

RED CEDAR MODEL UNITED NATIONS SESSION IX



Nelson Mandela's Cabinet, 1995

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Delegates,

I am very excited to welcome you all to Michigan State University for the ninth session of the Red Cedar Model United Nations (RCMUN)! My name is Alison Shereda and I will be the Chair of Nelson Mandela's Cabinet, 1995. For this conference, we will be debating a major issue that is often overshadowed when discussing post-Apartheid reform: public health accessibility.

Before I go on, I'd like to introduce myself as well as my incredible staff! I am currently a junior at James Madison College, where I study Comparative Cultures and Politics with minors in Anthropology, International Development, and International Agriculture and Natural Resources. I am originally from Macomb Township, Michigan and I have been involved in Model UN for 6 years. This is my third year as a staffer with RCMUN and MSUMUN. Last year I served as the Chair for the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, and prior to that I served as an Assistant Chair for DISEC:1962. In addition to MSUMUN, I am also an active member of the International Relations Organization, MSU's travel MUN team, where I serve as one of the Vice Presidents of Conference Preparation. When I'm not doing anything related to MUN or school (which is almost never), I enjoy watching Netflix, eating Ben and Jerry's ice cream, and spending way too much time in local coffee shops.

Hello all! My name is Chloe Weigel and I am a freshman at Michigan State University. I am in James Madison College, but have not yet declared a major. This is my fifth year doing Model UN, and I am also a member of the competitive team here on campus, the International Relations Organization. When I'm not studying, I can almost always be found doing something MUN related, reading, spending time with friends, or drinking too much coffee.

My name is Harnoor Kaur and I am a freshman studying Criminal Justice and Political Science here at Michigan State. I am originally from a small city called Chandigarh in India, and this is my fifth year doing Model UN. In addition to working with MSUMUN, I am an Advocacy Officer for UNICEF at MSU. When I am not studying or working, I enjoy talking politics, writing poetry, looking at videos of puppies, and going to art museums. I am also unhealthily obsessed with candy!

Nina is currently a Sophomore in James Madison College studying Comparative Cultures and Politics. This is her second year doing MSUMUN! When she is not doing MSUMUN things, she participates in W.E.B. Dubois, and is a mentee in a big sister-little sister organization. Before coming to MSU she lived in Detroit. In her free time, she enjoys swimming and drawing portraits. If you had more time, she would definitely be sleeping.

On behalf of the dias of Nelson Mandela's Cabinet, 1995, we look forward to an incredible weekend!

Best,
Alison Shereda

Chair, Nelson Mandela's Cabinet, 1995

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01 March 1995

Dear friends,

I thank you all for joining us today for this meeting of my Cabinet. To the Ministers and Cabinet officials present, I look forward to seeing you mobilize the resources of your department to improve the lives of South Africans. To the activists, Premiers, and members of Parliament that have accepted my invitation to this meeting, thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to join us for this momentous occasion.

As you all know, this is a momentous time in the history of South Africa. The apartheid regime ended nearly a year ago today, which has ensured the equality of all South Africans under the law. However, we are still reeling from its negative impacts. While we have made great progress in making a better South Africa for all, the fight has not yet been won.

For this meeting, I give you all an issue that I believe to be of the utmost importance when rebuilding our nation. Please consider this topic thoroughly, and established programs that you believe will make great strides in improving the lives of South Africans.

Today, I would like you all to consider the system of public health in South Africa. We are in the midst of a public health crisis, which is a crisis that is often overlooked. The disparities of health care between public and private, wealthy and poor, are excessive and must be corrected. Infectious diseases are hindering the lives of South Africans, and we must take steps to alleviate the burden of diseases like HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis.

I urge you all to work diligently to make these necessary reforms and create programs for South Africa. I know the duration of this meeting is long and tiresome, but this will generate improvements for the lives of people across the country.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "N. Mandela". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nelson R. Mandela

History of South Africa

Colonization and its Impact

Because of its location in both the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, European involvement in South Africa originates 15th century, when the Portuguese determined the Cape of Good Hope to be an important trading port. Before to the eighteenth century, Portuguese, French, British, and Dutch all were involved in the area, with British and Dutch citizens creating the most long-term settlements. In 1806, Britain obtained control of Cape Colony during the Napoleonic Wars. “Initially the colony’s importance was related to its function as a strategic base to protect Britain’s developing empire in India...however it also served as a market, a source of raw materials, and an outlet for emigration from Britain.”¹

British control of South Africa was fueled by geographic convenience. It was a trade route to India, as well as the desire to obtain natural resources such as gold and diamonds. British occupation resulted in conflict with the Boers (or Afrikaanders), which are South Africans of Dutch, German, or Huguenot descent, since these individuals disliked the industrial and business development brought about by the British. Additionally, the Boers disagreed with the British oppression of native South Africans.²

Tensions between the Boers and British came to a high point during the Boer Wars, which took place from 1899-1902. “By mid-June 1900, British forces had captured most major Boer cities and formally annexed their territories, but the Boers launched a guerilla war that frustrated the British occupiers.” The following year, in 1901, the British began destroying the

¹ Cobbing, Julian R.D., and Colin J. Bundy. “Growth of the Colonial Economy.” Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., October 27, 2019. <https://www.britannica.com/place/South-Africa/Growth-of-the-colonial-economy>.

² “The National Archives, British Empire.” The National Archives. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/empire/g2/cs3/background.htm>.

guerilla units, while forcing the families of Boer soldiers into concentration camps. By 1902, the Boer resistance had been eliminated and hostilities ended with the Peace of Vereeniging.³

The terms of peace were considered generous, since by 1910 the Boers “ruled a South Africa that was virtually independent from Britain.” However, native South Africans continued at a major disadvantage. They had few rights under the British, but became even worse off when South Africa became independent.⁴

Establishing an Apartheid State

White supremacy had become a central part of South African policy in the decades leading up to the official establishment of an apartheid state. This is shown in the 1913 Land Act, which marked the beginning of land segregation by “forcing black Africans to live in reserves and making it illegal for them to work as sharecroppers.”⁵ Opponents of this legislation went on to form the South African National Native Congress, which would become the African National Congress (ANC).

In 1948, Dr. D.F. Malan led the National Party in a campaign that centered around an openly racist platform with appeals to white unity. The platform stated that “if elected it would make permanent these reserves under the joint fundamental principles of separation and trusteeship.” The party was victorious, winning 80 seats in South Africa’s parliament compared to the 64 seats held by the United Party. On paper, apartheid “appeared to call for equal

³ “Boer War Begins in South Africa.” History.com. A&E Television Networks, February 9, 2010. <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/boer-war-begins-in-south-africa>.

⁴ “The National Archives, British Empire.” The National Archives. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/empire/g2/cs3/background.htm>.

⁵ “Apartheid.” History.com. A&E Television Networks, October 7, 2010. <https://www.history.com/topics/africa/apartheid>.

development and freedom of cultural expression,” but it actually called for the separate development of different racial groups.⁶ Similar to segregation in the United States, this was executed by forcing these groups to live in different areas, stop intermarriage, as well as social integration. While apartheid did not differ extremely from already existing policies, the Nationalist Party made apartheid formally a part of the law.⁷ Additionally, this legislation was introduced at a time when nations were beginning to move away from segregationist practices.

Anti-Apartheid Activism

Beginning in 1948, South Africa became legally defined as an Apartheid state. Apartheid is best defined as rigid social structure that was defined by race dominated the continent, which was preceded by colonialism. However, there were many activists within the nation that fought for its end in order to create a more equitable country. In 1952, the African National Congress (ANC) banded together in an effort to combat the apartheid structure; asserting that “South Africa belongs to all that live in it, black or white” Although the state government was seemingly able to end opposition such as that, resistance was always present. One of the first acts of rebellion took place in Sharpeville during 1960, in which police responded to the protest with open fire; killing 69 black South Africans.⁸

⁶ “A History of Apartheid in South Africa.” South African History Online. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/article/history-apartheid-south-africa>.

⁷ Ibid

⁸ “Apartheid.” Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., September 5, 2019. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/apartheid>.



This was a signal that change was truly needed, and so the ANC formed militant wings. Even though they were never a security threat to South Africa, the message was clear: Apartheid had to end. These actions led to the arrest and

imprisonment of Nelson Mandela in 1963. However, this struggle reached its peak during the Soweto Protests in 1976 when Black children protesting the Afrikaans language requirement for black African students were fired upon by police officers.⁹

All of these events resulted in the ultimate collapse of apartheid. After much pressure from the international community, in 1989 current Prime Minister P.W. Botha resigned as he felt he could not control the county, and Fredrik William de Klerk took his place. With his new power, de Klerk lifted the ban on the ANC and all other political parties, along with releasing all political prisoners.¹⁰ Thus, on February 11th, 1990 Nelson Mandela walked out of prison a free man, a symbol for the beginning of a new South Africa.

The End of Apartheid

Before his resignation, P.W. Botha instituted reforms as a result of pressure from the international community. These reforms implemented under the National Party include the abolition of pass laws and bans on interracial marriage, but significant change did not occur.¹¹

⁹ History.com Editors. "Apartheid." History.com, October 7, 2010. https://www.history.com/topics/africa/apartheid#section_5.

¹⁰ "The End of Apartheid." U.S. Department of State. U.S. Department of State. Accessed October 28, 2019. <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/pcw/98678.htm>.

¹¹ "Apartheid." History.com. A&E Television Networks, October 7, 2010. <https://www.history.com/topics/africa/apartheid>.

Botha's successor, F.W. de Klerk, repealed most social legislation that provided a legal basis for apartheid, including the Population Registration Act. A new constitution that focused on including previously disenfranchised Blacks and other racial groups was instituted in 1993 and took effect in 1994.¹² While apartheid came to an end legally, racial discrimination is still deeply integrated into South African society and continues today.

Nelson Mandela Becomes President¹³

Nelson Mandela became the first Black president of South Africa in 1994, as well as the first democratically elected president following the end of apartheid. It should be noted that this position is not an easy one to fill. Post-apartheid South Africa was experiencing judicial, economic,



societal, and public welfare related issues that needed intense reform. Mandela held an important role in maintaining peace and balance during tense political times when the new government was in the process of forming.

Mandela began his formal political career when he was elected the president of the African National Congress in 1991. In this role, Mandela “continued to negotiate with President

¹² “Apartheid.” Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., September 5, 2019. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/apartheid>.

¹³ “The Nelson Mandela Presidency - 1994 to 1999.” South African History Online. Accessed October 30, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/article/nelson-mandela-presidency-1994-1999>.

F.W. de Klerk toward they country’s first non-racial elections.” Violence across South Africa ensued during negotiations, resulting in the 1993 assassination of ANC and SACP leaders Chris Hani. Thus, Mandela was under large amounts of pressure to keep “a delicate balance of political pressure and intense negotiations in the midst of the demonstrations.” He was a major figure in negotiations at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) and worked as a mediator between different parties and racial groups. White South Africans believed power in the government should be shared, however Black South Africans desired a complete transfer of power. That same year, because of their work towards abolishing the apartheid state, Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

On April 27, 1994, South Africa held its first democratic elections, and the ANC won 62.65% of the vote. Weeks later, Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa’s first black president. The ANC formally established the Government of National Unity (GNU) which is headed by Mandela.

Topic: Public Health Accessibility

Introduction

Unfortunately, the legacy of Apartheid is evident in the systems of health care in South Africa. Major divides exist within this system as a result of wealth and racial inequalities. The privatized system of health care is very well-developed, yet it is extremely expensive and favors white citizens. The public health care system, on the other hand, is more commonly accessed by Black South Africans and lacks the strong infrastructure and resources to provide proper care. This has increased the burden of disease faced by Black South Africans, and limits their access to proper treatment. The committee should, when solving this issue, consider these existing inequalities in order to develop reforms to the health sector in South Africa.

History of the Topic

Even though no legislation was officially passed about healthcare during the Apartheid era, the inequality was reflected in the quality of health services available. Hospitals were segregated and white citizens had primary access to



healthcare during the Apartheid.¹⁴ The history of racial discrimination, failed labor systems, vast inequalities, and extreme violence all contributed to serious issues in public health services¹⁵

During Apartheid, health services for Black Africans were scarce, and created a clear health disparity. Hospitals for Blacks were widely understaffed and did not have the technology that was available to hospitals meant for white South Africans.¹⁶ The system of healthcare during Apartheid "not only limited access to health care for Blacks and often ignored quality-of-care guidelines but also created an environment in which abuses such as the refusal of emergency care treatment, falsification of medical records, denial or limitation of Blacks' access to ongoing medical care, and mistreatment of the mentally ill could occur."¹⁷ Access to resources for healthcare remain greatly inferior to Black citizens in 1995, and it is up to this body to figure out how the quality of health services is going to improve and become equitable for all.

¹⁴ Lowe, Christopher C., and Alan S. Mabin. "South Africa: Security." Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., July 26, 1999. <https://www.britannica.com/place/South-Africa/Security>.

¹⁵ Jewkes, Rachel, Peter Barron, Diane McIntyre, and Hoosen Coovadia. "Health in South Africa." University of Washington. University of Washington, August 25, 2009. <http://depts.washington.edu/sphnet/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Coovadia.pdf>.

¹⁶ Susser, Mervyn. "Health and Health Care Under Apartheid." *Journal of Public Health Policy* 3, no. 4 (n.d.): 455–75. Accessed October 27, 2019.

¹⁷ Kon, Zeida R, and Nuha Lackan. "Ethnic disparities in access to care in post-apartheid South Africa." *American journal of public health* vol. 98,12 (2008): 2272-7. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2007.127829

Current Issues

Infant Mortality

The 1970s saw some of the highest rates of infant mortality. Most South Africans were in poverty and denied education, healthcare and access to proper employment. These factors led to negative impacts on not only the adults, but also the children in the nation. As systems of social welfare were reformed in the 1980s by the National Party, and then not implemented in the 1990s, child mortality dropped before climbing once again. In 1992, rates of infant mortality reached a rate of 42.9 for every 1000 children born, and 55.1 for children under 5. However, as the HIV/AIDS epidemic grows in prominence, these rates are more likely to increase.¹⁸ It is likely to offset any existing reforms and may even increase racial inequalities in childhood mortality.¹⁹ “Inequalities in childhood mortality between population groups, rooted in past discriminatory apartheid policies, shrank between the late-1970s and mid-1990s. However, they remain substantial and are largely unaccounted for by province, metropolitan residence, and inter-group differences in mothers’ education.”²⁰

Increased Burden of Noncommunicable Diseases

According to the World Health Organization, noncommunicable, or chronic, diseases, “are not passed from person to person. They are of long duration and generally slow progression. The four main types of noncommunicable diseases are cardiovascular diseases (like heart attacks

¹⁸ “Infographic: Child Mortality in South Africa from 1974 to 2016.” South Africa Gateway, September 12, 2018. <https://southafrica-info.com/infographics/infographic-child-mortality-in-south-africa-from-1974-to-2016/>.

¹⁹ Nannan, Nadine, Ian M. Timæus, Ria Laubscher, and Debbie Bradshaw. “Levels And Differentials In Childhood Mortality In South Africa, 1977–1998.” *Journal of Biosocial Science* 39, no. 4 (2007): 613–32. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0021932006001702>.

²⁰ Ibid

and stroke), cancers, chronic respiratory diseases (such as chronic obstructed pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma) and diabetes.”²¹ South Africa, as of the early 1990s, has had comprehensive policies covering significant risk factors of noncommunicable diseases as a result of the desire to eliminate inequalities and the negative impacts of Apartheid.

Existing discussions focused on health care in South Africa are focused on issues of equity and distribution. At the 1994 Bloemfontein Conference, which occurred when the ANC assembled for its first national conference following the 1994 election,²² concerns related to “access to services, equitable redistribution of resources, and the development of power to the people” dominated discussions related to health equity.²³ Thus, it is crucial that the government maintain their focus on increasing the amount of resources granted to the poorest and most disadvantaged of the population.

HIV/AIDS

The 1990s is currently a decade of extreme hardship in South Africa, as citizens are not only recovering from Apartheid, but they are also battling one of the worst health crises the world has ever seen: the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The absence of adequate medical intervention has made clear that this disease will have a lasting impact on the people of South Africa. It was seen originally as an issue in the Black and LGBTQ+ communities and was not considered to be a priority in the Apartheid government. Additionally, there was a strong belief from the Black

²¹ “Noncommunicable Diseases.” World Health Organization. World Health Organization. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.afro.who.int/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases>.

²² “17.1 1994 Conference – The Presidential Years.” – The Presidential Years. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://tpy.nelsonmandela.org/pages/part-vi-anc-and-the-transition/17-anc-and-the-transition/17-1-1994-conference>.

²³ Ndinda1, Catherine, Pamela Juma5, and Catherine Kyobutungi5. “The Evolution of Non-Communicable Diseases Policies in Post-Apartheid South Africa.” BMC Public Health. BioMed Central, August 15, 2018. <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-018-5832-8>.

community that epidemics like HIV/AIDS were caused by unjust treatment by the government. This makes it difficult for the issue to be addressed. It was not until the National AIDS



Convention of South Africa in 1994 that the government paid serious attention to this crisis.

The first reported cases of HIV/AIDS in South Africa occurred among the LGBTQ+ community in the 1980s. The following decade, in the 1990s, the government began recognizing and recording cases from additional communities, with cases beginning to originate through transmission from pregnant mothers to their children.²⁴ South Africa was also beginning to witness increased migration at this time, which facilitated the spread of this disease.²⁵

Over 45% of the South African population between the ages of 15 and 20 are impacted by the disease. Among men and women, women are generally impacted more than men, with 35% of women being diagnosed compared to 29% of men. Children are also a vulnerable group who are impacted both directly and indirectly. In South Africa, the rate of orphans is extremely high compared to other nations because of AIDS-induced deaths. This epidemic not only impacts their families, but also their welfare, education, and access to basic resources.

²⁴ Gilbert, Leah, Walker, and Liz. "HIV/AIDS in South Africa: an Overview." *Cadernos de Saúde Pública*. Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz. Accessed October 26, 2019.

http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0102-311X2002000300009.

²⁵ "Chapter 4 The Impact of the AIDS Epidemic on South Africa ...," accessed October 25, 2019, https://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/aids_book/chapter4_gow.pdf.

The National Aids Convention of South Africa (NACOSA), meeting for the first time in 1992, was the first step towards creating a national program towards eliminating the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Following the 1994 elections, combatting the HIV/AIDS epidemic was one of the 22 main projects outlined in the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP). The structures proposed include and HIV/AIDS Advisory Group, a Committee on NGO Funding, and a Committee of HIV/AIDS Research. Also in 1994, NACOSA launched the National Aids Plan for South Africa. This plan “focused on prevention of HIV/AIDS through public education campaigns, reducing transmission of HIV through appropriate care, treatment, and support for the infected, and mobilizing local, provincial, national and international resources to combat HIV/AIDS.”²⁶

*Tuberculosis*²⁷

Cases of tuberculosis rose in the 20th century, peaking in the 1960s as 350 out of every 100,000 South Africans were diagnosed with tuberculosis. There was a decline in the 1970s, potentially because data from the Black population was not included in national statistics. Because of strong differences in health accessibility, it is likely to rise again if major reform is not taken.

During the apartheid era, white South Africans residing in urban areas had access to a sophisticated system of health care, which consumed 97% of the health budget. The system of health for Black South Africans lacked resources and any actions toward tuberculosis control and

²⁶ “A History of Official Government HIV/AIDS Policy in South Africa.” South African History Online. Accessed December 4, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/article/history-official-government-hivaids-policy-south-africa>.

²⁷ “TB in South Africa.” South African National Tuberculosis Association . Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.santa.org.za/tb-in-south-africa.html>.

treatment. This lack of proper service resulted in an undertreatment of tuberculosis patients. When tuberculosis treatment switched from an in-patient to out-patient system to save costs, services were still hospital-based, meaning patients had to travel long distances to proper facilities. This made treatment even more difficult to receive and expensive. Additionally, supplies of medications were sparse, resulting in a lack of cure for patients and an increased risk of developing drug resistance.

Public v. Private Health Care

The public health system in South Africa is heavily biased and still influenced by the former apartheid system. Most healthcare facilities that were constructed prior to 1994 were private health facilities for White South Africans or those who could afford overpriced care. The system Mandela inherited can be described as ²⁸:

- Centralized and undemocratic
- Highly fragmented in structure
- Inefficiently and inevitably biased towards curative and higher-level services
- Inequitably biased towards historically white areas as certain geographic areas were systematically underfunded as a result of apartheid policies
- Inequitably biased towards the wealthy minority who use the private sector

The existing private health system needs little to no improvement at this time, yet it only caters to a small portion of the population.

²⁸ “Health Care Inequity in South Africa and the Public ...” Accessed October 26, 2019. [http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/\(httpAuxPages\)/890762B189D36924C1256DB90030161B/\\$file/wade_e2.pdf](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/(httpAuxPages)/890762B189D36924C1256DB90030161B/$file/wade_e2.pdf).

The public healthcare system is currently not as well-established as the private. It needs improvements and additions to be efficient and serve its purpose. Thus, following the 1994 election, the African National Congress initiated a series of policies to transform the public healthcare system. The Reconstruction and Development Program, for instance, was initiated to “attack poverty and deprivation.”²⁹ Efforts are being made to take into account the disparities between rural and urban areas and their access to healthcare.

Improving the National Health Care Plan

Looking forward, it is critical that a new health plan is created at a national level. Currently, there are fourteen different departments of health at the national level. Additionally, only 11 percent of public health care spending is devoted to non-hospital primary care services.³⁰ These flaws in health services at the national level are an evident threat to South Africa’s national well-being, and attention must be brought to improving and/or creating a more stable plan for national health.

Issues that need to be addressed within the system include fragmentation, racial segregation, and the duties of both public and private healthcare sectors. The current system is inefficient and inequitable, as it clearly leans on private sector healthcare. With the help of President Mandela’s Cabinet, health services need to be expanded and fixed.

The ANC has already outlined a new national health plan, recently published in 1994. The plan creates a new framework that will work to provide healthcare for all citizens. It outlines a large-scale national health plan that will work with the nine provinces that will each have its

²⁹ “Health Care Inequity in South Africa and the Public ...” Accessed October 26, 2019. [http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/\(httpAuxPages\)/890762B189D36924C1256DB90030161B/\\$file/wade_e2.pdf](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/(httpAuxPages)/890762B189D36924C1256DB90030161B/$file/wade_e2.pdf).

³⁰ Chetty, K.S. “Equity Promoting Healthcare Policies in South Africa.” World Health Organization. WHO, March 2007. https://www.who.int/social_determinants/resources/csdh_media/chetty_equity_2007_en.pdf.

own Provincial Health Authority. While the plan is very detailed and addresses many components of the issue, it is up to this cabinet to decide what legislation is passed, potentially setting a longstanding precedent for national healthcare.³¹

Party Positions

African National Congress

The ANC puts a clear focus on health, not just healthcare. They are invested in undoing the damage that Apartheid has done, and want to create and implement comprehensive healthcare strategies. In any solution created, they want effective community participation that is in line with international ethics and norms. The party wants to advocate for quality health services that respect citizens rights and utilize quality management practices as well. They also want to look at how to minimize the risks of disease that affects all South Africans.³² In advocating for more equal access to health care, the ANC aims for universal health care under the jurisdiction of the government, as well as health services being accountable to the community and include its members in decision making.³³

National Party³⁴

The National Party under the leadership of F.W. de Klerk is distancing itself from policies that promote racial separation. Like the African National Congress, the National Party is committed to primary health care and do not anticipate increasing the health budget. However,

³¹ “ANC Health Policy.” University of Pennsylvania African Studies Center. University of Pennsylvania. Accessed October 27, 2019. http://www.africa.upenn.edu/Govern_Political/ANC_Health.html.

³² Ibid

³³ Zwarenstein, M. “The Structure of South Africa's Health Service.” Africa health. U.S. National Library of Medicine, March 1994. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12345506>.

³⁴ Zwarenstein, M. “The Structure of South Africa's Health Service.” Africa health. U.S. National Library of Medicine, March 1994. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12345506>.

the National Party wants the public health sector to shrink and disagrees with the implementation of a national essential drugs policy. Additionally, the party does not agree with a system of universal health care and believes decisions should be made by the government rather than the community.

Inkatha Freedom Party

The Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) is a political party founded by Chief Mongasuthu Buthelezi that had its name rooted in previous Zulu cultural movements. The party mostly catered to the Zulu people and was an active participant in the Anti-Apartheid struggle. The party was a strong advocate of public health in the 1990s, and supported state intervention in the health system to stop the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. They pushed for increasing awareness about the epidemic and supported the National AIDS plan when it was created in 1994.

Conclusion

It is crucial that members of this body come to a compromise in order to reform the system of health care in South Africa. The legacy of apartheid is visible in the inequities present between the public and private systems of health care. This is resulting in unequal access to proper treatment between white and Black South Africans, which is becoming more obvious as noncommunicable diseases like HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis increase in prominence. Health care is a basic human right, and the body must strive to guarantee that all South Africans have equal access to proper and affordable care.

Questions to Consider

1. What social reforms, such as improvements in education, can be done in order to increase accessibility and awareness towards proper health care?

2. How can the burden of noncommunicable diseases be alleviated among marginalized communities?
3. What actions can be taken by the government in order to improve the system of public health care in South Africa?
4. How can the three major political parties come to a compromise on health care reform?

Character Descriptions

Thabo Mbeki, Deputy President: Mbeki has a long history of being involved in South African politics- he joined the ANC Youth League at the age of 14 and left South Africa in exile at the age of 20. He obtained a Master's Degree in Economics at Sussex University, then underwent military training in the Soviet Union prior to joining the ANC headquarters in Zambia. He remained employed here until 1990, when the ban on the ANC was revoked from South Africa.³⁵ Upon returning to South Africa, Mbeki worked with the ANC in order to transform it into a legal political organization. He was elected national chair and was tasked with “handling much of the diplomatic talks with the apartheid regime.” Mbeki was chosen by Mandela to be the first deputy President in the Government of National Unity and was highly approved by “the ANC’s alliance partners (the South African Communist Party and Congress of South African Trade Unions).”³⁶ To maintain support for the ANC, Mbeki is working to target “the townships and rural poor” in his efforts to improve the well-being of South Africans.

Frederik Willem de Klerk, Deputy President: Frederik Willem de Klerk served as Prime minister and state president from 1989-94. He was a member of the National Party. During his tenure, he lifted the ban on the ANC and freed Nelson Mandela from prison. He proceeded to participate in negotiations that led to multi-racial elections in 1994. He is also credited in overturning most Apartheid laws.³⁷ He is a significant figure within the body as

³⁵ “Profile of Former President Thabo Mbeki.” Thabo Mbeki Foundation. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.mbeki.org/profile-of-former-president-thabo-mbeki/>.

³⁶ “Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki.” Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki | South African History Online. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/thabo-mvuyelwa-mbeki>.

³⁷ Clark, Nancy, and William Worger. South Africa. Routledge Publishing, 2016.

he is the first member of the National Party to take earnest action to end Apartheid in South Africa. Being a key proponent of ending Apartheid, he is an avid voice within the cabinet.

Chris Liebenberg, Minister of Finance: Chris Liebenberg served as a notable banker before being appointed as the Minister of Finance in 1994. He joined Nedbank, a bank in Cape Town, in 1952 and served as its managing director from 1988 to 1990. Liebenberg next served as the Chief Executive Officer of Nedcor from 1990 to 1994. Following the shocking resignation of Derek Keys, the Minister of Finance during F.W. de Klerk's administration, Liebenberg was appointed to the position and does not take part in party politics.³⁸

Ben Ngubane, Minister of Arts, Culture, Science, and Technology: Before his involvement in politics, Ben Ngubane worked as both a teacher and a doctor. He taught Latin for two years before earning his medical degree in 1971. He earned diplomas in tropical medicine, public health, family medicine, and primary health. He became involved in politics in 1977 when he joined the Inkatha National Cultural Liberation Movement and was involved in the central committee. In 1978, became very involved in the Red Cross and implemented its services during the KwaZulu-Natal floods in the 1980s. In 1991, he became Minister of Health in KwaZulu-Natal. Ngubane was involved in the negotiations that led to democratic elections in 1994, and as a result he was appointed to the position of Minister of Arts, Culture, Science, and Technology.³⁹

Pallo Jordan, Minister of Posts, Telecommunications, and Broadcasting: Pallo Jordan was highly involved in politics from a young age, as his parents were both members of the Non-

³⁸ "The O'Malley Archives." Liebenberg, Christo Ferro (Chris) - The O'Malley Archives. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://omalley.nelsonmandela.org/omalley/index.php/site/q/03lv02424/04lv02426/05lv02546.htm>.

³⁹ "Ngubane, Ben 1941-." Contemporary Black Biography. Encyclopedia.com, November 30, 2019. <https://www.encyclopedia.com/education/news-wires-white-papers-and-books/ngubane-ben-1941>

European Unity Movement (NEUM). He worked for the ANC in London as a researcher in the Department of Information and Publicity and also became involved in training programs for new recruits to the Umkhonto weSizwe. In 1979, he was appointed to as the director of the ANC's first internal mass propaganda campaign, The Year of the Spear. In 1980, he was promoted to head the Research Unit of the ANC Department of Information and Publicity. He continued to be involved in the ANC and, in 1994, was sworn in as a Member of Parliament and the Minister of Posts, Telecommunications, and Broadcasting.⁴⁰

Roelf Meyer, Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs: Meyer worked as an attorney in Pretoria and Johannesburg until 1980, after he had become a Member of Parliament for the National Party in 1979. From 1986-1991 he served as the Deputy Minister of Law and Order and of Constitutional Development, and then from 1991 he served in multiple positions as the Minister of Defense, Communication, and Constitutional Affairs. In May 1992 he was a member of the government delegation that negotiated with the ANC. While acting as chief negotiator, he developed a close relationship with Cyril Ramaphosa, and paved the way for democratic elections in 1994. He continued to be the Minister of Constitutional Affairs and Provincial Development. after the election of Nelson Mandela.⁴¹

Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Minister of Home Affairs: Mangosuthu Buthelezi was born in 1928 into the Zulu royal family. He was briefly involved in liberation politics when he was able to meet notable leaders such as Robert Sobukwe (leader of the ANC) and other African nationalists like Robert Mugabe. In 1950, he took place in protests against the visit of a

⁴⁰ "Zweledinga Pallo Jordan." Zweledinga Pallo Jordan | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/zweledinga-pallo-jordan>.

⁴¹ "Roelof Petrus (Roelf) Meyer." Roelof Petrus (Roelf) Meyer | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/roelof-petrus-roelf-meyer>.

governor and was expelled from Fort Hare University. He returned to KwaZulu in order to become Chief of the Buthelezi clan in 1953, but his position was only recognized for a few years. He went on to begin the Inkatha Freedom Party and prioritized ethnic interests over national unity. After the election of Nelson Mandela, he was appointed to serve as the Minister of Home Affairs.⁴²

Alfred Nzo, Minister of Foreign Affairs: A former member of the ANC Youth League, Nzo worked as a health inspector in Germiston and at the Alexandra Health and Community Center in South Africa. “As health inspector, Nzo developed much understanding of the lives of millions of South Africans in the 1950s.” His involvement in ANC leadership began in 1958, when he was elected to the regional and national executive committees. He was a member of the ANC delegates involved in deliberations with the National Party government and was elected head of the ANC’s security department before being appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.⁴³

Joe Modise, Minister of Defense: Joe Modise is the current Minister of Defense, having recently taken this role in 1994. He is a true political activist and military commander. He is also a member of the ANC. Following the Sharpeville Massacre, he became a leader of the ANC’s militant wing (Umkhonto we Sizwe). He later left South Africa in the late 1960s and spent time in both Russia and Angola. He then returned to South Africa after the ban on the ANC was lifted and became a part of peace negotiations leading to his granting of a title in

⁴² “Mangosuthu Gatsha Buthelezi.” Mangosuthu Gatsha Buthelezi | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/mangosuthu-gatsha-buthelezi>.

⁴³ “Alfred Baphetuxolo Nzo.” Alfred Baphetuxolo Nzo | South African History Online. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/alfred-baphetuxolo-nzo>.

1994.⁴⁴ Joe Modise is a true proponent of reforming South Africa and wants to reform the current structures of defense in the nation.

Derek Hanekom, Minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs: Derek Hanekom became involved in politics in 1980 when he joined the ANC underground and used a farm in Magaliesberg as an ANC meeting place. He was arrested in 1983 and served a two-year sentence after he pleaded guilty to possessing banned literature. In 1990, Hanekom worked on land policy issues in the ANC's Johannesburg headquarters. He was appointed one of the Ministers of Agriculture and Land Affairs in 1994 after receiving praise for his fairness, hard work, and hands-on approach.⁴⁵

Kraai van Niekerk, Minister of Agriculture: Kraai Van Niekerk was born in 1938 and have a Ph.D. in Agriculture at the University of Stellenbosch. He was first elected an MP for Prieska in 1981 and was later appointed as the Deputy Minister of Agriculture in 1986. He was the only minister on the Apartheid government to retain his position in the government of the African National Congress under Nelson Mandela.⁴⁶

Sipo Mzimela, Minister of Correctional Services: Mzimela originally joined the ANC in the 1960s and became involved in a series of political protests against apartheid. He left South Africa in 1962 and went into exile throughout Arica, Germany, and Czechoslovakia. In 1986, he established the South African Education Fund which provided financial assistance to

⁴⁴ "Joe Modise." The Independent. Independent Digital News and Media, November 30, 2001. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/obituaries/joe-modise-9191403.html>.

⁴⁵ "Derek Andre Hanekom." Derek Andre Hanekom | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/derek-andre-hanekom>.

⁴⁶ "André Isak 'Kraai' Van Niekerk , Dr." André Isak "Kraai" van Niekerk , Dr | South African Government. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.gov.za/about-government/contact-directory/andré-isak-kraai-van-niekerk-dr-0>.

South African students. While living in New York, he served as the ANC's representative to the United Nations. He returned to South Africa in 1990 after spending 29 years in exile and joined the Inkatha Freedom Party. Mzimela participated in the drafting of the national constitution for a democratic South Africa and was appointed to the position of Minister of Correctional Services.⁴⁷

Sibusiso Bengu, Minister of Education: Sibusiso Bengu became the Minister of Education in 1994 and is a member of the Inkatha Freedom Party. He served as the Secretary-General of the party from 1975, until he went into self-imposed exile during 1978. He spent his time working for the Lutheran World Federation in Geneva until he returned to South Africa in 1991.⁴⁸ Now he is serving on Nelson Mandela's cabinet and wants to see major education reform that will eliminate any signs of the Bantu Education legislation and ensure that post-apartheid decisions are fair and equitable.

Trevor Manuel, Minister of Trade and Industry: Trevor Manuel worked in construction as a civil engineering technician before resigning in 1981 to volunteer as a community organizer for the Cape Areas Housing Committee (CHAC) and was elected secretary of the organization in 1983. He additionally worked as a field worker for the Education Resources Information Centre (ERIC), which provides literature to community organizations. He was involved in the founding of the United Democratic front and was selected as secretary of his area, before being elected to the national executive. He was arrested in 1985 and was banned

⁴⁷ "Sipo Elijah Mzimela." Sipo Elijah Mzimela | South African History Online. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/sipo-elijah-mzimela>.

⁴⁸ "Sibusiso Mandlenkosi Emmanuel Bengu." Sibusiso Mandlenkosi Emmanuel Bengu | South African History Online. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/sibusiso-mandlenkosi-emmanuel-bengu>.

from attending any meetings until 1990, however the order was overturned, and he continued to fight against apartheid. He was arrested multiple other times throughout the late 1980s.

When the ANC was unbanned in 1990, he was the deputy coordinator in the Western Cape.⁴⁹

Dawie de Villiers, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism: Dawie de Villiers is the son of a former National Party organizer and Member of Parliament. After beginning university, he began to oppose the traditional politics of the National Party and was condemned by his peers. However, he was still involved with the party, and was a member of the NP Student Committee as his father was a Cabinet Minister. He has a strong history of involvement in government, formerly serving as the South African Ambassador to London, Minister of Trade and Industry, and Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises. After serving as one of the National Party delegates to the Convention for a Democratic South Africa, he was appointed as the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.⁵⁰

Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Minister of Health: Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, an MB ChB from the University of Bristol, was appointed Minister of Health by Nelson Mandela in 1994. She held this position until 1999, when she was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.⁵¹ Dlamini-Zuma courted controversy, however, by advocating a controversial anti-HIV/AIDS drug

⁴⁹ “Trevor Andrew Manuel.” Trevor Andrew Manuel | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/trevor-andrew-manuel>.

⁵⁰ “Dawid (Dawie) Jacobus De Villiers.” Dawid (Dawie) Jacobus De Villiers | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/dawid-dawie-jacobus-de-villiers>.

⁵¹ “Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini-Zuma.” Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini-Zuma | South African History Online. Accessed October 26, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/nkosazana-clarice-dlamini-zuma>.

called Virodene. Furthermore, she led the Ministry of Health during the Sarafina scandal, in which government funds were deemed to misallocated.

Sankie Mthembi-Ndkondo, Minister of Housing: After graduating with a degree in teaching, Mthembi-Ndkondo was involved in journalism prior to politics. She worked as a radio journalist in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania in the late 1970s. She additionally served as the editor of the Voice of Women Journal from 1977-1981. Much of her career involved travel, as she served as an administrative secretary in Sweden and Nigeria, then the chief representative for Germany and Australia for the African National Congress. In 1993, she was appointed to the position of Deputy Head for the Department of International Affairs but was soon appointed to the Deputy Minister of Social Welfare after the election of Nelson Mandela. In January, after the death of Joe Slovo, she was appointed to the position of Minister of Housing.

Dullah Omar, Minister of Justice: In 1960, Dullah Omar started his own law practice, as he was unable to get a job at an established law firm because of his race. He was known for representing victims of apartheid in political trials, and was affiliated with the Pan-Africanist Congress, the Unity Movement, and the United Democratic Front. Omar was appointed to the position of Minister of Justice in 1994 and is currently tasked with dismantling the legal structures of apartheid.⁵²

Tito Mboweni, Minister of Labor: In 1980, Tito Mboweni left South Africa in order to go to Lesotho in exile, where he became involved in the ANC. He returned to South African in the 1990s and was the Deputy Head of the Department of Economic Policy in the ANC, where

⁵² "Dullah Omar." Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., May 22, 2019. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Dullah-Omar>.

he formulated economic policy development and represented the ANC on domestic and international platforms. Additionally, he was a member of the ANC's National Executive and National Working Committees and the Chairperson of the National Executive Committee's Economic Transformation Committee. He was appointed to the position of Minister of Labor of 1994 and is now in charge of implementing post-Apartheid labor legislation.⁵³

Stella Sigcau, Minister of Public Enterprises: As the daughter of a paramount chief, Sigcau has been politically active since she was a child. While attending university and obtaining a teaching degree, she she joined the ANC's Youth League. At the request of her father, she got involved in politics and was elected to the Transkei Legislative Assembly. She was then appointed as Minister of Roads and Works in Transkei and, in this position, she challenged discrimination and worked towards empowering rural Transkeian women by granting single mothers landownership rights. She was forced to resign from her position because she was unmarried and pregnant. In the meantime, she continued to be involved in politics and was eventually elected Prime Minister of Transkei, however her term was short as she was removed from power in a military coup. In 1994 she became a Member of Parliament and was soon appointed Minister of Public Enterprises.⁵⁴

Zola Skweyiya, Minister of Public Service and Administration: A dedicated member of the ANC, Skweyiya returned to South Africa after being in exile in 1990 and was appointed to the Department of Legal and Constitutional Affairs. He served on the board of trustees for the National Rights of Children, while also heading UNESCO's Management of Social

⁵³ "Tito Mboweni." Tito Mboweni | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/tito-mboweni>.

⁵⁴ "Stella Margaret Nomzamo Sigcau." Stella Margaret Nomzamo Sigcau | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/stella-margaret-nomzamo-sigcau>.

Transformations. Skweyiya was also instrumental in establishing the Center for Development Studies and the South African Legal Defense Fund at the University of Western Cape. After his election to Parliament in 1994, Skweyiya immediately assumed the position of Minister of Public Service and Administration.⁵⁵

Sydney Mufamadi, Minister of Safety and Security: After witnessing his mother's arrest the early 1970s, Mufamadi became involved in politics. He joined the Zoutpansverg Students Organization and was involved in leading boycotts in Venda in 1977 and, as a result, went underground while being prohibited from finishing his schooling by the apartheid government. That same year, he joined the ANC, in 1978 he was a founding member of the Azanian People's Organization (AZAP) and in 1981 he joined the SACP. In 1983, Mufamadi attended the launch of the United Democratic Front and was later elected Transvaal Publicity Secretary, a position he held until 1990. In 1991, he was elected to the central committee of the ANC, only to be elected to the National Executive Committee months later. In 1994, he was appointed Minister of Safety and Security.⁵⁶

Pik Botha, Minister of Minerals and Energy: Botha has been a member of the Department of Foreign Affairs since 1953. He represented the South African mission in Stockholm and Cologne, before becoming a member of the South African legal team in the case Ethiopia and Liberia v. South Africa at the International Court of Justice. He was then appointed the Law Advisor of the Department of Affairs in 1966 and was a member of the South African

⁵⁵ "Who Is Zola Skweyiya?" IOL News, April 11, 2018. <https://www.iol.co.za/news/politics/who-is-zola-skweyiya-14369180>.

⁵⁶ "Fholisani Sydney Mufamadi." Fholisani Sydney Mufamadi | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/fholisani-sydney-mufamadi>.

delegation to the United Nations General Assembly. He transitioned to a life of politics in 1970, when he was elected to parliament as a member of the National Party. In 1977, he was appointed to the position of Minister of Foreign Affairs, where he advocated for both domestic policy and foreign affairs while also serving as a member of Parliament. He additionally had to manage diminishing relations with major nations like the United Kingdom and the United States because of the continued status of apartheid. In 1994, he was appointed to the position of Minister of Minerals and Energy.⁵⁷

Jeff Radebe, Minister of Public Works: Radebe's political involvement dates back to the 1970s, when he became involved as a student activist and joined the "underground structures of the ANC during...student uprisings." He worked in the ANC International Department in Zambia where he "created underground ANC and South African Communist Party (SACP) structures inside South Africa from Lesotho, giving political direction to activists." Prior to being appointed to the Minister of Public Works, Radebe served as the secretary of the SACP's interim leadership core, the chairperson of the ANC's Southern Natal Region, a member of the Natal Regional Dispute Resolution Committee, and chairperson of the regional ANC Peace Forum.⁵⁸

Steve Tshwete, Minister of Sport: Steve Tshwete is the Minister of Sport, and a member of the ANC. He joined the ANC in the late 1950s, and when the organization was banned, he went underground and helped to lead the militant branch of the party to end the Apartheid state (Umkhonto weSizwe). He was captured in 1963 and was imprisoned for 15 years. After

⁵⁷ "Roelof Frederik 'Pik' Botha." Roelof Frederik 'Pik' Botha | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/roelof-frederik-pik-botha>.

⁵⁸ "Jeff Radebe." People's Assembly. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.pa.org.za/person/jeffrey-thamsanqa-radebe/>.

he was freed, he then joined Mandela's cabinet as the first Minister of Sport.⁵⁹ His position is tasked with re-entering international sports and increasing access to sports for minorities such as black citizens and females. However, he is generally invested in ending Apartheid in South Africa.

Mac Maharaj, Minister of Transport: Mac Maharaj was an activist and former member of the armed wing of the ANC (Umkhonto weSizwe) who became politically involved while at college. He supported anti-segregationist protests and campaigned against holding separated graduation ceremonies for Black and white students at the University of Natal. He moved to Johannesburg in 1964 and worked for a law firm, but he was shortly arrested for what became known as the Little Rivonia trial, and spent 12 years in prison. From 1987-1990, Maharaj worked underground within Operation Vula, and was also a member of the South African Communist Party's central committee. He was detained with other activists by security police due to his involvement in Operation Vula in 1990, and shortly before his charges were dropped, he retired from the central committee of the ANC. After the elections in 1994, Maharaj was appointed to serve as the Minister of Transport.

Kader Asmal, Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry: Asmal was aware of the injustices brought about by apartheid from a young age, and became involved in politics after meeting Chief Albert Luthuli, President of the ANC and Nobel Peace Prize winner. He graduated from the London School of Economics in 1963 with a law degree and was a member of both the London and Dublin bars. He began to teach at Trinity College in Ireland, and specialized

⁵⁹ Shaw, Gerald. "Steve Tshwete." The Guardian. Guardian News and Media, April 30, 2002. <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2002/may/01/guardianobituaries1>.

in human rights, labor, and international law. He was elected as a Member of Parliament in 1994 and was appointed Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry.⁶⁰

Desmond Tutu, Archbishop of Cape Town: Born on 7 October 1931, Archbishop Emeritus

Desmond Mpilo Tutu was an Anglican cleric and Anti-Apartheid activist. he served as dean of St Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg in 1975 and then as Bishop of Lesotho, all while he campaigned against racial segregation and white minority rule. He worked closely with Nelson Mandela after the latter's release from prison to end the oppressive white rule in South Africa. Desmond Tutu was advocated for the introduction of women priests to the church. He was widely popular among South Africa's black majority, and was internationally praised for his anti-apartheid activism, receiving a range of awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize. He has also compiled several books of his speeches and sermons.⁶¹

Abertina Sisulu, Activist and Member of Parliament: Sisulu was one of the most prominent

anti-apartheid activists and is referred to as the “Mother of the Nation.” Sisulu received her training as a nurse at a Johannesburg “Non-European” hospital in the 1940s. which is where she experienced racism for the first time, as the hospital treated its white nurses better than their Black colleagues. Her life as an activist began in 1948 as a member of the ANC Women's League and, within this organization, she was involved in the Federation of South African Women and one of the organizers of the anti-pass women's march in 1956. More recently, in 1991, she was elected to serve on the ANC's national committee and was elected to be the convener in South Africa, where her role was to ensure that “the structures of the

⁶⁰ “Professor Kader Abdul Asmal.” Professor Kader Abdul Asmal | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/professor-kader-abdul-asmal>.

⁶¹ “Desmond Tutu.” Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., November 4, 2019. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Desmond-Tutu>.

ANC, especially the women's section were being addressed." In 1994, her and her husband observed the nation's first democratic elections and were both elected to be members of parliament.⁶²

Cyril Ramaphosa, Secretary-General of the African National Congress: Cyril Ramphosa is the current secretary-general of the ANC, as he took the position in 1991. He was a central figure in negotiations between the ANC and the national government, leading up to the multiracial elections in 1994. Before his job in the ANC, he served as secretary-general of the National Union of Mineworkers and participated in various movements that advocated against Apartheid. Today, he is a key ally to Nelson Mandela and a strong advocate for national unity.⁶³ He wants to see the structure of Apartheid in South Africa fall, and be replaced with a more equitable and accepting national government.

Farid Esack, Commissioner for Gender Equality: Professor Esack is a respected theologian, academic, activist, and internationalist. He completed the Darsi Nizami, the traditional Islamic theological studies program in Karachi, Pakistan and completed his PhD at the University of Birmingham. His research focuses primarily on contributing to the fight against race, gender, class and religious oppression. During anti-apartheid protests, Esack was involved in the struggle against apartheid, as well as the inter-religious solidarity movement for justice and peace, the United Democratic Front, the Call of Islam, the Organization of People Against Sexism, and the World Conference on Religion and Peace. In his position as

⁶² "Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu." Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu | South African History Online. Accessed October 29, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/albertina-nontsikelelo-sisulu>.

⁶³ Clark, Nancy, and William Worger. South Africa. Routledge Publishing, 2016.

a Commissioner for Gender Equality, Esack advocates for racial, gender and economic equality and justice.⁶⁴

Sister Bernard Ncube, Religious Sister and Member of Parliament: During the 1970s and 1980s, Sister Ncube became involved in local women's movements in the Transvaal region and in 1984 was elected the president of the Federation of Transvaal Women (FEDTRAW). She was detained six times and spent three months in solitary confinement. This case brought Sister Ncube international attention, and she was freed but then rearrested for sedition and subversion. In 1989, she was part of the United Democratic Front Delegation that met with President George Bush, and in 1991 she was a member of the National Executive Committee of the ANC. In 1994, she was elected a member of Parliament and is the chair of the committee on Arts, Culture, Science, and Technology.⁶⁵

Winnie Mandela, Head of the African National Congress Women's League: Winnie Mandela began her career as a medical social worker at the Baragwanath Hospital in 1955, making her the first Black member of staff to fill that position. She became involved in politics when she shared a dormitory with Adelaide Tsukudu, the future wife of former ANC president, Oliver Tambo. The couple introduced Winnie to Tambo's legal partner, Nelson Mandela, and Winnie and Nelson married in June 1958. Their anti-Apartheid activism was a major part of their lives, and they spent much of their marriage in and out of jail. Once Nelson Mandela was released from jail in 1990, they were reunited after nearly 30 years of separation. In

⁶⁴ "Prof Farid Esack: The Presidency." Prof Farid Esack | The Presidency. Accessed December 1, 2019. <http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/national-orders/recipient/prof-farid-esack>.

⁶⁵ "Sister Bernard Ncube." Sister Bernard Ncube | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/sister-bernard-ncube>.

September 1990, she was appointed to the ANC's head of Social Welfare but resigned from the position in 1992. In 1993, Winnie became the head of the ANC Women's League.⁶⁶

Govan Mbeki, Member of Parliament: Govan Mbeki was born in 1910 and was the leader of the South African Communist Party and the African National Congress. He joined the SACP in the 1930s because of his belief in the superior morality of socialism. In his activism, he linked the struggle for socialism with the struggle for Black liberation and maintained a strong relationship with the SACP, the ANC, and trade unions. In 1956, he was appointed national chairman of the ANC. He was one of the founders of the Umkhonto weSizwe alongside Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu and was sentenced to a life in prison. After he was released in 1987, he immediately was involved in the dismantling the apartheid regime while also rebuilding the legal structures of the ANC and SACP. He won a seat in Parliament in 1994, and works closely with his son, Deputy-President Thabo Mbeki.⁶⁷

Michael Corbett, Chief Justice of South Africa: Chief Justice Corbett has been involved in the Cape Bar since 1948, while he also lectured the University of Cape Town. In 1961 he was one of the last South African advocates to be appointed to the Queen's Counsel, and two years later he was appointed as an acting judge of the Cape Town Provincial. Corbett has been serving in the position of Chief Justice since February 1989. He is an international acclaimed judge, as "his judgments...are monuments to his erudition, profound legal insight and humanity." He is well-regarded for his liberal and progressive views, which he showcased by being a firm advocate of human rights during the apartheid era. This was

⁶⁶ "Winnie Madikizela-Mandela." Winnie Madikizela-Mandela | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/winnie-madikizela-mandela>.

⁶⁷ "Govan Mbeki." Govan Mbeki | South African History Online. Accessed December 1, 2019. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/govan-mbeki>.

demonstrated in 1979, when he became the first judge of appeal to publicly advocate for a Bill of Rights to the South African Constitution.⁶⁸

⁶⁸ “Honorary Graduate- Michael McGregor Corbett.” *Honorary Graduate- Michael McGregor Corbett*, n.d. [https://www.wits.ac.za/media/wits-university/alumni/documents/honorary-degree-citations/Michael Corbett.pdf](https://www.wits.ac.za/media/wits-university/alumni/documents/honorary-degree-citations/Michael%20Corbett.pdf).