 32483, Braamfontein, 2017, Johannesburg.

'Five Magic Pebbles' costs R25.30 and 'The Singing Dog' R22.50.

You also stand a chance of winning one of these books - see the competition! ●

# WIN A CHILDREN'S BOOK



We are giving away five copies each of children's books "The Five Magic Pebbles" and "The Singing Dog". You could be the lucky winner of one of these books by answering the following questions:

1. Who is the publisher of "The Five Magic Pebbles" and "The Singing Dog"?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name the writer of either "The Five Magic Pebbles" or "The Singing Dog".  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. no. (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Send your entry form to: SPEAK Magazine, Christmas Book Competition, PO Box 261363, Excom, 2023, Johannesburg, South Africa. This competition is only open to people living in southern Africa. No employee or relative of an employee of SPEAK may enter this competition. The winner will be announced in the March 1993 issue of SPEAK, so make sure your entry form reaches us by 1 February 1993.





Award-winning Indian filmmaker Mira Nair recently visited South Africa to take part in the Weekly Mail film festival. *Thoraya Pandy* interviewed her

# Telling it like it is

Warmth, liveliness and humour - you will find all these in Indian film director Mira Nair's movies. Nair makes films about the struggles, joys and sorrows people face everyday. "The films I make are about things I feel passionate about - whether they are real life stories or fiction (make-believe)," said Nair.

Nair is not afraid of saying what she thinks. This comes across in her films.

Most of her films are about Indian society. She uses the camera to show people's lives and to question why people live the way they do.

Being a woman film director making films which challenge society is not easy. Nair has had to

work very hard to get her work respected and recognised.

"There are very few women directors who, like me, try to join real-life situations and fiction."

India produces many films but most Indian films give a picture of a society filled with happiness, love, and money. It is as if poverty and hardship do not exist in Indian society.

But Nair chooses to tell it like it is.

The name Mira Nair became known all over the world after the release of her films 'Salaam Bombay' in 1990 and 'Mississippi Masala' at the

beginning of 1992. These films were shown all over the world and were just as successful as films made in Hollywood.

Nair told SPEAK why and how she started to make films.

"I became interested in theatre and writing from an early age.

"I went to study at Harvard University in the United States because I saw it as a place where I could further my ideals," she said.

Instead, she found it difficult to relate to the things she was taught at Harvard.

"I knew I wanted to make films about my experiences and my community so I started making documentary films," said Nair.

"All my early films were made in India. It was really tough because I did not get any financial support in India," she added.

"I had to divide my time between filming in India and raising money for the films elsewhere."

Nair says her biggest problem, "was reaching

the people for whom my films were made. The documentaries I made were not widely shown in cinemas in India because they are different from most Indian movies.

"There was very little I could do. I was an independent film director and had no influence over where my movies were shown," she said.

Nair loves making films. Her greatest joy is when people who watched her movies tell her, "I understood your film because my life is like that" or "your film really opened my eyes".

Through her films she questions women's

position in society.

"In one of my movies about Indian cabaret dancers, I let them talk about how they became dancers and why.

"I wanted the audience to see and understand that cabaret dancers are human beings and not just sex objects," added Nair.

The film challenges the double standards of the men who watch the dancers and still say what they're doing is wrong.

For the past two years Nair has been living in Uganda with her Ugandan husband and one-year old son. Before



**"The films I make are about things I feel passionate about."**

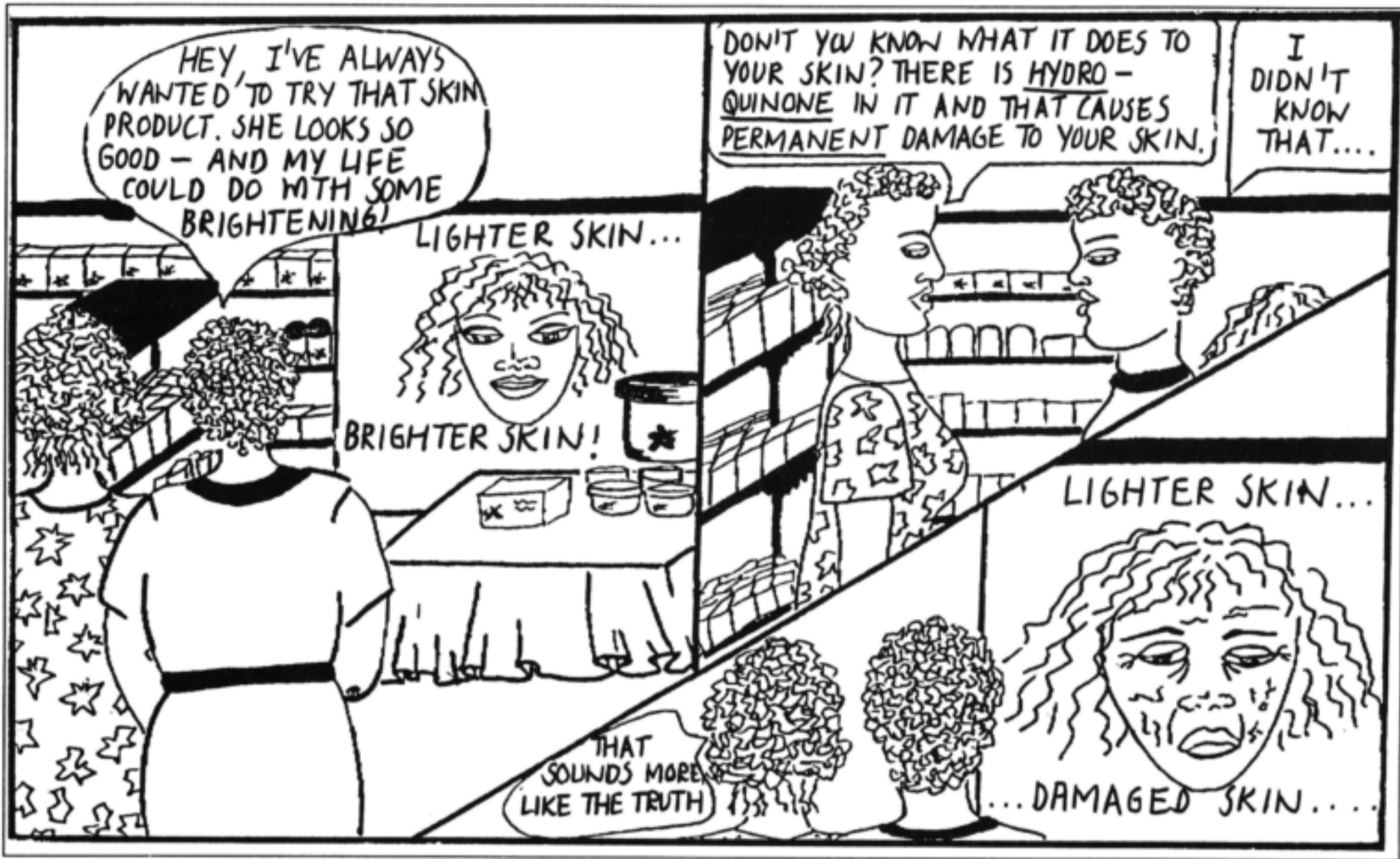
moving to Uganda, she divided her time between living in New York and filming in India.

Nair used her short visit to South Africa to plan for a film based on Athol Fugard's novel called 'Tsotsi'. The film will be made in South Africa.

Nair also held workshops with South African film-students. She has a strong commitment to working in communities and sharing her experiences and skills with people.

"Working all the time," she says smiling, "is what keeps me going!" ●





# SKIN LIGHTENING CREAM

Skin lightening creams were banned in South Africa and many other countries because they cause permanent damage to the skin. This followed years of campaigning by many organisations to ban these products.

These creams contain a substance called **hydroquinone**, which is very dangerous and harmful to the skin. When skin lightening cream is put on the face it bleaches the skin, making it lighter.

Hydroquinone, together with sunlight, causes dark patches to form on the skin. The skin becomes red and swollen.

**Skin lightening creams are still on shop shelves - even though they have been banned. Thoraya Pandy spoke to skin specialist Dr Zubi Hamed about these creams**

"After about four years, these patches become permanent. There is nothing that can be used to get rid of the marks," Hamed warned.

The damage caused by the skin lightening creams is called **ochronosis**.

She said women with

ochronosis are advised by their doctors to use a cream called cortisone which, they are told, will bring down the swelling.

"In many cases, cortisone cream causes damage like pimples, redness of the face, stretch marks, hairiness and bleeding under the skin."

If skin lightening creams have been banned in South Africa why are they still being sold?

"Many of these creams do not list the ingredients on the bottles. They are sold as facial creams and are usually very cheap," she said.

"Women do not know what they are using is dangerous!"



Photo by Steve Rotherberg

This is what skin lightening cream can do to your skin

Hamed said some advertisements mislead women into buying things that might be cheap but are harmful to them, while others encouraged women to buy expensive cosmetics they could not afford.

“A woman sees an advertisement and believes her skin will become light and clear like in the advertisement.

“This does not happen!

“Many of the skin problems women have are due to cosmetics

and creams containing hydroquinone,” said Hamed.

She said people should be proud of the colour of their skin and not try to make themselves lighter. What they should worry about is whether or not they have a healthy skin.

**Hamed offers some advice:**

● **IF YOUR SKIN HAS BEEN DAMAGED BY SKIN LIGHTENING CREAMS:**

■ The marks on the skin will not go away no matter what

you use.

■ Sunscreens can be applied to protect it from sunlight - which causes more damage.

It also covers up the marks making them less visible.

**WHAT YOU CAN USE FOR YOUR SKIN**

■ Soaps that have very little or no perfume. Look on the wrapping of the soap;

■ Vitamin E creams for different skin types;

■ Aqueous creams for different skin types;

■ Ordinary vaseline or sunscreen if your skin is dry;

■ If you have skin which is allergic to a number of creams you should visit a skin specialist or talk to your chemist.

Most of these products can be bought at any chemist. It is advisable to speak to your chemist before buying any of these creams.

Remember, you don't have to buy expensive products to have a beautiful skin. ☆

● **WARNING:** Do not buy any products that contain hydroquinone OR products that do not list the ingredients on the label.

## Challenge

*A New Ecumenical Magazine of Church and People*

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# FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

"Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe" is a film with a difference. It is a film about close friendship among women - unlike most films which show women fighting each other over some man. The film is based on the book of the same name by Fannie Flag.

The film shows the friendship between two sets of women. Bored, overweight housewife Evelyn Couch (acted by Kathy Bates) meets 80-year-old Ninny Threadgoode (Jessica Tandy) at a nursing home.

Evelyn is fascinated by Ninny's stories of the adventures of two young women in her home town, Whistle Stop in Alabama, many years before.

As Ninny tells the story, the film switches to Whistle Stop, showing the life of Idgie Threadgoode (Mary Stuart Masterson), a rough,

tough young woman who refuses to behave like a lady, and her gentle, ladylike friend, Ruth (Mary Louise Parker). Idgie and Ruth run the Whistle Stop Cafe together. The film gets its name from one of their special dishes, fried green tomatoes.

Idgie and Ruth refuse to take

The film moves back and forth between Ninny and Evelyn and Idgie and Ruth. As Evelyn listens to Ninny's stories, she gets the courage to face the emptiness and frustration in her own life, and she eventually invites Ninny to live with her.

"Fried Green Tomatoes" is a film about deep friendship, loyalty and solidarity between people who suffer discrimination - women, black people, old people and fat people. This film celebrates the tradition of story-telling by showing how important it is for one generation to pass on its stories to another. It also shows the important role of



Photo by Steer-Kinekar (PTY)/LTD

**Idgie (Mary Stuart Masterson) and Big George (Stan Shaw) working out a plan in "Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe"**

part in the racism against black people which was common in the southern part of the United States of America.

Idgie angers the white community through her close friendship with a black worker, Big George (Stan Shaw), and his mother Sipse (Cicely Tyson).

old people in our lives. If you are tired of seeing empty-headed women in soap operas, go and see "Fried Green Tomatoes". ☺

*By Masepeke Sekhukhuni*

*The book "Fried Green Tomatoes" by Fannie Flag is published by Vintage Press. It costs R40.99*

# Women of Africa

We women of Africa  
Have suffered so much  
In the hands of the law  
Being taken as inferiors  
Being deprived of our rights  
At work and at home

We say  
No matter how long the distance can be  
No matter how slippery the road can be  
No matter how high the mountain can be  
We won't go back  
We will move forward  
Until we reach our destiny  
So,  
Let's join hands and move forward  
And say

**FREEDOM NOW!**

*by Sma Khubeka*



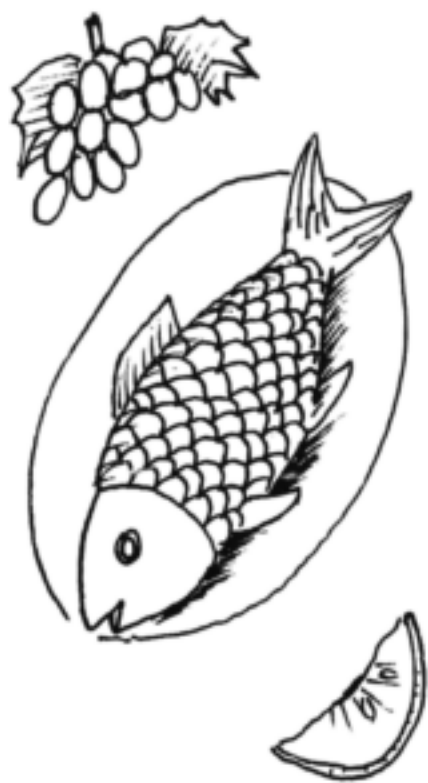


# Eating for

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**Eat for your health this Christmas.**  
**Kate Truscott gives a few words of advice**

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**D**id you know - eating certain foods can lead to high blood pressure?

Did you know - more women are getting diabetes (too much sugar in the blood) and this is linked to what they eat?

Did you know - you don't need special diets or tablets to lose weight or eat more healthily?

It's coming up to Christmas. Many of us are going to spend a lot of our hard earned money on nice food so we can enjoy ourselves.

But what do you think is nice food? A big joint of beef? A lovely chocolate cake with butter icing? A rich cream or ice cream dessert? If so, **BE CAREFUL**. Don't be one of the thousands of people who turn up at clinics in January suffering from diabetes, constipation and headaches caused by high blood pressure.

Health experts say we eat too much fat, sugar, salt and starch. This causes more heart, kidney and joint problems than we ever used to have in the past.

The reason is simple. Traditionally, people did not eat meat every day. They ate more vegetables and got protein from

things like beans, cowpeas or nuts. They ground their own meal for pap, bread, or mahewu. This meal was rougher and still contained all the goodness of grains like millet, sorghum and maize. People got their sugar by eating fruits or honey and they used far less salt than they do today.

Nowadays, we eat too much fat like red meat or fatty margarine and cooking lard. We eat the very white refined (No 1) mealie meal which has almost no protein left in it. We eat too much refined sugar by putting three or four spoonfuls in tea and coffee, drinking cool drinks or eating sweets and biscuits. We also eat too much starch like white bread, cakes or vetkoecks and junk food like chips and hamburgers.

All this increases the fat and sugar in our bodies to unnatural levels. Our bodies can't use these fats and sugars and they stay in our blood vessels, on our muscles and around the heart, especially if we spend a lot of time sitting down. Our bodies cannot work properly with this extra load, and we get tired and sick.

But don't despair. It is not difficult to tackle this problem.

# the Future



Photo by Kate Truscott

Women have traditionally grown the most nutritious grains like sorghum. A Zimbabwean farmer proudly shows off her sorghum crop

**Here are four simple steps to improve your health:**

■ **Cut down on fat**

Eat less red meat. Switch to chicken and fish. Cut as much fat and skin off the meat as you can. Try to eat more vegetables, especially fresh ones. Grill or boil meat or fish instead of frying or roasting it. Use "light" margarine or vegetable oils for cooking.

■ **Eat less sugar**

Try to cut out sugar in tea and coffee. Try drinking herb teas for a change. Cut out fizzy cool drinks. Real fruit juices which say "no sugar added" are healthier. Try to drink more water, especially in hot weather. Try to eat more fresh fruit. The natural sugar in fruit is much better than refined sugars in sweets, chocolates and biscuits. You will soon find you begin to lose your "sweet tooth", as well as feel much better.

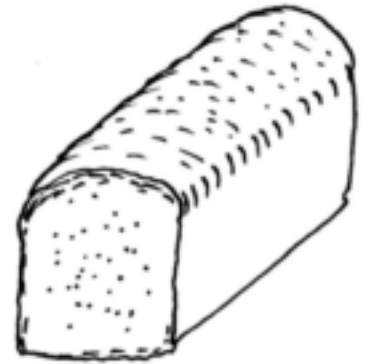
■ **Eat less salt**

Foods like vegetables, bread and cereals have all the salt which our bodies need. We don't need to add more salt when cooking. Many packet soups and flavourings contain a lot of salt. Instead of salt try to use more herbs and spices.

■ **Eat more unrefined starch**

Buy brown bread or whole wheat bread instead of white. Use No. 2 mealie meal instead of No. 1. If you bake, mix your white flour with whole meal flour or coarse meal, which will give cakes and biscuits a lovely flavour. Add some bran to your porridge. You can also add coarse meal to pap. All of these things contain protein as well as roughage which helps your digestion and prevents constipation. ☺

*Many thanks to nutritionist Lungile Bengu for help with this article.*





## Talking about a condom

**Here are some things you can say when your partner says he doesn't want to use a condom**

**When he says:** By the time I put it on, I'm not in the mood.

**You say:** We have time, we can get back into the mood.

**When he says:** So far we have not used a condom, why now?

**You say:** Because now I know more about AIDS.

**When he says:** I won't have sex with you then.

**You say:** So let's not have sex until we can agree.

**When he says:** You carry a condom around with you? Like a prostitute!

**You say:** I carry one with me because I care about myself. I have one with me now, because I care about us both.

**When he says:** I love you! I wouldn't give you an infection.

**You say:** Many people don't know they're infected.

**When he says:** I can't feel a thing when I wear a condom!

**You say:** Give it a try. I'm sure you'll still feel a lot.

**When he says:** Just this once!

**You say:** Once is all it takes!

**When he says:** I don't have a condom with me.

**You say:** I do.

Thanks to the AIDS Centre, PO Box 1038, Johannesburg 2000.

### APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR:

#### Access Course Programme

organised by The Peninsula Technikon - Danida - ANC repatriation.

#### WHO CAN APPLY

Students who want to further their studies at Technikon level but lack entry requirements:

- Students with "O" levels GCE certificate/with Std 9
- Students who failed or received poor symbols for Matric or the National Senior Certificate
- Standard 8 with work experience in the proposed field of study

#### PROPOSED INTAKE AND DURATION

- 200 students
- 6 months (from January 93 - June 93) full time

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#### HOW TO APPLY

Apply in writing enclosing your latest school report or certificate to:

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Centre for Continuing Education  
PO Box 1906  
BELVILLE  
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**Access Course Programme**  
Repatriation Committee  
PO Box 61884  
MARSHALLTOWN  
2107

Fax: 021-959-6107

Fax: 011-333-4509  
011-29-3616

Or apply in person through any ANC, NCCR offices, Batlagae Trust, Saset or the Peninsula Technikon in Cape Town.

#### SELECTION

Selection will be done through written assessment exercises on communication skills, numeracy skills and functional mathematics.

#### CLOSING DATE

Applications must reach us not later than 15 November 1992. Women who respond with this advertisement can still apply until the 15th of January 1993.

South African  
**LABOUR  
BULLETIN**

South African  
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**S A Labour Bulletin** has articles about unions; strikes and other labour action; community issues; and about the politics of the working class. It is read by a wide range of people and is used by unions and other organisations as part of their education programmes.

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SALB P O Box 3851 JHB 2000 Tel: (011) 337 8511

# As a matter of fact...

## **Victory for domestic workers**

The SA government has finally given in to union demands to include domestic and farm workers under labour laws. This means these workers will soon have rights like: set working hours, overtime pay, annual leave, sick leave and maternity leave. Unions are still fighting for a minimum wage of R450 a month to be set down in the law.

## **Bara AIDS figures**

At least two HIV-positive women deliver babies daily at Baragwanath Hospital according to a top gynaecologist. He said about 200 women were found to be HIV-positive in the first eight months of this year and that about 20 000 women living in Soweto could be HIV-positive. It is estimated there are 400 new HIV infections in South Africa every day.

## **Fighting for legal prostitution**

"No bad women, only bad laws," is one of the slogans used by a British group in their campaign for prostitution to be made legal. The English Collective of Prostitutes started their campaign with similar messages on 90 posters pasted across London.

## **Girl wins right to abortion**

A 14-year-old teenager from Cape Town won the right to a legal abortion recently after her mother took her to court to try to stop the abortion. The girl was allegedly raped by a 17-year-old boy who is known to her.

## **SA jails full of children**

A shocking 4 000 children are being held in prisons and police cells around South Africa, according to the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro).

## **Jo'burg - murder capital of the world?**

Fifty two people a day are killed in Johannesburg, says the Centre for Peace Action. This makes Johannesburg the murder capital of the world. The Centre said one in six women are battered and a woman is raped every 83 seconds.



Graphic by the International Women's Tribute centre, INC.

GIVE  
CREDIT  
WHERE  
CREDIT  
IS DUE

**African women farmers produce  
90% of domestically consumed food.**

## **Britain says yes to women priests**

The Church of England has voted in favour of women becoming priests. A two-thirds majority vote was passed by the General Synod which represents bishops, clergy and ordinary churchgoers. It will be at least 18 months before women in Britain can be ordained.

## **China passes law to protect women**

The Chinese government now officially

## **Moscow police to fight rape**

Moscow police have set up a special sex squad to fight increasing sex crimes like rape, kidnapping and child prostitution. Police say gang rapes are increasing daily and in some cases, victims are kidnapped and held for days as "sex slaves".

recognises that women are discriminated against - and they are doing something about it. The government has passed a law to stop discrimination in the home, workplace and society and promote affirmative action for women in the workplace. ♣



# Taxi Talk



Artist: Zenda Woodman

It is that wonderful time of the year once again. It is the time when family members are meant to be together, showing how much they love one another. In South Africa, Christmas brings images of family braais and picnics, parties under the stars on lovely warm nights. Yes, it is indeed that time of the year, the silly season, Christmas season.

Picture Victor Maseko sitting on his veranda sipping a cold beer. Little Lerato and her friends are running around, screaming for a biscuit, an orange, dropping crumbs and peels everywhere. The teenage daughter, Masego, sits gossiping with friends, munching chocolate and playing very loud music. Vusi, the only son, is not even at home. He disappeared early in the morning without telling anyone where he was going. Everyone is having a good time.

Or are they? What about Lindiwe Maseko, wife to Victor and mother to Lerato, Masego and Vusi? She is somewhere in the house stuck behind a hot stove, or in the bedroom with a broom and duster. Such is the life of this Cinderella.

Has anyone ever stopped and thought what Christmas means to most women? If you are a mother, you are the one who has to provide snacks,

*Christmas! Oh no,  
not again!*

*Says Nana Gumede*

meals, clothes, and a cleaning service for everyone. Your husband relies on you to go with him to parties where he expects you to sparkle and

show that you are clever and smart. Your children volunteer your services at the church party to bake and cook for the hungry multitudes. Everybody has a claim to your life. You spend all your time serving others.

I feel guilty when I think of what we used to do to our mother - dragging her all over town looking for Christmas clothes and presents. Friends and relatives had a standing invitation to pop in any-time. Our father gave out invitations so fast and furiously, poor Mum never had a chance. When it came to preparing Christmas lunch, none of us ever offered to help. Only the threat of Dad's belt made us jump around. Looking back now, I know we were unfair to our mother.

To most women, Christmas is **not** a time of joy, a time of sharing, a time of giving **and** receiving. It is more a time of giving and giving and giving... their time, their services, of their money, their everything - with the rest the family doing all the receiving. I wonder how many women actually look forward to Christmas. ◉

# NOTICE BOARD

List of some Gay and Lesbian organisations in South Africa:

- Association of Bisexual, Gays & Lesbians (ABIGALE)  
Telephone: (021) 241 532  
ask for Miedi
- Gay and Lesbian Organisation of the Witwatersrand (Glow)  
Tel: (011) 403 4254 (W)  
ask for Cecil
- Association of Gay Activists (AGA)  
Monde Bazibuko  
NY 115  
26 Gugulethu  
7750, Cape Town
- Gay Association fo SA (GASA)  
Telephone : (021) 236 826
- Organisation of Lesbian and Gay Activists (OLGA)  
PO Box 7315, Roggebaai,  
8021
- Sunday's Women  
PO Box 37992  
Overport  
Durban  
4067

## WIN!!!

### WOMEN'S NATIONAL COALITION DESIGN COMPETITION

Our coalition needs a logo.

**TO SHOW:**  
Our combined strength,  
our remarkable diversity,  
(We represent more than 60 different women's  
organisations from all  
walks of life and from all parts of the country).  
We are committed to a non-sexist, non-racist  
South Africa  
and effective equality for women.

We want the new constitution to reflect the views  
of all South Africans.

**CAN YOU CREATE A LOGO THAT WILL SHOW ALL  
THESE MESSAGES AT A GLANCE?**  
If so, you can win a prize of **R2 000** in cash.

We invite any imaginative person  
not more than 24 paper and in  
to submit their designs on A4 paper and in  
if so, you can win a prize of R2 000 in cash.  
The logo must be suitable for letterheads, buttons,  
and it must photocopy clearly.

#### SUBMIT TO:

Women's National Coalition Logo Competition.

At either:  
Western Cape Regional Office  
P O Box 13078, Mowbray, 7705.  
or  
Southern National Region Office  
5 Kings Avenue, Westville, 3630.

or  
Johannesburg Regional Office  
P O Box 72136, Parkview, 2122.

#### DEADLINE:

To reach us not later than **25 January 1993**  
The finalists will be selected by a panel of artists  
on a regional and national level,  
and the winner announced at a special function.

For more details, or extra entry forms, please contact  
the secretary at National Headoffice,  
P O Box 62319, Marshalltown, 2107.  
Contact Tel: (011) 331-5958/7

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IN SPEAK, GET IT TO US BY THE  
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A directory of more than 400 organisations and  
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by the Human Awareness Programme (HAP). The  
directory is an up to date resource package providing  
names, telephone no's, addresses, etc about the  
various organisations.

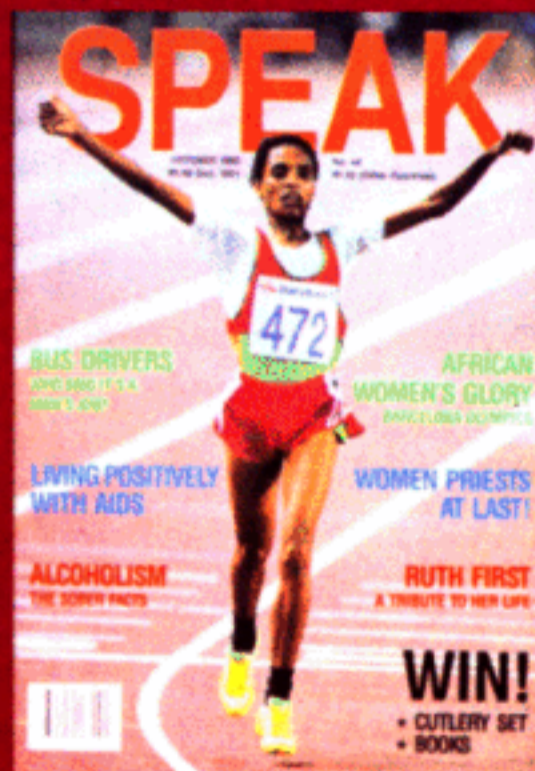
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