

Because
your
skin
is
black,
You

HUMAN RIGHTS
IN SOUTH AFRICA
I N V A L I D

- Don't have the right to choose where you work
- Don't have the right to choose where you live
- Don't have a right to live together with your family
- Don't have any political rights

All the restrictions on black South Africans are spelled out in the PASS LAWS.

Hunger,
Misery
And Your
Responsibility
For Your Neighbor

constantly
force you
to break
the
PASS LAWS

New legislation will make the existing penalties even harsher:

- for those who shelter people or 6 months in jail
- for not having a permit to stay in an area while you are looking for work.
- for those who are looking for work or 12 months in jail
- for employers who give work to Blacks without a residence permit.

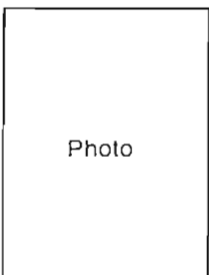
500 dollars
or 6 months in jail

5000 dollars
or 12 months in jail

PASS
BOOK



Republic of South Africa



Photo

Nr.: 98389701

Family Name _____
 First Name _____
 Place of Birth _____
 Date of Birth _____
 Tribe _____

 signature

- A. Employment Bureau
- B. Employer Name, Address Signature
- C. Tax
- D. Homeland Tax
- E. Particulars

A
B
C
D
E

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PASS BOOK

The Pass Book you are holding in your hand must be carried at all times by every Black South African 16 years of age and older. Were you living in South Africa, you would be subject to immediate arrest if you had forgotten your Pass Book or if it was not properly filled out. On an average, 1,000 people are arrested every day for pass law violations!

The South African government was not the first government to adopt such a law. In 1938, the Nazi government under Adolph Hitler issued a similar pass book. It was called an "identification card." Every Jewish citizen 15 years and over was required to carry one and present it on demand. . .

PASS BOOKS AND APARTHEID

Under apartheid, Black South Africans—who make up a little over 80% of the population—are denied all political, economic and social rights. By law they are told where they may live, at what job they may work, whom they may marry, on what buses they may ride and which churches they may attend. Pass Books are used to enforce each restriction.

There are no legal ways for Black South Africans to change this system. They can't vote. They can't legally protest the government's policies. Doing so risks imprisonment . . . even death.

The apartheid system particularly brutalizes Black women. They are treated as "surplus appendages" who must work in the worst paid, most menial jobs—or live in the barren tribal reservations. People who obtain work contracts are legally allowed to leave the reservations. But these contract workers are not allowed to bring their families with them. Periodically the government's security forces sweep

through the Black living areas, arresting hundreds of women and children who dared to defy the law by joining their husbands and fathers.

SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN FIGHT BACK

South African women have fought these injustices continuously and relentlessly throughout the history of this racist apartheid system.

One of the most dramatic expressions of this struggle took place August 9, 1956, in the capital of South Africa. More than 20,000 women of all races and from all parts of the country gathered to demand the withdrawal of Pass Books for Black women as well as the repeal of the pass laws. It was the day when men stayed home to tend the children and the women went onto the offensive "en masse." The women arrived by train, bus and car in two's and three's since public processions had been banned. One of their slogans, ". . . you have struck a rock, you have touched the women!" captures the spirit and outrage that inspired the demonstration. The disciplined power of the women was evident to all.

Demonstrations spread throughout the country; Pass Books were burned. Thousands of women were beaten by the police and hundreds were arrested. Finally the government's military might and control over jobs forced them to accept the hated Pass Books.

But this use of force and violence did not stop the women. They have continued to mobilize around rent and community concerns, the pass laws and forced removals to the reservations.

U.S. SUPPORT OF APARTHEID

Time and again, when South Africa was rocked by the peoples' protests, the U.S. government stood behind its "ally." The Reagan Administration's policy of Constructive Engagement is no different. This policy was supposed to pressure the government to give greater rights to Black South Africans. In reality, U.S. firms have been encouraged to increase their investments, while the government has felt free to strengthen its apartheid laws.

U.S. corporations now dominate several vital South African industries: transportation, energy and communications. The role of U.S. computer companies has been especially appalling. Companies like IBM and Hewlett-Packard helped to automate virtually the entire South African government. Their computers and programs are absolutely essential for the day-to-day functioning of the apartheid system!

BAY AREA WOMEN STAND UP

The policies and practices we see in South Africa are hurting us right here at home.

The very corporations which are investing so heavily in South Africa, which pay "slave wages" to their Black workers, are laying off thousands of workers and closing hundreds of factories and businesses in this country. Likewise, banks which made generous loans to the apartheid system have refused to lend money to small businesses, farmers and lower income neighborhoods in the U.S.

The Reagan Administration, which has done so little to pressure the South African government to change its policies, is calling for dramatic cuts in the domestic budget—cuts which will surely increase the suffering of millions of Americans, particularly women and families of color. At the same time, billions of our tax

dollars are being spent on the Administration's fight for "democracy" in Central America and the creation of ever greater nuclear weapons.

This is why we, as women working in the Bay Area Free South Africa Movement, are standing up together and joining the struggle for basic human, civil and economic rights for the women—for all the people—of South Africa. By standing with them, we are also standing up for ourselves and asserting our rights to peace, jobs, decent housing, quality health care, education, affordable child care, justice and equality.

JOIN WITH US!

Here's what you can do:

Support a South African political prisoner and her family. Work to achieve her freedom. Contact us for details.

Distribute this Pass Book—discuss it with people in your community and your workplace.

Join the Bay Area Free South Africa Movement. Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at 337 17th St. in downtown Oakland.

Wear a red ribbon to show your opposition to apartheid. Encourage your family, friends, religious community, co-workers and neighbors to wear one, too!

Help pass the national and state anti-apartheid legislation now being introduced. Write or call your elected representatives to express your support and lobby for theirs.

For more information, contact the Bay Area Free South Africa Movement at 445 Bellvue, Oakland, CA 94610, or call (415) 752-7766.

