

SOCIAL SECURITY — CHILD CARE

1991

JANUARY — JUNE

# Kids' homes face power cut

CL Press 30/6/91

By LULAMA LUT (298)

SOME welfare organisations in Soweto are in big trouble.

Because they are not covered by the Greater Soweto Accord, their arrears will not be written off, and they haven't the money to pay their debts.

The Soweto Council claims that institutions like the Orlando Children's Home and the Othandweni Children's Home fall into the same category as businesses and must pay their bills — or be cut off.

The Orlando Children's Home owes about R90 000.

Council spokesman Mojalefa Moseki said he would "not even think" of considering any representations.

"If they have any problems with paying rent, they can go to our social welfare section which has been set up help them. Most of them have already done so and have reached agreements with the council," he said.

Council chairman Mbutana Tshabalala has said that in terms of the Soweto Accord, only resi-



**Suffer the powerless little children . . . the Soweto Council has demanded the destitute Orlando Children's Home pays its R90 000 electricity bill — or else!** ■ PIC: ANDRIES MCINEKA

dents were exempt from paying arrears and no provision had been made for other categories.

"The Soweto Accord is a public document and is there for everyone to read. There is definitely no mention of businesses,

churches, schools and charitable organisations," said Tshabalala.

Reacting to the threat of a switch-off, the Orlando Children's Home staff sent out "SOS" messages to sympathetic organisations. The Ukukhanya

Self Help Project donated candles

Senior childcare worker at the home, Joyce Kubheka, said neighbours had responded sympathetically when approached for help during switch-offs.

Neighbours had also helped with food preparation as there is only one gas stove at the home, and on an average day eight large pots of food have to be prepared.

"There is no way we can fold our arms and let

the children suffer. Even when there are water cuts, we ask the neighbours to help, and they are very sympathetic," said Kubheka.

Matron Maggie Nkwe said the debt had built up since the start of the rent boycott five years ago.

She said the home was dependent on donations and a meagre government subsidy.

"We are not refusing to pay, but we haven't been able to raise the enormous amount we allegedly owe," she said.

Nkwe said the home was classified as a "bulk consumer" and fell under the business category. This was puzzling.

"How do I explain to our children that they can't have soup because there is no hot water? I can't simply allow them to starve!"

Chairman of the Orlando Home, Dr Thamsanqa Bomvana, said: "To our horror we learned that the home was classified as a business venture. No business transactions are conducted at the home, and we don't have a stable source of income."



# ANC to airlift orphans

By EDYTH BULBRING

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HUNDREDS of children from the ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Tanzania — many of them war orphans — are to be airlifted back to South Africa at the end of next month.

They could be accommodated in an empty white school in central Pretoria.

The college, named after an ANC guerilla who was hanged in 1979, was established 12 years ago and is home to 400 primary school children and 500 at secondary school level.

ANC and Home Affairs officials declined to disclose details about the arrival of the children.

However, it is believed that two plane-

loads of 400-700 children, teachers and parents will arrive in SA in the last week of July. *STimes* 30/6/91

This will be the largest number of ANC exiles to return to South Africa.

The repatriation of the children is the beginning of winding-down operations at the college. Donors had indicated they were no longer prepared to sponsor an ANC project outside South Africa.

A South African government doctor is expected to travel to Tanzania soon to inoculate the children.

Meanwhile, the ANC is looking for suitable accommodation for the children.

One possibility could be the old premises of Hillview School near Bloed Street in Pretoria.

# HSRC to focus on youth

New Nation (Learner Nation)

28/6 - 4/7/91

THE Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) is soon to launch an in-depth investigation into the youth, focussing on the most urgent problems faced by the youth.

Matters to be investigated include education, employment and economic issues, politics and participation in community life.

The HSRC's general manager, Dr Bok Marais, said the investigation would attempt to identify the most important issues facing the youth and formulate strategies for solving them. The investigation is expected to be complete by the middle of 1992.

Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert of the Institute for Democratic Alternatives for South Africa (Idasa) will head the study.

A seminar to explore the field and identify priorities has been planned for August 5 this year. In the meantime discussions with interested parties from the different sectors of the community will commence soon.

Interested parties are invited to contact Dr Johan Olivier at the Centre for Science Development, Private Bag X270 Pretoria 0001, or telephone (012) 202 2268 for further details.



AS OF last week, white South African families can legally adopt black children.

As part of government moves to do away with race classification, this session of parliament has repealed Section 40 of the Childcare Act, which prohibited children from being placed in the custody of people otherwise classified in terms of the Population Registration Act. Now, adoption placements can be made across the colour bar, "having due regard to religion and culture".

The breakthrough is significant for the future of thousands of adoptable children presently holed up in overcrowded children's homes, but implementation of the law is largely at the discretion of social workers, the courts and racial attitudes.

At a two-day conference organised by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society recently, a social work fraternity eager to come to terms with the new terrain of "transracial adoptions" listened to poignant accounts from those who have had the experience.

A single mother who took in a black baby and a six-child couple who adopted an orphaned baby from a rural mission hospital in a neighbouring country — both of which upset traditional adoption criteria — presented the happiest situations.

# Relief as adoption across colour bar becomes legal

21/6 - 27/6/91

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Darryl and Cynthia Heyns told how, at nine months old, their John's hair started to look "fizzy". When they had adopted him at five weeks, they were assured he had a bit of Indian, but no coloured or African blood. They would not have been able to deal with much more than this. But by the time he'd been deemed "coloured" by a professor of genetics, it was too late.

They'd already bonded and today nine-year-old John is a "bright and intelligent child" who goes to a private school. He's had his hair straightened, and "looks like a handsome young continental boy" but, said Cynthia, people still ask probing questions, pull up their noses and pass remarks in the supermarket.

British-born Julia had a worse time of it though. Her husband had slipped through the pencil test and was classified white. But, when they adopted their second child with "black features" in 1988, he saw himself in her and, af-

ter much agonising, they returned her to the agency. "He didn't want her to suffer as he had for the rest of her life," Julia told the conference.

**PORTIA MAURICE** reports

Colour won't be the criterion for adoption from now on.

"All these euphemisms make me squirm — let's just talk about children," said one angry adopter. "Culture is not a fingerprint or some static monolithic monument. It's something in a state of flux — and besides, institutionalised babies have no cultural baggage."

Until now, agencies have only been allowed to place "mixed race" babies where the consenting mother was white. The screening process is fairly flexible, but intellectual and physical features are matched.

The waiting list for normal, healthy white babies is long and selection pro-

cedures arduous. If you want one, you need usually to have been proved infertile, to have been married for at least three years and to be younger than 38.

Once you have filled in application forms, a social worker screens you with medicals, training, home visits and interviews. You then wait until a suitable baby becomes available and the social worker — with whom you have by now developed a fairly intimate relationship — reports the placement to a commissioner of child welfare. After a trial period, he/she may finalise the adoption.

Screening procedures for black adopters and "special needs" babies are much less stringent, said a Child Welfare Society representative. The need — if a racial framework is accepted — is much greater, but economic and cultural factors mitigate against black adoptions. Formal adoption, social workers said, is regarded as a Western phenomenon by many Africans and in-

fertility is taboo.

Nationally, there is a huge baby bank. Of 4 600 Child Welfare children in homes last year, only 389 were returned to their parents and 323 were placed for adoption, according to Dr Margriet Herman, research and development manager of the National Council for Child and Family Welfare. Thousands more — committed through state departments or other agencies — need the stability of family life.

And "transracial adoption" is far from the bogeyman it's made out to be. Two black teenagers reared in white homes confidently addressed the conference about their lives.

Yet African National Congress policy, according to Welfare Department lawyer Daluxolo Mpofo, is that "mixed race" adoptions should be a last resort. Mpofo said a legacy of apartheid meant that cross-colour adoptions would result in identity problems for the adopted child, but added that the ANC would prefer this to a situation where children languished forever in institutions.

In the end, it is the children of future generations — less tainted by xenophobia — who will lead the way.

Names of adopters and adoptees have been changed in this article to protect those concerned.

## HSRC, Slabbert to probe problems of youth in new SA

A comprehensive investigation into the position of the youth in a democratising South Africa will be undertaken by the Human Sciences Research Council and headed by Dr Van Zyl Slabbert.

The HSRC said yesterday that the investigation would focus on the most urgent problems faced by the youth.

Matters to be investigated included education, work and eco-

nomic issues, politics and integrated participation in community life.

According to Dr Bok Marais, general manager at the HSRC's Centre for Science Development, the investigation would attempt to identify the most important issues and formulate strategies for solving them.

According to an HSRC statement, Dr Slabbert had accepted the invitation to head the inves-

tigation on a part-time basis. He would be assisted by a committee representing all interest groups.

Dr Slabbert said he was pleased about his nomination, since the youth were the greatest asset of a new South Africa.

At the same time, the problems facing them were so complex that only in-depth research could identify possible solutions

Both the political instability of the past few years and the uncertainty of the next few years had rendered the project a matter of great urgency.

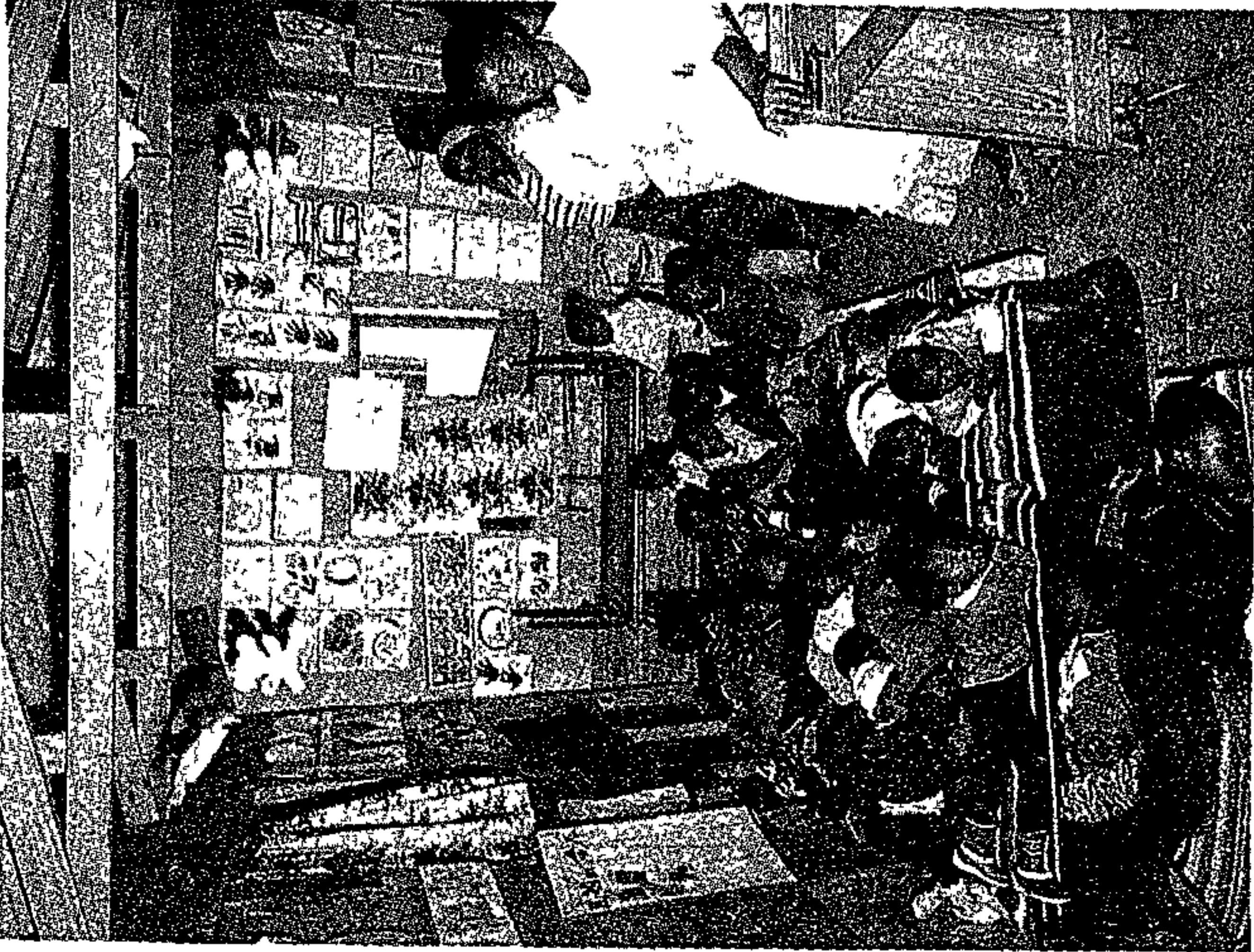
A seminar for exploring the field and identifying priorities was planned for August 5, Dr Slabbert said.

Interested parties are invited to liaise with Dr Johan Olivier at the Centre for Science Development. — Sapa.



# Day-care facilities crying out for help

(298) ARG 25/6/91



Pictures ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.

**CRAMPED:** Mrs Muriel Febana watches over her pre-school charges as they nap in the bungalow behind her home.

## It's a tough life for township toddlers

By LINDA GALLOWAY  
Staff Reporter

THE tiny forms on the thin foam mattresses with angelic sleeping faces belie the crazy, noisy, energetic reality of 50 pre-school children on the go.

This is the lot of Mrs Rosalia Khau, who runs the Baphumele Educare Centre in Khayelitsha. The building was bought by the Grassroots Educare Trust in 1980 as a community project.

Creches for pre-school children in black areas are not, as for many privileged families, an affordable "extra". They are essential for the economic wellbeing of families who depend on the income of all its members.

They are also essential to the peace of mind of mothers and single parents who must leave the townships before first light, travel long distances to work and back and seldom return before dark.

Mrs Khau's pre-school has a full and varied programme of activities for the children

from breakfast, painting, singing and drawing, to an after-lunch nap

There is no ceiling or insulation in the centre, windows are broken, there are no carpets and cooking is done on a hot plate in the playground

The parents of children at the Baphumele centre pay only what they can afford for this community service: R20 to R25 a month.

"We do not have the money to pay our salaries, we cannot buy equipment or proper food and we cannot afford to do the necessary renovations to the centre," Mrs Khau said.

"With winter here the children will be cold and wet."

There are no heaters, no stove or fridge and sometimes, there is no food for the children.

Mrs Muriel Febana has her pre-primary classes in a wooden bungalow in J-Section of the sprawling township.

Here the children lie head-to-toe during "sleep time" in a cramped room with no insulation. Their chairs and toys stand stacked outside in the sand.



**STRAPPED FOR CASH:** The staff at the Baphumele Educare Centre, Mrs Rosalia Khau, Mrs Cornelia Ntunja, Mrs Ellen Twala and Mrs Otilela Khakane, need funds to pay their salaries and for renovations.



# Fighting child abuse

Argus 22/6/91

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## STATISTICS SHOCK AS CHILDREN DIAL FREE FOR HELP

JANIS FRASER Weekend Argus Reporter

THE man whose wife calls him the "father of abused children" has no difficulty in gripping an audience when he tells them why he's dedicated to giving every frightened child an opportunity to find help.

"My son was an abused child and so was I," says Mr Jon Diboll.

Their abuse was dissimilar and took place in totally different circumstances, but, says Mr Diboll, the results were equally traumatic.

His young son, left in the care of a domestic worker at the toddling stage, was tied to a piano leg and left without bottle or nappy change for hours. Only when the worried parents became concerned about the little boy's development did they discover what was happening.

Now, five years later, he is finally overcoming the inhibiting effects of the trauma.

In Mr Diboll's case the abuse was not physical but emotional. As a child in England, he says bleakly, he was subjected to constant rebuke and criticism from his father "Even now I can't relate to him, there is no association between us."

Statistics show that child abuse in South Africa occurs on a horrendous scale. It is estimated that at least one in every three under 18-year-old girls and one in every five boys in the same age group are abused.

Last year the police said over 12 000 new child abuse cases would be reported. That's the tip of the iceberg, says Mr Diboll, proved by the massive

response to Child Line — the incredibly successful Round Table project to support and promote the service and affiliated help lines.

As a member of Rondebosch Round Table Mr Diboll helped organise the 1989 project which launched Child Help Line and Safe Line in the Western Cape. The following year he convened Child Help Line as a national project, supported by every Round Table club in the country. And he carried off the national Round Tabler of the Year award.

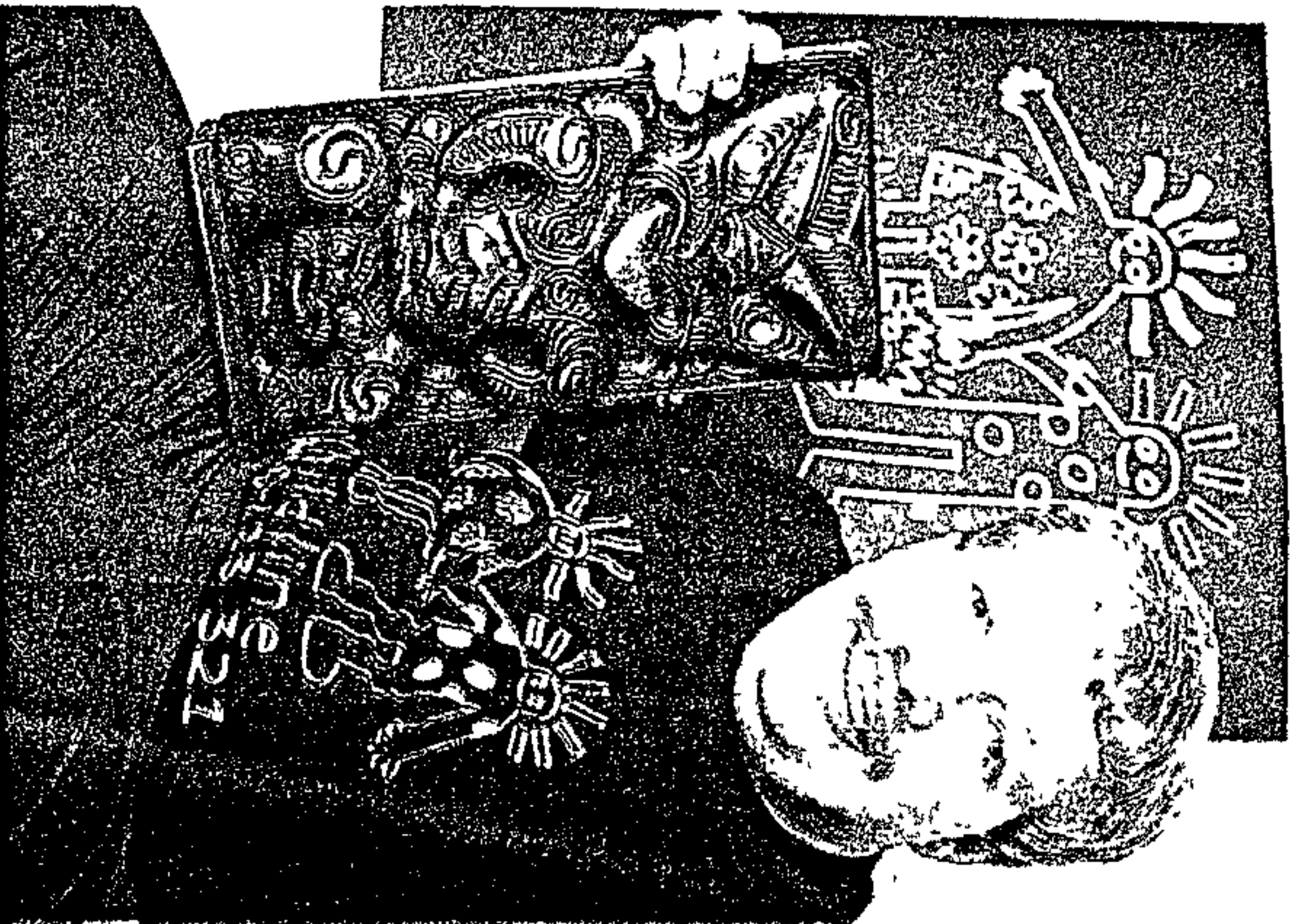
This year he made Round Table history when Child Help Line became the only project to be adopted nationally for the second year in succession.

It has meant involvement for Mr Diboll and fellow Round Tablers in every aspect of the projects, from drumming up free advertising — the ongoing radio, TV and print Child Line campaign has won Young and Rubicam a string of top awards — to selling Christmas trees and balloons.

There have been pole-sitting marathons and pamphlet hand-outs, T-shirt promotions and TV appearances and informal hand-outs literally by the million. Through it all, Mr Diboll remains quietly determined that the support will go on.

He cites the case of the sponsored dramatic group which toured schools in Natal with a play which encouraged abused children to speak openly of their fears.

"Through that play," says Mr Diboll, "fifty cases of sexual abuse by a teacher at one school were uncovered." On top of that 500 other cases of abuse were discovered, averaging 18 cases a school.



Picture ANDREW INGRAM, Weekend Argus

**AWARD:** Mr Jon Diboll with the Maori carving for Round Tabler of the Year, which he was given for his work in helping establish the Child Help Line for abused children.

A minimum of five cases in each 18 involved severe sexual or physical abuse within the family and were referred for professional attention.

The radio rap and advertising campaign and newspaper

periences. It has also drawn responses from people who want to become volunteer counsellors.

"People are often unsure of what they should do when they suspect a case of abuse. The very first letter came from a teacher in Cape Town who wanted to report a case of child abuse but didn't know how to go about it."

This weekend Mr Diboll is in Namibia to help Round Tablers launch the first Child Line there. Next week it's Natal and Bophuthatswana.

Is he aiming to push Child Help Line for a third in a row as a national project?

"My wife's hoping not," he grins. But the smile says that he and his wife Cindy don't really mean that.

Rondebosch Round Table is debating asking for Child Help Line to become an ongoing national theme which would become synonymous with the organisation.

Synonymous with Mr Jon Diboll as well. "As long as this dirty business goes on it has to be fought," he says.

● Chilling statistics show that more than 100 000 calls have been made to the cry-for-help Child Line so far this year, almost double the total for the whole of 1990.

The Child Line toll-free network has been in operation only since August 31 1989 and to date 165 000 calls, many of them desperate appeals for help by sexually, physically and emotionally abused youngsters, have been taken by trained counsellors.

Callers also include abusers, begging for help, and in some cases immediate action is taken to remove a child from a threatening situation.

At this stage the calls come mainly from the coloured, Indi-

an and white communities and an awareness campaign is to be launched to encourage black children to make use of the toll-free 0800 123321 number.

Child Line started in August 1989 and in the following four months there were 2 531 calls. However, thanks to high-powered Round Table publicity and financial support the number of callers rose to 61 042 in the following year.

In addition there are two affiliated pay lines in Cape Town and one each in Durban, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg which each average between 300 and 400 calls a month.

Mr Marcus du Toit, head of the Child Emergency Service, said the toll-free number was now averaging 600 calls a day. "We are functioning at our limit at the moment, there's not really much room for the figures to escalate. But we are getting more lines and better equipment. We will be able to cope."

He said, "The majority of calls are about broad terms, mostly made by children who are unhappy. It could be something serious, although it could be seen in adult eyes to be trivial, but to the children it is affecting their feelings about themselves. We don't mind sharing ideas, doing preventive work, we are equipped to deal with delicate situations."

The biggest single category of calls had some sexual connotation, he said. It could be to do with physical development or abuse, threatened or real. Many mothers also called to ask advice on how to tell their children about sex and sexuality.

Child Line is a 24-hour service — the toll-free number again is 0800 123321.



# Saving <sup>(295)</sup> children <sub>ARCS 24/6/91</sub>

By VUYO BAVUMA, Staff Reporter

MORE than 700 malnourished Khayelitsha children will starve if a Good Samaritan does not help their charity feeding scheme which has run into financial trouble.

Save The Children Fund spends R140 000 a month providing vital food for tots, from breast-fed babies up to children of six, at Site C and Site B once every two weeks.

The four-year old project, run by Mrs Rose Ann Wilson and three workers, works in conjunction with the University of Cape Town's Students Health and Welfare Committee, Shawco.

Chairman Mrs Wilson said the project was now appealing for funds as it would be unable to assist the children after January next year.

The project was in a desperate situation as it was struggling to help the babies as numbers increased daily.

"Some babies are referred to us by Philani clinic in Khayelitsha. Others are underweight and have sickness such as TB and kwashiorkor.

"We put all the babies on our dietary list. We monitor their weights as we feed them, but we don't stop helping them even when they become healthy," she said.

This was impossible because they would be underweight again as they already lived in bad conditions.

Mrs Wilson said the food given to the mothers was supposed to last a fortnight "but we know it doesn't."

"We are hoping that food prices, especially milk, don't go up. Sometimes we do provide the children with clothing but now we are facing hard times."

Donations can be sent to Save The Children Fund, 36 Tennant Road, Kenilworth 7700. Inquiries: Mrs Wilson 761 6954.



Picture. DOUG PITHEY, The Argus.

**NEEDY:** Volunteer worker Mr Peter Cako, left, speaks to Mrs Noncedile Nganto whose twins are given vital food by the Save The Children Fund. Chairman Mrs Rose Ann Wilson, centre, stands by ready to help and dozens of other mothers with babies wait their turn for the fortnightly life-saving gifts.

# Killer teens' sentences suspended

SUSAN RUSSELL

THREE teenagers who beat a man to death on a Krugersdorp street after a party were each given five-year fully suspended sentences in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Mr Justice B O'Donovan also sentenced the youths to 1 200 hours of community service each at the Krugersdorp SPCA for what he had earlier described as a "brutal attack".

They were last month found not guilty of murder, but convicted of culpable homicide.

The youths, two of whom are now 17 years old and the third 16, beat and kicked Patrick Matlhale to death in February last year. Matlhale was at-

tacked while walking with a companion, Ida Sithole.

Mr Justice O'Donovan, sitting with two assessors, accepted that the three had consumed alcohol before the attack, but found they had been fully aware of their actions.

The trial was adjourned until yesterday for the submission of a probation officer's report.

The judge accepted defence submissions that the trio's ages, their consumption of alcohol and the fact they had no previous convictions were mitigating circumstances in determining sentence.

Counsel for two of the

youths asked that his clients be given cuts with a light cane instead of community service (298)

The judge said it was desirable that youths with no previous convictions be kept out of jail

He suspended the five-year sentences on condition the youths not be found guilty of a crime involving violence during the period of suspension. They must also submit themselves to the care of a probation officer during that time as well as undergo psychological therapy

The probation officer was directed to submit reports on each to the Registrar of the court every six months

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## Convicted killers to serve at SPCA

By Cathy Stagg

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Three youths, who who were convicted of culpable homicide for beating a man who later died of his injuries, will have to serve 1 200 hours of community service at the Krugersdorp SPCA as one of the conditions of their suspended jail sentences.

Star 12/6/91  
The three teenagers, who may not be identified because they are under 18, beat up Patrick Matlhale in Sievwright Street, Krugersdorp, on February 17 last year.

Passing sentence in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday, Mr Justice B O'Donovan took into account that the attack was not premeditated.

The schoolboys, aged 17, 16 and 15, had no previous convictions and, the judge said, it was desirable to keep first offenders out of jail.

less of the race classification of the pupils concerned;

(a) and (b) fall away;

(2) see (1),

(3) every year the Department receives less funds in real terms. The formula would only reflect any addition to the total number of pupils after the second year. However, this year there are 10 538 pupils fewer than in 1989;

(4) no

Mr R M BURROWS Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask whether, in the light of the reply that he has given, the same situation will arise when students of colour are admitted to teacher colleges?

\*The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, in a certain sense it will be so, but not altogether, because the formula that is applied there and the procedure differ somewhat. At the moment we are in a process of negotiation with the receiving departments and with certain bodies in respect of the services rendered at education colleges, as the hon member will have noticed in the statement I issued in this regard. We are engaged in such negotiations

*Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament*

Provincial departments: non-White teachers employed

\*5. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture

Whether any provincial department of education has taken into employment any teacher who is not classified as White; if so, (a) which provincial departments and (b) how many teachers in total?

B1157E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Yes,

- (a) Cape Education Department,  
(b) two part-time music teachers

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

For written reply.

General Affairs

Sexual abuse: cases

282 Mr B B GOODALL asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether any cases of sexual abuse of (a) boys and (b) girls were reported in 1989 and 1990, respectively, if so, how many in each case;

(2) in respect of these cases, how many (a) men and (b) women were (i) charged with and (ii) convicted of sexual abuse;

(3) how many of the (a) men and (b) women accused of sexual abuse were (i) related to and (ii) strangers to their victims?

B746E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

(1) Yes

For the purpose of the answer no distinction is made between boys and girls as statistics in these two categories are not kept separately.

The particulars in respect of boys and girls are as follows:

	1989	1990
Rape	2 133	2 623
Sodomy	417	475
Incest	354	251
Indecent Assault	1 690	1 553
Sexual Offences Act	991	1 209

(2) and (3)

No statistics are kept of these particulars

To acquire the information which the hon member desires, would be extremely time-consuming and would take place to the detriment of other more important police duties. I can therefore unfortunately not furnish this information

AK47 weapons used in armed robbery

354. Mr J CHIOLÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order:

How many cases of armed robbery of institutions and/or business undertakings in White areas in which AK47 automatic weapons were used occurred in (a) the first quarter of 1991, (b) 1990 and (c) 1989?

B949E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(a) 63

(b) 53

(c) 9

NOTE

From 4 January 1991 until 31 May 1991 the South African Police, in co-operation with the public, seized a total of 582 AK47 rifles.

This illustrates the vigilance and determination of the Police to rid South Africa of the curse of the AK47, which has caused so much bloodshed and misery in our society. Persons smuggling fire-arms into the country and using these arms to enrich themselves in a quick and easy manner, care little about the loss of life which these arms could cause.

Their deeds are abhorrent and are rejected by all peace-loving South Africans. For this reason the South African Police receives a great measure of co-operation from the public in general to trace this type of arm.

This curse in the South African society must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. Those who illegally have arms of this nature in their possession and sow death and destruction amongst innocent persons, are cowardly murderers who do not respect the freedom of movement, rights and safety of others. They will not be accepted in the South African society.

Consequently I emphasise a standpoint which I took previously, that the South African Police will not rest before this curse has been totally eradicated. In this regard I make an urgent and serious appeal to all South Africans to assist and support the South African Police in this respect. There are ample rewards, and the allocation thereof to persons who lead to the tracking down of this type of arm, will be applied consistently.

Violence: deaths of Blacks

357 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) How many Blacks died in Black townships in (a) the Transvaal, (b) the Orange Free State, (c) Natal and (d) the Cape Province in the 1990 calendar year as a result of violent clashes between (i)

Blacks among themselves and (ii) Blacks and the South African Police;

(2) how many members of the South African Police were (a) injured and (b) killed in each province in that year during or as a result of such clashes in Black townships?

B935E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

(1) (a) (i) 1 196

(ii) 69

(b) (i) 51

(ii) 48

(c) (i) 1 050

(ii) 37

(d) (i) 97

(ii) 31

(2) (a) Transvaal 204

Orange Free State 82

Natal 80

Cape Province 268

Total 634

(b) Transvaal 25

Orange Free State 2

Natal 28

Cape Province 13

Total 68

Old-age homes: waiting lists

375. Mrs C H CHARLEWOOD asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing:

Whether there are waiting lists at any of the old-age homes falling under the control of the provincial administrations; if so, in respect of each provincial administration, (a) at which homes, (b) what is the capacity of each of these homes, (c) how many names are there on each corresponding waiting list and (d) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B1007E

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



with the cleaning-up—

11 332 people  
1 464 vessels  
4 062 radios  
200 kilometre oil booms  
54 oil recovery skimmers  
84 aircraft

Although the reply to the first part of your question should thus be no, I would like to reply as follows

(1) South Africa and Cape Town have limited facilities and good contingency plans for dealing with a major oil spill.

- (a) (1) 4 Kuswag dispersant spray vessels carrying  $\pm 85$  t of dispersant each, an additional 160 000 litres of dispersant in stock, 1 reconnaissance aircraft, 760 m of oil containment boom, 1 oil skimmer, oil sorbent materials, held by the Department of Environment Affairs in Cape Town.
- Other specialised equipment held by organisations such as the Navy, Portnet, etc are listed in the contingency plans and are readily available. General, less specialised, equipment held by other bodies is also listed in the plans

(ii) 26 coastal oil spill contingency plans have been compiled for the whole South African coastline. These plans contain all the information required to deal with an oil spill at sea. A comprehensive plan exists for the Cape Town area

- (b) Department of Environment Affairs
- (2) Research has, and is, being carried out by the Sea Fisheries Research Institute to determine the impact of oil spills on the marine environment, including the impact of clean-up measures on marine life. These projects include the assessment of the effects of oil on rock lobster and sand prawns as well as on other organisms. The effects of dispersants and other chemical agents have also been determined. A wide range of research projects was un-

dertaken, the results of which were used during the compilation of the contingency plans

Maritime disaster: impact on Cape tourist industry

\*4. Mr J H MOMBORG asked the Minister of Trade and Industry and Tourism

- (1) Whether any research has been done on the impact an oil spill or a toxic maritime disaster will have on the Cape tourist industry, if not, why not; if so, what impact will it have,

- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B1118E

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND TOURISM:

- (1) The natural environment is probably one of the most important elements of the attractions of a region that give rise to tourism. A recent inquiry into a strategy for tourism development has found, among others, that there is an increasing interest for holiday experiences which are related to the interaction between man and nature, for instance, walking, mountaineering, diving, surfing, etc.

This implies that the preservation of the natural environment, apart from other obvious reasons, is also of the utmost importance for the promotion and maintenance of a healthy, growing tourism industry. For this reason there is close and continuous deliberation between myself and my colleagues at the Ministries of Environment Affairs and Transport regarding all events on our coast which may pose the slightest pollution threat. For instance, consultations took place very recently in connection with the damaged ore carrier "Kashee" lying at anchor in False Bay.

- (2) I have already referred to the inquiry into a strategy for tourism development which has been undertaken jointly by Satour and the Development Bank of Southern Africa. The results of this inquiry are contained in a report which is presently under consideration. Aspects pertaining to the environmental impact on tourism were also considered. In the meantime I

do not intend to make a further statement on the matter

De Aar: assault of Coloured boys

\*5. Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister of Law and Order

- (1) Whether the South African Police are investigating the alleged assault on three Coloured boys at the De Aar municipal swimming pool by a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, if not, why not, if so, (a) what progress has been made in this regard and (b) what is this person's name;

- (2) whether the Police are taking steps to prevent further similar right-wing attacks on civilians; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

B1121E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes.

(a) After the investigation by the South African Police had been completed, the case docket was handed over to the Attorney-General who decided to charge two persons on charges of assault. These persons have already appeared in the Magistrate's Court in De Aar and the case has been postponed to 16 July 1991.

(b) Mr D J Bothma.

- (2) Yes, the functions of the South African Police are, *inter alia*, the maintenance of law and order and the prevention of crime. This implies that the task of the South African Police is at all times directed at, *inter alia*, protecting all persons against attacks by other persons, irrespective of who may be responsible for such attacks. This principle is applied consistently.

In De Aar regular patrols are carried out in the town, also at the swimming pool, and duties are performed at galas and other public gatherings there, in order to maintain law and order. Should law and order be disturbed in any manner—also attacks on civilians—the Police will take steps to act against any transgressions of the law.

Incident at Ventersdorp squatter camp: SADP involvement

\*6. Dr F HARTZENBERG asked the Minister of Defence

- (1) Whether the South African Defence Force made use of any national servicemen to assist the South African Police or to perform any other function on 11 May 1991, during the action against the farmers who gathered near a squatter camp at Ventersdorp; if so, (a) what was the nature of the deployment of the national servicemen by the Defence Force and/or Police and (b) what units were involved;

- (2) whether national servicemen will be considered again for possible future action of this nature;

- (3) whether he will make a statement in this connection?

B1124E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

- (1) Yes

(a) In support of the SA Police

(b) The Dame Theron Combat School and the SA Defence Force Equestrian Centre

- (2) It will be determined by circumstances

- (3) No

Attacks by dogs

\*7. Mr A E DE WET asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether serious attacks by dogs on human beings are reported to the South African Police; if not, why not, if so, (a) how many such attacks were reported during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available and (b) how many of these attacks were by pit bull terriers;

- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B1151E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) (a) and (b) Yes, but only in so far as criminal offences result therefrom. This means in effect that, *inter alia*, those cases where dogs are incited by persons to



# Housewife launches trust fund for needy children

C/Times 13/6/91.

298

A SIMON'S TOWN housewife and mother of two has through 18 months of dogged perseverance seen the launch of a trust fund to aid underprivileged children in Ocean View.

Mrs Elona Lochner became aware of the plight

of many children when she discovered a boy at a church service who had been abused by his parents and was in need of attention.

"When he first came to my home, all he wanted was bread and tea and brought up any other

good food I gave him," she told the Constantia-berg Review this week.

Since then, she's pioneered an extensive feeding scheme at one of the schools and every day — with the help of teachers — provides

meals for 350 to 400 children.

"With a recent donation of R1 000, we'll be able to increase that figure to more than 1 000 children," she said.

"You're looking at a population of 12 000 people on a not very large piece of land — excluding the squatter community of 600 families — that has no infrastructure by normal standards.

"An after-care centre, another crèche and a night shelter are also needed and I hope to see to these in the near future," she said, adding that an after-care centre had been launched last week.

## Not eaten

"Many children are on the streets from 1pm until 6pm when their parents come home and this is where much of the drug, alcohol and child abuse starts," she said.

Citing an example of the desperate plight of many children in Ocean View, Mrs Lochner told the story of a Std 4 boy whose circumstances were brought to her attention by the boy's aunt last week.

"He had eaten a plate of food on Thursday, but before that hadn't eaten since Monday and before that Thursday. His parents are alcoholics.

"He is just one of hundreds. Many children, as they get older, are too proud to let on about their desperate home circumstances," she said.

## Committee

Mrs Lochner said that though the trust is in desperate need of funds, anything that anyone wishes to donate will be put to good use.

"The trust — which has been established by the SAS Chapman in Simon's Town — will also be administered strictly by a committee of five," she said.

# Suspended jail terms for killer schoolboys

By MARTIN NTSOENGGOE  
16/6/11  
THREE white Krugersdorp schoolboys who battered a black man to death, received five-year suspended jail sentences this week.

Patrick Matlhale was beaten to death by the three boys on the night of February 17, last year after being cornered in a Krugersdorp street.

The three schoolboys, who may not be named, were earlier convicted in the Rand Supreme Court of culpable homicide for

beating Matlhale to death.

Judge B O'Donovan sentenced the youths to five years' imprisonment suspended for five years, on several conditions.

He ordered the youths, aged 15, 16 and 17, to do 1 200 hours of community service at the Krugersdorp SPCA under the supervision of a probation officer.

He also ordered that the youths be placed under the supervision of a probation officer for the suspension period, and receive therapy if the officer thought it necessary.

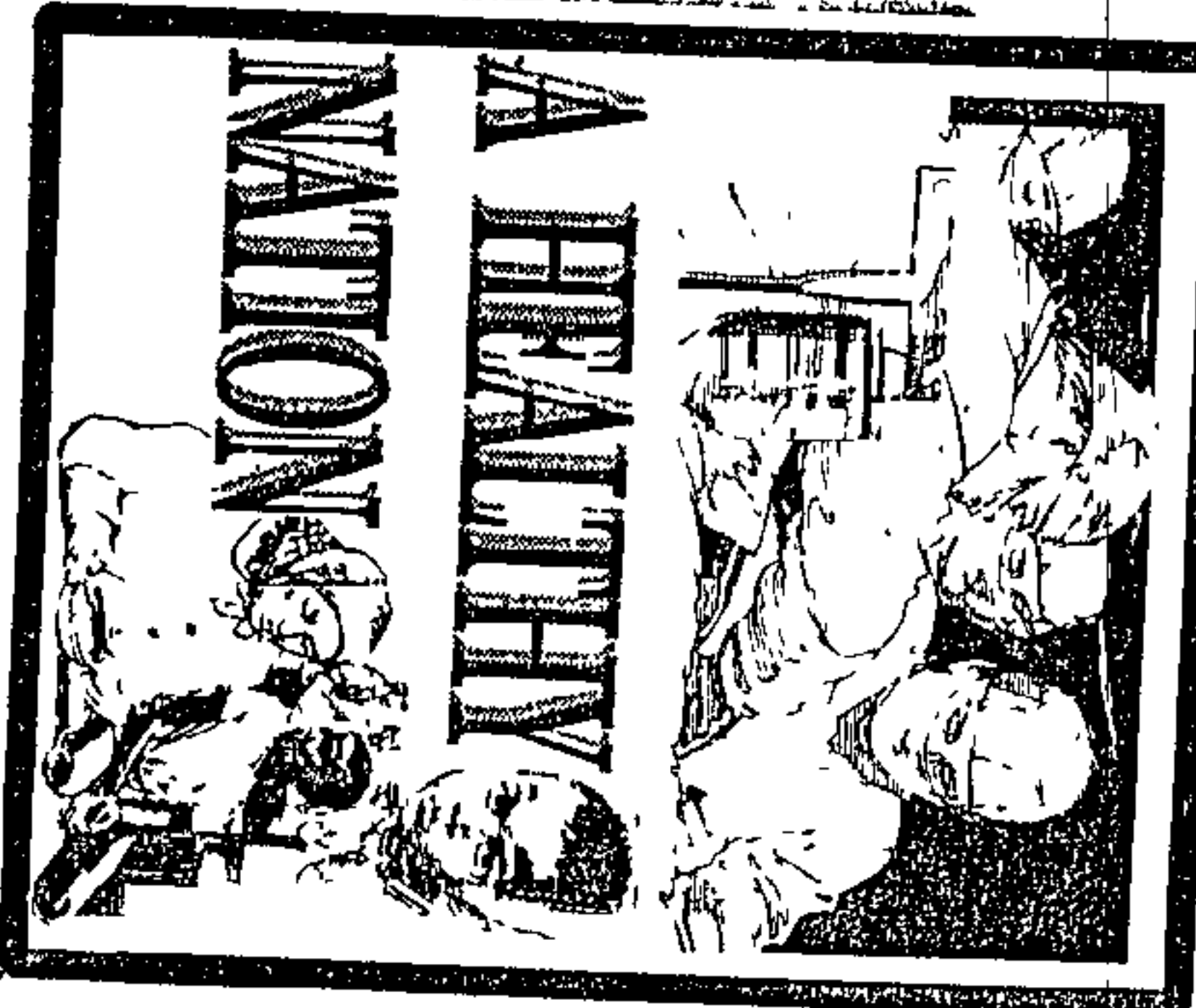
The court expected a progress report every six months, the judge said.

The judge accepted that the boys had been drinking at a party earlier on the night of the killing, but ruled that they knew they were doing wrong.

Idah Sithole, Matlhale's girlfriend at the time of his death, said after sentencing: "If they can drink liquor and kill they are old enough to go to prison."

Two Krugersdorp whites were convicted last month for the murder of Fistus Dikolobe.

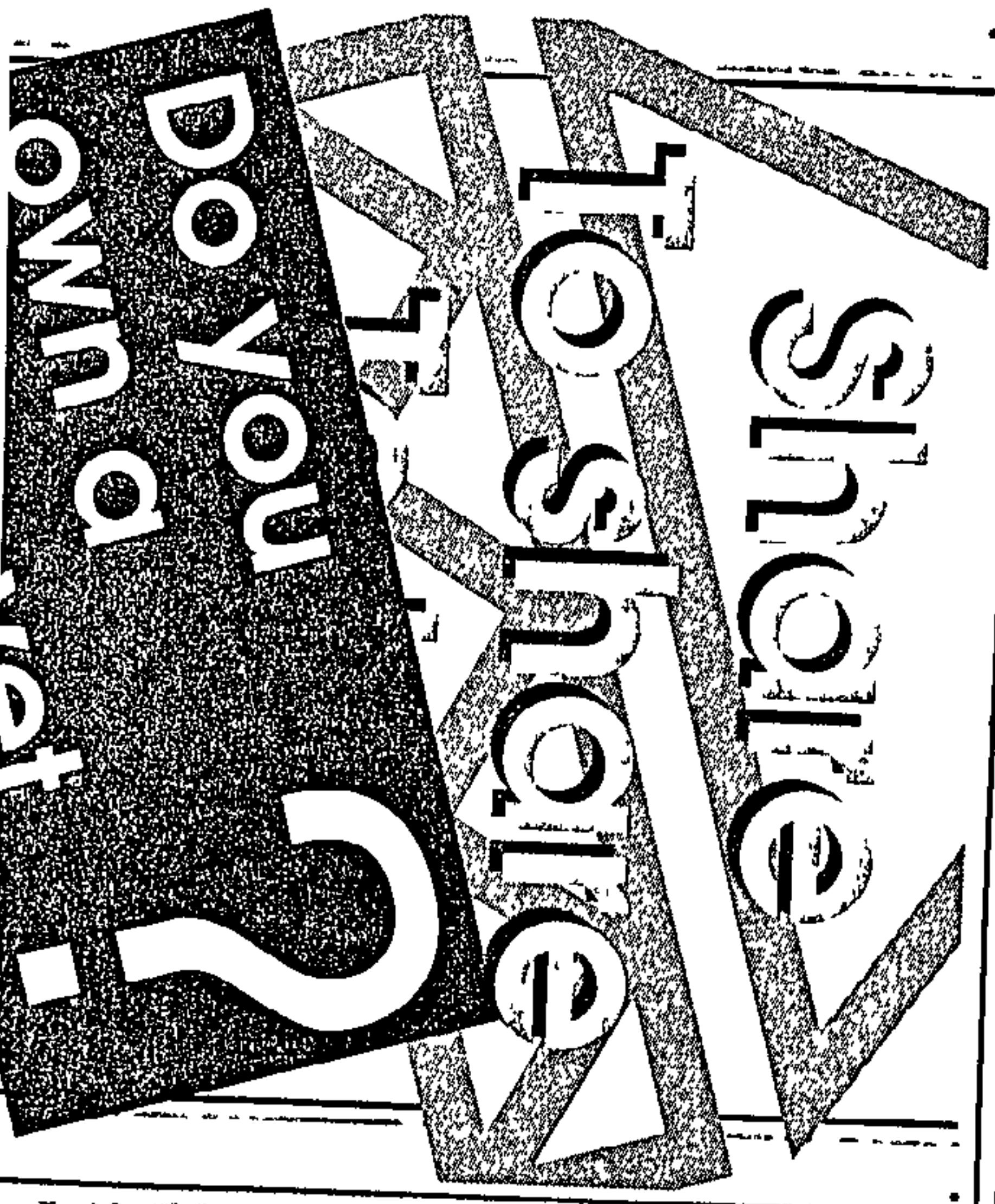




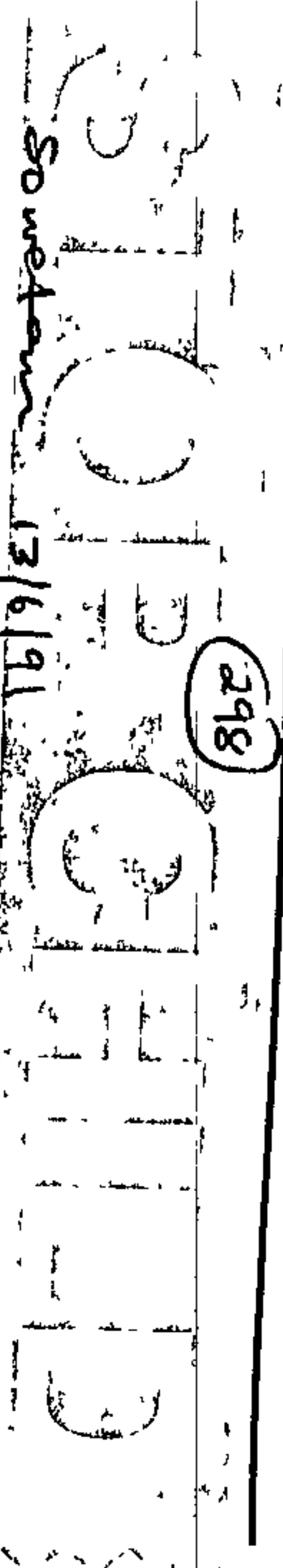
**FRIENDS,** this week I talk about a subject that is very close to my heart, and I'm sure a subject that is also close to your hearts.

I'm talking about our children and what we call "child abuse". The children are our future, if their minds or bodies are harmed then they will grow up to be sick people who cannot build our nation.

We can only guard our children if we know what "child abuse" is and what we and our communities can do about it.



**Every Thursday in Sowetan a doctor from the Alexandra Health Clinic gives advice on medical matters. It would be a good idea to cut these articles out and keep them in a safe place so that you can use them when you need them. Also, you can write to the doctor at A Healthy Nation, PO Box 6663, Johannesburg 2000. He might not be able to deal with every question individually, but he will do his best to deal with most of them in this column.**



money, if the child is not loved or if dangerous things like paraffin are left for the child to drink, that child is abused.

**Q: These are terrible things to happen to children. I can understand that it would be bad for their minds and bodies. How can I recognise that this is happening?**

**A:** Once you know about child abuse, you should look out for these things.

1. A child who has been beaten may have a broken bone, cuts, bruises or bite marks. This can happen to any child but you should think about child abuse if it happens

again and again.  
2. A child who has been made to have sex. These children may not complain of anything. But you may see:  
\* A discharge or sores on their private parts;  
\* They talk about sex even when they are too young to talk of such matters.  
\* They may start behaving differently;  
\* They may be pregnant at a very young age.  
3. A child who has not been looked after may not grow well or do well at school, may have a lot of sickness even when there is money for medicine and food.

**Q: What is child abuse?**  
**A:** It is any injury done on purpose to a child's mind or body by an adult or older child.  
A child may be hit or shaken, burnt with a cigarette or hot water, he/she may even be bitten. This is all "child abuse". The child is being hurt on purpose.  
If a person has sex with a child, or even plays with the child's private parts, this is also child abuse. Even making the child watch people fondling or having sex is abusing the child.  
The child's mind is being hurt by something that is not natural and their bodies may be hurt by the sexual act. They may also get dangerous infections.  
If a child is not fed even though there is food in the house, if he/she is





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Sowetan 13/6/91

Q: What kind of people do things like these?

A: They are often people who had this done to them when they were children. They may be neighbours, friends, schoolboys or strangers but it is often someone in the child's family.

Q: Does this only happen in our community?

A: No, it happens in all communities

Q: If I think a child has

been abused what should I do?

A: Take the child to your clinic as soon as possible. If it is a sex problem do not wash the child. The doctor will get other people such as a social worker to help the child and the family.

Q: What will happen to the person who has done this?

A: The family can report the matter to the police

and the person can be charged

Sometimes it is difficult. I know that the uncle of a 10-year-old girl is having sex with her but the mother is afraid to stop him.

The uncle says he will beat the mother and stop giving her money if she reports him.

The mother must remember that it is the child that is the most important.

The people at the clinic will help her so that the best thing happens to the child and the mother is protected.

Q: I'm a mother and this talk has made me very afraid for my child

A: If we teach our children properly then we need not be afraid. As parents we should:

- \* Always know where our children are;
- \* Teach them to walk together;
- \* They should not be out after dark.
- \* They should not talk to strangers.

Also in our culture to say no to an adult is not being respectful but a

child must learn the body is private. He must say no if an adult wants to have sex or touches his/her private parts.

Q: What can our communities do about this?

A: By making sure everyone knows about this problem and knows what they can do we can stop this terrible thing.

If you want more information contact these people:

- \* Transvaal Memorial Institute Child Abuse Clinic (011) 642-7554 Ext. 2114
- \* Alexandra Clinic (011) 440-1231 - Dr Howard or Sister Legora Marumo
- \* Childline (011) 484-3044 Toll free 0800-123-321

For our children's sake let's stop child abuse

**If a child is not fed even though there is food; if the child is not taken to the clinic to be immunised or if dangerous things like paraffin are left for him/her to drink, THAT is child abuse.**

**STOPS**

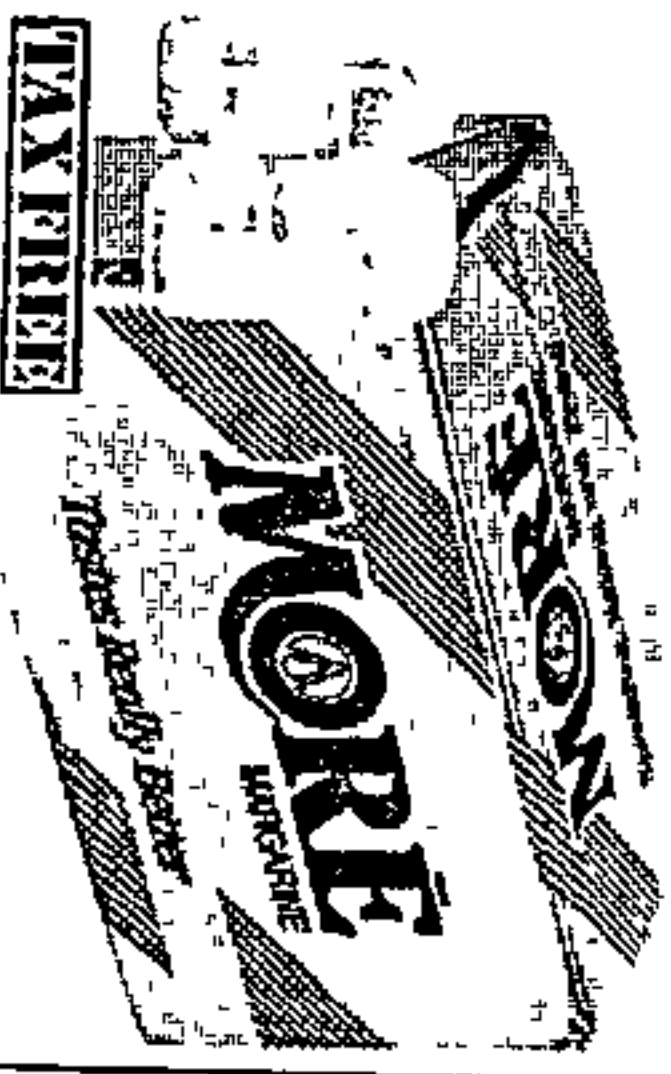
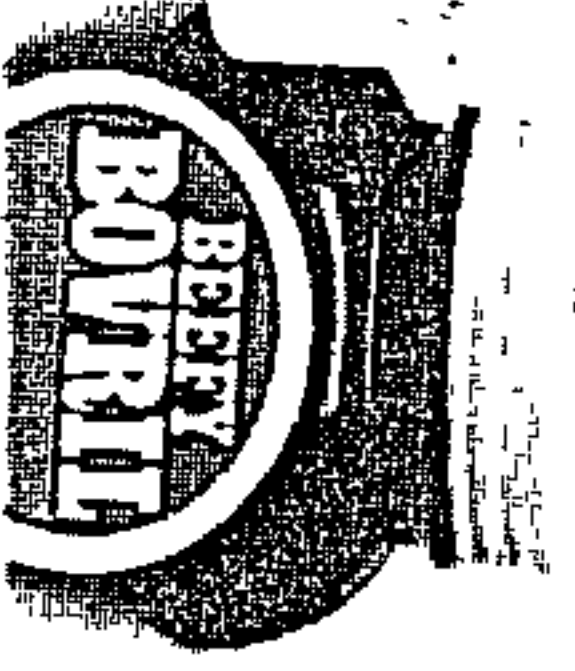
**NEW**

**WASH**

**WASH**

**WASH**

**WASH**





~~2350~~ the KTC-case on the days on which he worked on other cases. For other cases in which he acted on behalf of the Minister of Law and Order or the South African Police he naturally, also did not charge a higher fee than that which he could charge according to the fees agreed upon for the KTC-case.

For some of these cases he, in fact, charged a fee which was less than the fees agreed upon.

(a) and (b) Fall away

#### Government Service Pension Fund: interest rate

447. Mr P J PAULUS asked the Minister of Finance:

- (1) What interest rate did the Government Service Pension Fund receive in each financial year from 1984-85 up to and including 1990-91 in respect of funds invested in (a) Government securities and (b) semi-Government securities;

- (2) whether a change of policy regarding investment possibilities is being considered; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

B1162E

#### The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) (a) and (b)

Interest rates in respect of funds invested in Government securities and semi-Government securities, are not individually available

1984-85	11,5%
1985-86	12,5%
1986-87	13,3%
1986-88	13,7%
1988-89	13,9%
1989-90	14,8%
1990-91	14,8%

- (2) I recently announced that a Committee of experts in the private sector had been appointed to advise the Government on the future structure and slings of the Government Pension Funds. The investment policy inevitably forms part of the Committee's assignment and until such

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

time as it has finalised its business and the Government has considered its recommendations, no conclusive answer can be given

#### Squatters in Germiston: attack by Whites

448 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether he or the South African Police have been informed of an alleged attack by a group of Whites on squatters at Old Goedehoop High School in Railway Street, Germiston, on or about 2 June 1991; if not, why not; if so,

- (2) whether an investigation into this incident is taking place; if not, why not; if so, what progress has been made in this investigation;

- (3) whether any (a) suspects have been identified, (b) arrests have been made and (c) charges have been laid in connection with this incident; if not, why not; if so, (i) how many in each case and (ii) what is the nature of the charges;

- (4) whether any squatters were injured in this attack; if so, (a) how many and (b) what was the nature of the injuries,

- (5) whether he or the Police intend taking any action to prevent further similar attacks; if not, why not; if so, what action?

B1163E

#### The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes

- (2) Yes, the matter is being investigated and numerous arrests have already been made.

- (3) (a) Yes.

- (b) Yes.

- (c) Yes.

- (i) and (ii)

The case is still being investigated, but six identified suspects have already been arrested for public violence.

- (4) (a) and (b).

Yes, 5 squatters sustained superficial wounds

- (5) Yes, the functions of the South African

Police are, inter alia, the maintenance of law and order and the prevention of crime. This implies that the task of the South African Police is at all time directed at, inter alia, protecting all persons against attacks by other persons, irrespective of who may be responsible for such attacks. This principle is applied consistently.

Should law and order be disturbed in any manner—also attacks on civilians—the Police will take steps to act against any transgressions of the law.

#### Note

The squatters have already vacated the Old Goedehoop High School in terms of a court order, in that the Messenger of the Court acted in terms of an eviction order to remove them

#### Newlands police station: child abuse reported

449 Mrs C H CHARLEWOOD asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether a case of alleged child abuse involving a 9-year-old girl and a White couple was reported at the Newlands police station; if so, when,

- (2) whether an investigation into this incident is taking place, if not, why not, if so, what progress has been made in this investigation;

- (3) whether there are any suspects in this case; if so,

- (4) whether any arrests have been made in connection with this incident; if not, why not, if so, (a) how many, (b) when, (c) what are the names of the persons so arrested and (d) what is the nature of the charges being laid against them?

B1164E

#### The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) No, but there was a case of alleged rape reported at the Parkview Police Station on 19 March 1991, which was investigated by the Child Protection Unit at the General Johan Coetzee Police Station

- (2) Yes, after conclusion of the investigation the case docket was submitted to the

Senior Public Prosecutor in Johannesburg

- (3) Yes

- (4) Yes.

- (a) 2 Persons

- (b) 11 April 1991

- (c) Since the Senior Public Prosecutor has declined prosecution, it is not regarded to be in the interest of these persons to make their names known.
- (d) A charge of alleged rape was investigated

#### Infant mortality rate

451 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health:

What was the infant mortality rate for (a) Blacks, (b) Whites, (c) Coloureds and (d) Indians in (i) urban and (ii) rural areas in South Africa in 1990?

B1166E

#### The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

Infant mortality rates for 1990 are not yet available. The following table contains infant mortality rates for 1988 and 1989. The Department of National Health and Population Development has no separate rates available for urban and rural areas in South Africa.

Infant mortality rates (per 1 000 live births)

Year	Population Group		
	Indian	Black	Coloured
1988	17,4	57,4	57,5
1989	12,2	n/a	35,1
			8,6

Note: n/a = not available.

#### Typhoid: cases of deaths

452. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

How many (a) cases of and (b) deaths from typhoid were reported in respect of each race group in each province in 1990?

B1167E

#### The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (a) Notified cases of typhoid fever in 1990 RSA (as on 7 June 1991)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



*Provincial Administration of the Orange Free State*

- (i) no and  
(ii) yes,  
R700,00

*Transvaal Provincial Administration*

- (i) no and  
(ii) yes,  
R1 723,52  
R18 963,00  
R3 500,00  
R10 000,00  
R1 500,00  
R1 000,00  
R86 692,55  
R4 219,16  
R2 500,00  
R9 000,00

**Foster parents: monthly State grants**

419. Mr R F HASWELL asked the Minister of National Health:

- (a) What are the monthly grants paid by the State to foster parents of children of each race group and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B1098E

**THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH**

- (a) Whites R212 pm  
Indians and Coloureds : R190 pm  
Blacks : R160 pm and  
(b) 1 April 1991.

**Certain person: obstruction of CCB probe**

420. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order

- (1) Whether he or the South African Police have been informed of a claim by a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, that he burnt documents and removed weapons to confuse the Harms Commission in its investigation

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

any way involved in the activities of the Harms Commission, could be found to date

No substantial evidence could be found that weapons were removed.

- (3) Yes  
(4) (a) No, because Ronald Bezuidenhout was never a member of the South African Police  
(b) No

*Per capita expenditure*

421. Mr J H MOMBORG asked the Minister of Education and Training

- (1) What was his Department's *per capita* expenditure on education for the Republic during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available;  
(2) whether his Department has statistics on the *per capita* expenditure on education for the (a) Qwaqwa and (b) KwaZulu Department of Education and Culture, if not, why not, if so, (i) what are the relevant statistics and (ii) in respect of what period is this information furnished?

B1104E

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING:**

- (1) R1 194 (for the Department of Education and Training only)  
(2) (a) and (b) No. The Department of Education and Training does not have the relevant information officially at its disposal

**Sebokeng: shooting incident at beerhall**

429. Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister of Law and Order.

- (1) Whether he or the South African Police have been informed of an incident in which a number of persons were killed and injured when gunmen allegedly opened fire in a beerhall in Sebokeng; if so, (a) what were the circumstances surrounding the incident and (b) how many persons were (i) killed and (ii) injured;  
(2) whether this incident is being investigated, if not, why not; if so, what progress has been made;

- (3) whether any arrests have been made in connection with the incident; if so, (a) how many, (b) what are the names of those arrested and (c) what is the nature of the charges laid against them?

B1122E

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:**

- (1) Yes.  
(a) On 23 May 1991 at 19:10 2 male persons who were allegedly armed with AK47 rifles, entered the Co-operation beerhall in Zone 14, Sebokeng and without any reason started firing at those present.

- (b) (i) 8 People  
(ii) 23 People

- (2) Yes, charges of murder and attempted murder are being investigated. All the information which has so far come to the attention of the Police has received attention, but without success. The injured can also not supply any information on the matter, or identify the suspects. All possible steps are being taken to trace the accused and I make an urgent appeal to any person who disposes over any information regarding the incident, to contact the South African Police.

A reward of R40 000,00 is being offered for any information which will lead to the arrest and conviction of the accused

- (3) No.  
(a) to (c) Fall away

**Vote No 24: Main Division 5**

439. Mr W J D VAN WYK asked the Minister of Public Works and Land Affairs:

- Whether with regard to Vote No 24—Public Works and Land Affairs, he will subdivide the amount of R1 416 239 000 under Main Division 5—“Provision of buildings, structures and equipment”, according to aims; if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

B1145E

**THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS:**

Yes. One of the primary aims of the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs is the

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

# Cries for help flooding

Spd 22/6/91

298

CAPE TOWN — Chilling statistics show that over 100 000 calls have been made to the cry-for-help Child Line so far this year, almost double the total for the whole of 1990.

## Child Line offers hope to victim and abuser

JANIS FRASER

The Child Line toll-free network has been in operation only since August 31 1989, and to date a total of 165 000 calls, many of them desperate appeals for help by sexually, physically and emotionally abused youngsters, have been taken by trained counsellors.

Callers also include abusers, begging for help, and in some cases immediate action is taken to remove a child from a threatening situation. At this stage the calls

come mainly from the coloured, Indian and white communities, but an awareness campaign is to be launched to encourage black children to make use of the toll-free 0-800-123321 number.

Child Line started in August 1989 and in the next four months there were 2 531 calls. However, thanks to high-powered Round Table publicity and financial support, the number of callers rose to 61 042 in the next year.

In addition there are two affiliated pay lines in Cape Town and one each in Durban, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg which each average between 300 and 400 calls a month.

Marcus du Toit, head of the Child Emergency Service, said the toll-free number was now averaging 600 calls a day. "We are functioning at our limit at the moment, there's not really much room for the figures to escalate. But we are getting more lines and better equipment. We will be able to cope."

He added: "Most calls are about broad terms, mostly made by children who are unhappy. It could be something serious, although it could be seen in adult eyes to be trivial, but to the children it is affecting their feelings about themselves. We don't mind sharing ideas, doing preventive work. We are equipped to deal with delicate situations."

The biggest single category of calls had some sexual connotation, he said. It could be to do with physical development or could about abuse, threatened or real. Many mothers also called to ask advice on how to tell their children about sex and sexuality.

The man whose wife calls him the "father of abused children" has no difficulty in gripping an audience when he tells them why he's dedicated to giving every frightened child an opportunity to find help.

"My son was an abused child. So was I," says Jon Diboll.

Their abuse was dissimilar and took place in totally different circumstances, but, says Mr Diboll, the results were equally traumatic.

His young son, left in the care of a domestic worker at the toddling stage, was tied to a piano leg and left without bottle or nappy change for hours. Only when the worried parents became concerned about the little boy's development did they discover what was happening.

Now, five years later, he is finally overcoming the inhibiting effects of the trauma.

Last year the police said over 12 000 new child abuse cases would be reported. That's the tip of the iceberg, says Mr Diboll, proved by the massive response to Child Line, and the incredibly successful Round Table project to support and promote the service and affiliated help lines.



## Township factors heighten conflict

A THREE-day conference on the "marginalised youth" has identified unemployment, the inadequate education system and poor living conditions as factors heightening conflict, said co-ordinator Mr Steve Mokoena. (298)

The Joint Enrichment Programme which organised the conference will form a national working committee to research issues affecting marginalised youths and pressurise the government and the private sector to recognise the urgency of the crisis facing the youth. -

Sapa Sowetan 11/6/91

# Focus on 'lost' youth

Sowetan 22/5/91

SA 298

BEHIND the unrest sweeping the country is a generation of black youth with little education, militarised and brutalised by waves of violence.

The crisis shows signs of deepening and because of this the Joint Enrichment Programme is to host a national conference next month to begin addressing the plight of South Africa's marginalised youth.

Participants will include representatives

from political, church, youth, women, labour, education, civic and development organisations and embassies.

"We will try to come up with programmes, taking into account the trauma our youth have been through, the kind of education they have had," JEP president Ms Sheila Sisulu said yesterday.

"Socio-economic and political factors can com-

bine to produce a psychological alienation.

"The realisation that she/he has been marginalised by society, makes them turn to violence, drugs and criminal behaviour easier. How is this generation to be drawn into mainstream, productive citizenship?"

The conference will take place from June 7 to 9 at the Alpha Training Centre, Broederstroom. - Sapa.



# Langa home a beacon of hope for street kids

Special 6/6 - 12/6/91

By Anthony Ndlovu

**HOMEL**ESS children are becoming a growing phenomenon in many black townships where the migrant labour system has contributed to the disintegration of family life.

In Langa, however, the problem of street children is being effectively and compassionately addressed.

The Khayamandi Home for Boys was established five years ago with

the joint help of the US government and a state subsidy.

Today, it is home to 52 boys and is run by 10 staff members, according to its principal, Rev George Ngamlanga.

Khayamandi occupies the premises of a former hostel, which has been converted.

It now boasts a homely atmosphere, with recreational facilities that include a television room and sports grounds.

The boys have even formed soccer teams.

Some boys attend schools in Langa. Others travel to Guguletu.

During weekends, all the boys with families in the townships are allowed to visit them.

## Funds

Asked about problems experienced at the home, Ngamlanga said the main difficulty was a lack of funds, as the government subsidy was "insufficient and not equal to the one provided for whites".

"At present it costs R22 000 a month to run the home, and we are getting only R17 000," said Ngamlanga.

A major chainstore supplies food free of charge every month, but Khayamandi has difficulty getting support from local shops.

Sydney, 14, is one of the boys who has found a new home at Khayamandi.

He comes from Guguletu. After his father died in a car accident, his mother moved up Johannesburg, leaving him with his grandparents.

She never returned.

When Sydney started hanging about on the streets, he was sent to live at

Khayamandi.

"His behaviour has improved tremendously, and he is now a responsible boy," said social worker Ms Cynthia Mshudulu.

Sydney's development is just one example of the wonders which have been performed at Khayamandi.

Ngamlanga is now hoping for support from all sections of the community.

As he points out pragmatically, "it takes money to work wonders with the boys".



# Deputy minister jailed for murder

South 6/6-12/6/91

From Cyril Madlala  
Durban

THE trial of deputy minister of the Interior in the KwaZulu government, Samuel Bhekiwe Jamile, failed to answer the question around the role of members of the KwaZulu police in the killings.

Jamile was last week sentenced to life imprisonment for killing Mr Joseph Khumalo and attempting to kill his girlfriend, Ms Thokozile Shabalala, in 1989.

Jamile's co-accused, Mzizi Hlophe, 20, was jailed for an effective 22 years for his part in the killing of prominent Clermont businessman Mr Zazi Khuzwayo, in 1987, and for killing a taxi operator Mr Nicholas Mkhize, in 1988.

Both Jamile and Hlophe had been accused five murders and seven attempted murders, but the state failed to prove their guilt in respect of most of the charges.

## Killings

The common factor in all the killings was the involvement of three members of the KwaZulu police, named only as Vusi, Vela and Soisha, who have since disappeared.

The state closed its case without them.

The state alleged that Vusi and Vela were with Jamile when Khumalo and Shabalala were taken from the room they rented from Jamile and driven to a bush at Mamba Valley in Inanda where Khumalo was killed.

Shabalala's throat was cut and she was left for dead.

Hlophe was convicted on the strength of what he had told people outside the courtroom at the Supreme Court in Mantzburg, where the trial took place.

He denied that he had shot Khuzwayo, but claimed he had accompanied members of the KwaZulu police who killed Khuzwayo.

Jamile, who pleaded not guilty to the trial, denied that he knew the policemen, and could not remember their being posted to guard his premises.



CHILD POWER: Young Pioneers from the ANC Youth League in Johannesburg remembered International Children's Day last Saturday by marching to demand an end to violence South 6/6-12/6/91

Another clouded area was the relationship between Jamile and Hlophe.

The stark contrast in their stature, personality and dignity was dominant in court — a common criminal next to a government deputy minister who is also national president of a traditional healers' association and a large property owner.

The unlikely pair was involved in killings that had Clermont residents living in fear for five years.

From the evidence, the only hint of their association came from the fact that Jamile was an Inkatha leader and Hlophe a supporter.

Pleading in mitigation, his counsel said Hlophe had been orphaned at

13, involved in the Khuzwayo killing at 16, and killed Mkhize at 17.

Between those crimes, he was also in and out of jail for housebreaking and robbery and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

That such a character murdered people is not altogether astounding.

Jamile, formerly a teacher in Mariannhill, apparently prospered in his healing business, ending up with two muti shops.

He ran his affairs from an office in Durban and at one stage had nine properties in Clermont.

He rose quickly in the Inkatha ranks, becoming a central committee member and member of the KwaZulu Le-

gislative Assembly before his appointment as deputy minister of the Interior in 1989.

Among the perks of his position, he had at his disposal two brand new chauffeur-driven Mercedes Benzes.

Besides the policemen who guarded his premises, he was also given a personal bodyguard.

Then came the marathon trial. It ruined him financially.

After paying R200 000 to lawyers and ceding his properties as security for more payment — no buyer would touch his properties — Jamile eventually ended up with a pro Deo counsel. And now he is in jail.

## People's court took after

### 'poor policing'

SOUTH 6/6-12/6/91  
MAGISTRATES hearing "people's court" cases in recent weeks have accepted that "anti-crime committees" were established because of insufficient police protection.

In several cases, charges have been withdrawn or suspended sentences were imposed on people involved in incidents of assault relating to people's court activities — all of which happened in Missionvale, a township in the largely coloured northern areas.

Charges against three people for their alleged involvement with people's courts were withdrawn in the regional court on Monday.

In withdrawing charges of assault against Mr Michael September, Mr Isaac Japha and Mr George Jacobs, the prosecutor said the state had no case against them.

## Suspended

In another case last week, two men were given suspended sentences for an assault on an alleged drug dealer in Missionvale.

Douglas Jantjies and Gusten Johannes Thomas were sentenced to six months suspended for three years. Four others charged with them were acquitted.

In passing sentence on Jantjies and Thomas, regional court president Mr G Steyn said the court accepted that Missionvale residents had complained to police, but as far as they were concerned nothing had been done.

Mr Ronnie Pillay, who was defence advocate in both cases, said during argument for mitigation in one of the cases that the head of police in the area understood the community's problems and the committee was an accepted concept in the area.

Pillay also noted the people had acted in the interests of the broader community — PEN



# 'Lost generation' a challenge for future

*Sowetan 6/6/91*  
**FOCUS**

SOUTH Africa's so-called "lost generation" comes under the spotlight in a conference tomorrow at the Alpha Training Centre at Broedersroom.

Conference co-ordinator Mrs Sheila Sisulu said the event would discuss black youth marginalised by apartheid and condemned to long-term unemployment and poverty.

The fate of the youth is one of the major issues facing any government in a post-apartheid South Africa, she said.

## Productive

"The real test for a future government will be whether this generation can be reclaimed as productive citizens within mainstream national life," said Sisulu.

The conference is co-hosted by the South African Council of Churches' Joint Enrichment Project. Experts in education, unemployment and psychology are to attend.

Black Sash official and SACC deputy president Mrs Sheena Duncan will open the event.

The main address will be delivered by University of Cape Town deputy vice-chancellor Dr Mamphela Ramphele.

Other participants include South African Catholic Bishops Conference general secretary Brother Jude Pieterse, Wits education department's Mr Ken Hartshorne, Natal University's Mr Blade Nzimande, and Education Development Trust director Ms Ivy Matsepe-Cassaburi.



Conference co-ordinator  
Sisulu

In the past decade, thousands of township youths have taken to crime and drugs in the face of a decaying social fabric caused by disruptions in education, endemic violence and lack of regard for authority.

Sisulu said black youths were



SHEENA  
DUNCAN

beset by a series of socio-economic factors including a collapsing education system and very slim chances of long-term employment.

At the same time, township life had been militarised by successive

states of emergency and brutalised by the wave of violence.

"These socio-economic and political factors can combine to produce psychological alienation based on the realisation by the individual that he or she has been marginalised by society itself, which makes the turn to violence, drugs and criminal behaviour easier," she said.

In a reflection of public concern over these troubled youth, a group of businessmen this week took out an advertisement in 10 national newspapers demanding that the ANC find a way to "re-civilise the lost generation of township youths who have become the victims of the 'liberation before education' cliché".

## Potential

Ramphele said the increasing concern was "mostly based on the recognition of the potential of this sector of the South African population to destabilise the country, regardless of the political settlement achieved".

The concern was limited, she said, because it failed to locate the problem of alienated youth as a symptom of a deeper malaise - the rapid downward spiral towards total disintegration of the fabric of the black community.

"An important starting point is to recognise the residual capacity within the black community to respond to positive intervention. This capacity resides in individuals, support groups and organised pressure groups," she said.

She said the churches, civics, women's organisations, youth groups across the socio-political spectrum, professional organisations and other support networks including stokvels, burial societies and neighbourhood groups could be used in the restoration of hope.

- Sowetan Correspondent

# Cash drive to aid Alex youth

298  
80  
Sowetan 5/6/91  
By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

THE Aleksan Kopano Education Trust has embarked on a multi-million rand campaign to assist troubled Alexandra schools and to prepare township pupils for employment.

The Education for Employment Campaign was launched to tackle high unemployment and inadequate schooling in the township.

"The programme is a positive attempt to reduce poverty and crime in the communities of Alexandra and Sandton," trust chairman Mr Holly Luton said.

"We are all concerned about the increasing crime rate in Sandton, but in-

stalling costly security systems is not a long-term answer.

"The problem must be tackled at its roots. That means providing the unemployed youth of the township with an alternative to crime - the skills that will enable them to get and keep decent jobs."

The programme will provide job training for the "lost generation", improve school facilities and give management training to leaders of Alexandra's community.



# Hope for the street children

Sowetan 5/6/91. 298

WHAT happens to street children when they grow up? Are they the tramps of tomorrow? Future jailbirds? Wandering, Wandering, homeless vagabonds with no place to go, no skills to offer and no job to do?

Jill Swart, a social anthropologist who researched the street children of Hillbrow while pursuing a masters degree at the University of South Africa, is emphatic they have a contribution to make to society.

She said street children wanted to be people of worth in the community. They wanted to raise children who would not live in the streets.

She added: "Street children want to become taxi drivers, photographers, clerks, electricians, builders, doc-

tors, lawyers, bishops and sign writers."

Swart's findings are published in a book entitled *Malunde*.

It includes not only a pen picture of the lives and origins of Johannesburg's street children but also vivid contributions from the children themselves.

She says there are thousands of children on the streets. They live in alleys, drains, doorways and coalyards - and nearly all are boys from the age of 10 up.

## Girls, too

Boys of four to six are occasionally also found on the streets. Sometimes girls as young as eight or nine appear but they dress as boys as a form of protection.

"If a white child appears on the street, he is immediately conspicuous because of his race and social workers move to have him returned to his family or to foster care.

"A similar support structure for black children does not exist," she said.

In Hillbrow, however, there are three organisations geared to help the children: Streetwise, Twilight and Process, which provide homeless children with shelter, meals and a place to wash themselves and their clothes.

Streetwise is primarily an education and job skills project for street children.

Swart has examined the complexities of life on Johannesburg streets by conducting interviews with 13 street children and with two young men who vir-

tually grew up on the streets.

They provided case-study material. Group discussions were also held with other children living on the streets.

During individual and group discussions children were asked to draw according to themes from known environments, such as home life, street life, running away, school, glue-sniffing or the police.

By illustrating situations they found difficult to describe verbally they provided a valuable means of inaccessible information to the researcher.

## Resented

She found the *malunde* (those of the street) of Hillbrow aroused very mixed feelings in the local community. Some people resented the "street urchins" while others felt compassion for them.

Compassion stems from unexpected glimpses into their vulnerability as, for example, when people found them asleep in shop doorways or see them being rounded up by the police.

Those who saw the children as waifs feel free to abuse them. They hit the children to correct their bad habits, took away their cigarettes to cure them of smoking, took their blankets because they believed them to be stolen, smeared their glue into their hair and threw cold water on them in mid-winter to encourage them to "go home". - Sowetan Correspondent.



1755

TUESDAY, 4 JUNE 1991

(1) Whether he approves or will approve of

South African Defence Force officers attending occasions where the hymn *Nkosi Sikelel' i-Afrika* is played; if not, why not, ~~yes~~

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B1086E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) The hon member is referred to my discussion thereof in the Defence Vote on 26 April 1991, Hansard: Columns 6914 and 6915.

(2) No

†ADV S C JACOBS: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, will he stand to attention at an occasion where the song *Nkosi Sikelel' i-Afrika* is played?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: I shall if the hon member straightens his peppercorn hair. [Interjections]

†Mr SPEAKER: Order! I am not prepared to allow that. The hon the Deputy Minister must withdraw it

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: I withdraw it, Sir. [Interjections]

†An HON MEMBER: It is a disgrace.

†Mr J H VAN DER MERWE: Mr Speaker, arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, what is his reply to the question of the hon member for Losberg? The hon the Deputy Minister did not reply to it

†Mr SPEAKER: Order! The hon the Deputy Minister has already replied to it.

#### IDT: funds for White housing

\*7. Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of Finance: ~~1023~~

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 1 on 7 May 1991, any funds have been allocated from the Independent Development Trust for White housing or essential repair work in respect of existing White sub-economic housing, if so, what amount has been so allocated,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B1091E

1756

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr T G Alant):

The following information was given by the Independent Development Trust (IDT) in response to this question.

(1) The Trust's funds are allocated on a non-racial basis. For example, the capital subsidy is allocated to all citizens whose income is less than R1 000 per month. No funds are earmarked for specific groups based on race, colour or other ethnic criteria

(2) No

†Mr J CHIOLE: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware that R13 million is needed extremely urgently for repair work to sub-economic housing in Pretoria?

I refer the hon the Minister to the reply on 15 April 1991 in the House of Representatives, where R1 300 million has already been voted in respect of various institutions and initiatives with the focal point being housing, education and health

†Mr SPEAKER: Order! Order! When the Chair calls the hon member to order, he shall react and not deliver a speech when he puts a supplementary question

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: The hon member for Pretoria West can apply to the Independent Development Trust for funds for those cases.

†Mr J CHIOLE: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, I would like to know whether no application was thus submitted to that body following on a meeting held in Pretoria in this connection.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the Independent Development Trust is not a government department. The hon member must appeal to them in these matters and not to the Government.

*Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.*

Medical technologists: private practices

\*8 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to Question No 2 on 16 April 1991, the pathology groups furnished any reasons

1757

TUESDAY, 4 JUNE 1991

for their opposition to the decision by the South African Medical and Dental Council to allow medical technologists to establish their own private practices; if so, what were these reasons, ~~yes~~

- (2) whether her Department has done any research to ascertain whether this decision has precedents in any overseas countries; if so, in which countries have such precedents occurred?

B1094E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (1) No, the Department of National Health and Population Development has also no access to information concerning representations made by the pathology groups to the South African Medical and Dental Council,

- (2) no, since the profession of medical technology falls within the province of the South African Medical and Dental Council, the Department of National Health and Population Development has not assessed the situation abroad

Tugela Ferry police station: charges

\*9. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 8 on 14 May 1991 in regard to the charges contained in CR 31/12/89 at the Tugela Ferry police station, the complainants in the case were instructed to attend identification parades in Pietermaritzburg on 20 March 1990, 2 April 1990 and 11 April 1990, respectively, if so, (a) why and (b) what was the outcome in each case;

- (2) whether the members of the South African Police who laid the charges referred to in paragraph (4) of his reply to the above question had been involved in any incidents requiring an internal investigation or any other steps to be taken against them; if so, what incidents in each case?

B1096E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes

1758

(a) Although the suspects were known, it was regarded as necessary, for purpose of completeness of the investigation, to hold an identification parade

(b) The parades were not held because on numerous occasions the suspects had to perform essential duties elsewhere at short notice to stabilise the unrest situation in Natal. As a result of the urgency in having to finalise the investigation, the case docket was referred to the Attorney-General to determine whether he could reach a decision on whether or not to prosecute on the available evidence in the docket.

On the basis of the available evidence, he has since decided to institute prosecution against two members, one ex-member of the Force and a member of the KwaZulu Police Force

- (2) Since then, one of the members has resigned from the Force and no internal investigation, or other steps are being taken in respect of him. In view of the prosecution which is being instituted against, inter alia, the other member, it will not be in the interest of the administration of justice to disclose information of this nature. The member concerned has, however, been transferred from the area.

#### Grants to foster parents: equalisation

\*10. Mr R F HASWELL asked the Minister of National Health: ~~298~~

- (1) Whether, in view of the impending removal of racial restrictions on the fostering of children, it is the intention to equalise the grants paid to foster parents; if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) what procedure will be followed in this regard,
- (2) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

B1099E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (1) Yes.



- (a) as a result of economic restrictions the backlog cannot be covered with one increase. In comparison with the amount paid to Whites the gap narrowed from 1 April 1991 with regard to Coloureds and Indians with 4,8% and with regard to Black persons with 13,6% and
- (b) adjustments are made annually depending on the availability of funds,
- (2) no

# INTERPELLATION

The sign \* indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

## Own affairs

### Charter of human rights

\*1 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture

- (1) Whether his Department will seek to promote a charter of human rights for a new education and constitutional dispensation, if not, why not,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B1132E.INT

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE Mr Speaker, the protection of rights naturally lies in the field of politics and statesmanship and not in the field of education. Education merely carries the responsibility of formulating those education rights which ought to be included in a new constitutional dispensation. It is not education that must devise the method of protection.

I am therefore not expressing an opinion on a bill of rights as a method of protecting rights, but what my department is striving for is those education rights which matter. They include the right to parental say, the right to education in one's own language in one's own community, education which is loyal to an own ethos, including religion and education which upholds and expands culture. My department is definitely striving towards realising these precious and irrevocable rights. In fact, like all other educa-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

tion departments and bodies, my department also commented, on request, on a possible draft bill of rights and indicated the importance of these fundamental education rights.

The hon member for Brits knows that the whole matter of the protection of rights is under consideration at present and I am therefore not going to go into detail in this regard.

The Government, however, has already laid down clear guidelines for a new dispensation. The hon the State President stated unequivocally in February 1991 that in a new education dispensation those who wanted the right to their own type of education with equal State support will have it.

He also mentioned each community's right to an own community life. The right of the child to be educated in its own language has been referred to many times, as has the right to the maintenance of culture in the schools and the continuation of education with an own ethos for those who want that.

These rights must therefore be guaranteed in this country with regard to the education of every child for those who prefer this. The constitutional system in any country must be of such a nature that it takes into account these basic education needs. The successful education systems in the world are those systems which are reconcilable with the constitutional system concerned, because then there is no friction.

An education system is therefore unsuccessful when there is no harmony between the constitutional system and its education system. We must avoid such a lack of harmony in a future system at all costs.

\*Mr A GERBER: Mr Speaker, I accept that the hon the Minister accepts the principle of a bill of rights in a new constitutional dispensation. That is NP policy and falls into the pattern of thought of the NP.

The hon the Minister would agree with me that such a bill of rights would have specific implications for education. I want to ask him a few questions in this regard this afternoon. Does he endorse section 2 of the proposed charter which makes provision for so-called affirmative action? Does he endorse that with regard to education? Is he amenable to the idea that Whites are discriminated against in a new education system,

even if it is only on a temporary basis? Is it the hon the Minister's standpoint that the Black part of his new nation, the so-called aggrieved parties, will be given a head start in terms of funds and facilities on the Whites so that the so-called injustice of the past can be put right on this basis? It is very important that the hon the Minister give us a clear and straightforward answer to this.

There is an ever-increasing insistence on affirmative action with regard to education. The Black masses, so it is claimed, must be privileged at the expense of the White minority until they have reached the same standard of development as the Whites. Is that what the hon the Minister has in mind with the NP's bill of rights?

I want to ask a second question. What is the hon the Minister's standpoint with regard to section 10 of that proposed charter? In it it is stated that each one has the right to freely exercise choices with regard to education and training. If that section were adopted, it would put an end to differentiation in education, and not only differentiation on the basis of race, but also on the basis of peoples, culture and language. We want to know from the hon the Minister whether he endorses that section and whether he accepts it. [Interjections.]

A third question is whether the hon the Minister endorses section 17 of the proposed charter. This section maintains the right to dissociation with the understanding that if such dissociation should mean discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, religion, language or culture, no State funds would be made available for such a group of people. [Interjections.] The question now is what the hon the Minister's standpoint is in this regard. Does he endorse the standpoint that if people should differentiate in a new education system on the grounds of religious convictions, language or culture, no State funds would be made available for such a school? Is the hon the Minister going to strive towards having such a provision in a new constitutional dispensation?

Mr R M BURROWS Mr Speaker, when I read this question and thought about who was asking it and who would be answering it, I must say, I found it difficult to choose between the hon member for Brits and the hon the Minister when it came to defending human rights in South Africa, to be perfectly honest. [Interjections.] The one is for White rights and the other one,

well, I am not quite sure what he is for at the present time. [Interjections.]

However, let us make the position of the DP quite clear. We stand for a Bill of Human Rights to be included in the new constitution. [Interjections.] If we take the proposed Bill of Rights of the SA Law Commission into account, we can pick up various points. Article 10 proclaims the right to freedom of choice with regard to education and training, and we believe that that is absolutely necessary, as is the right to associate freely with other groups and individuals, as well as the right of individuals and groups to dissociate themselves from other individuals and groups, provided that if such dissociation constitutes discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, religion, language or culture, no public or State funds shall be granted directly or indirectly to promote the interests of such person or group.

The key question in this regard is: What promotes discrimination? It has been accepted internationally and in United Nations charters that it is not discriminatory if a school exists to promote a language group. It is discriminatory if that school says that only people of a certain language group may enter. That is discriminatory.

The CP must therefore make up their minds. It is no problem at all if they want Calvinist, Afrikaans schools, but it is discriminatory if they wish to include in the entrance qualifications of a school that only White, Calvinist Afrikaners may enter. They should not get State funds for that. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE Mr Speaker, the question which the hon member for Brits asked was whether I accepted the principle of a bill of rights. The answer to that is a simple "yes." I want to say a second thing to the hon member. The bill of rights to which he refers, is not a Government document. Of course there has not yet been any statement to the effect that the bill of rights to which he referred is a document which the Government completely accepts.

The hon member asked whether I was in favour of discrimination against Whites. He then referred mainly to finance. I want to tell the hon member that I am not in favour of discrimination against anyone at all. I am not in favour of

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

# 1 000 children protest

ABOUT 1 000 children marched through Braamfontein to commemorate International Children's Day. (298)  
The march was organised by the ANC Youth League. *Sowetan 3/6/91*

Holding placards reading "Children are the Future" and "End the violence for the sake of our children", the singing and dancing group moved down Jorissen Street, along De Korte Street and round to the main entrance of the University of the Witwatersrand.

Police and traffic controllers escorted the group. - Sapa.

● Picture on Page 6



# King Luthuli Centre brings hope to youth

New Nation (Learning Nation) 3015 - 416191.



An institution similar to the [Martin Luther] King Centre in Atlanta, United States of America, is shaping up in South Africa.

The institution, King Luthuli Transformation Centre (KTLC), is situated in Braamfontein, Johannesburg. The four-year-old centre is the brainchild and initiative of former South African Council of Churches (SACC) youth secretary, Rev Joseph Tshawane.

Tshawane told PUPILS FORUM that he developed the initiative to start the centre after discovering that due to various social factors, youth had lost hope in the future.

This left them with no option but to resort to finding quick solutions to their frustrations and problems, according to the prelate.

He said the first programme he introduced at the centre was Discover, Develop and Expose (DDE). Through this programme, Tshawane said, he aimed to tap the talent among young people, develop it and make it reach out to help the individual and the entire community.

"The programme combines the anger of the young people as a result of apartheid, the achievements they can still make within the system and the contribution they can make to reverse the system through

their talent," said Tshawane.

This programme was also designed to counter the government's "Win Hearts and Minds" (Wham) campaign of the 1980's, said Tshawane.

Several youth activities, such as sports, music, dance and arts, were developed - almost identical to the Wham campaign - the only difference being that the KTLC programme was to empower the children.

Also due to the country's education crisis, the centre has decided to introduce tutoring for standard 10 pupils. The classes are held on Saturdays in the form of workshops where pupils share their views with the tutors.

Depending on the availability of resources, Tshawane said, the centre could develop into a youth leadership college.

He said the centre was currently establishing its own library with donations of books from several overseas universities.

The centre also runs a yearly essay competition for students. The winner of last year's competition, Portia Mtshali of Pimville in Soweto, will receive her award shortly.

Mtshali and her runner-up will visit the King Centre in Atlanta.

47. Erf 8611  
 48. Erf 8612  
 49. Erf 8613  
 50. Erf 8614  
 51. Erf 8615  
 52. Erf 8616  
 53. Erf 8617  
 54. Erf 8618  
 55. Erf 8619  
 56. Erf 8620  
 57. Erf 8621
- (2) (a) No.  
 (b) No. On the instructions of the Minister of Housing.  
 (i) Falls away.  
 (ii) Falls away.  
 (iii) Falls away.

Certain association: application for site in Lenasia

37. Mrs R EBRAHIM asked the Minister of Housing: (218)
- (1) Whether a certain association, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, has applied for a crèche site in Lenasia since 1976; if so, (a) when and (b) what is the name of this association;
- (2) whether a site has been allocated to this association; if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) what is the number of the stand allocated;
- (3) whether any organisation or individual has applied for Stands 9582 and 9583 in Lenasia Extension 11; if so, (a) on what date, (b) what is the name of the organisation or individual concerned and (c) what was his Department's response,
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

- (1) Yes.  
 (a) 11 April 1975  
 (b) Lenasia Muslim Association
- (2) Yes.  
 (a) 17 May 1991  
 (b) Erf 6298
- (3) Yes.

- (a) January 1988  
 (b) Shree Akshar Purushottam (Swami Narayan) Satsang Mandal of South Africa.  
 (c) The Housing Development Board approved the sale on 20 April 1990.  
 (4) No.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

immigrated to South Africa during the period (i) 1 January 1961 to 30 June 1976, (ii) 1 July 1976 to 31 August 1985 and (iii) 1 September 1985 to 31 December 1990?

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

SA emigrants/immigrants: numbers

339. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

How many persons (a) emigrated from and (b)

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

- (a) (b)  
 (i) 143 196 560 680  
 (ii) 116 844 279 559  
 (iii) 45 748 55 098

These statistics only refer to new emigrants and immigrants and do not include re-emigration and re-immigration.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

By Day 29/5/79.

### Cells opened to priests

FOR the first time police have opened their cells to allow church ministers to counsel juveniles. (298)

The visits will take place in terms of a crime prevention campaign launched yesterday by the Johannesburg police and the National Convention of Alcohol and Drug Concerns.

Johannesburg SAP District Commissioner Brig A Strauss said there was a daily average of 90 youths in John Vorster Square cells. Police, in co-operation with churches, aimed to give spiritual guidance during rehabilitation.

# R995 000 for charity from TAB

Staff Reporter

298

The Totalisator Agency Board (TAB) yesterday handed over R995 000 to the Viva Trust. The money was collected last month in the PWV area from the Viva Instant Money Game.

One of the main beneficiaries of the trust is the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, which receives about one-third of the money collected from the game in Johannesburg.

Other beneficiaries are the SA National Council of the Blind, the Development Trust for Disabled People, and Disabled People of South Africa.

Dr Adele Thomas, director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society and a trustee of the Viva Trust, said welfare organisations were always struggling for money, and the Instant Money Game helped to generate funds and release the burden on the Government.

Dr Thomas said the much needed money received by the society would be used "primarily for work with severely abused and neglected children and to run homes for children from problematic and disturbing families".

The organisation required about R8 million a year to run, she added — "and that is the bare minimum".



# Call to convict youths

By Cathy Stagg

Three youths, who assaulted a man and left him to die while they went into a house to sleep, knew what they were doing, it was submitted in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Koos van Niekerk, for the State, urged Mr Justice B O'Donovan and two assessors to convict the youths of murder.

The three teenagers, who may not be identified because they are under 18, initially pleaded not guilty to murder.

Later, they changed their plea to guilty of assault.

The State refused to accept this plea.

Ida Sithole told the court she and Patrick Matlhale were walking along Sievwright Street, Krugersdorp, at midnight on February 17 last year.

She said they were not making a noise.

Three youths approached them and one of them assaulted Mr Matlhale.

The others joined in and left Mr Matlhale lying in the road.

Ms Sithole said one of the trio returned and continued to kick Mr Matlhale before he followed his colleagues into a nearby house.

Counsel for three of the youths urged the court to reject Ms Sithole's evidence on the grounds that she had made errors in her testimony.

They said the youths had drunk alcohol earlier in the evening and could not be judged by the standard of the reasonable man because they were school-boys.

The accused have claimed the couple were having a loud quarrel during which Mr Matlhale held Ms Sithole's arms.

One of the youths told Mr Matlhale to be quiet; there was an exchange of words, including swearing, and Mr Matlhale attacked the youth.

Ms Sithole denied this.

Judgment will be handed down today.

announcement by the Minister of Law and Order that a restriction on the holding of protest marches was envisaged, the organisers cancelled the march and the application was not taken further.

(3)

The Police do not have such a policy. The decision on whether a march may or may not be held, is the responsibility of the relevant local authority and magistrate of the area. It is the task of the South African Police to maintain law and order during legal marches. If an illegal march takes place, it is also the task of the Police

(1) (a) South African Police  
Municipal Police  
Police Assistants  
TOTAL

(b) Lieutenant-General  
Major-General  
Brigadier

Colonel

Lieutenant-Colonel  
Major

Captain

Lieutenant

Warrant Officer

Sergeant

Constable

Superannuation  
Superannuation  
Medically unfit  
Superannuation

Medically unfit  
Superannuation  
Medically unfit  
Resignation  
Medically unfit  
Superannuation

Resignation  
Medically unfit  
Superannuation

Resignation

Resignation

Medically unfit

Transfer to another Government

Department

Superannuation

Resignation

Medically unfit

Transfer to another Government

Department

Superannuation

Medically unfit

Superannuation

Resignation

End of National Service

to take the necessary steps to enforce the law.

# **SAP: recruits/resignations**

\*8 Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) In respect of the latest specified 6-month period for which information is available, (a) how many recruits joined the Police Force and (b) how many members of each specified rank resigned from the Force
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B1010E

## **The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:**

9 146  
335  
3 740  
13 221

2  
3  
1  
8

9

2

8

1

11

5

4

1

23

55

65

1

34

181

54

2

29

27

12

834

623

Student

Police Assistants

TOTAL

Resignation

Medically unfit

End of National Service

Discharges and resignations

1554

77

3

15

801

2 891

(2) The statistics apply in respect of the period 1 October 1990 until 27 March 1991

The numerical strength of the South African Police increased by 10 330 during this period.

The increase can be attributed to improved salaries and allowances since 1 July 1990 and an intensified recruitment drive currently being conducted by the South African Police. The increasing of the Police's manpower is aimed at establishing a larger police presence in all communities, rendering a more efficient service and through pro-active policing, preventing the alarming incidence of crime in the RSA

\*9. Mr D H M Gibson—Constitutional Development [Withdrawn]

# **NP banquet: finance**

\*10. Mr J CHIOLÉ asked the Minister for Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprises:

- (1) Whether he will furnish information on whether any representatives of State enterprises, semi-State enterprises, commercialised State enterprises or privatised State enterprises or corporations, excluding senior officials of Transnet, attended a banquet which was presented by the Johannesburg region of the National Party on 3 October 1990 and to which he referred in his reply to Question No 3 on 30 April 1991, if not, why not; if so, on behalf of what enterprises or corporations did they attend the banquet;
- (2) whether the enterprises or corporations concerned financed tables at this banquet; if so, (a) what was the highest finance cost paid by one of these enterprises or corporations and (b) on behalf of what enterprise or corporation was this amount paid?

The sign \* indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language

# **Own Affairs**

\*1 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture

B999E

White children: identification

Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture

298



Whether, after the abolition of the Population Registration Act, No 30 of 1950, he envisages or plans any other legislation or other measures to determine how White children will be identified in order to maintain separate schools for White children; if not, why not; if so, what legislation and/or measures?

B1039E INT

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE. Mr Chairman, the hon member for Brits knows that there are three fundamental laws which regulate the provision of Government school education by my department, firstly, the Constitution, which provides in section 14(2) and in paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 that education which is provided by my department is an own affair, secondly, the National Education Policy Act; and thirdly the Education Affairs Act. These three laws determine *inter alia* that my department provides education primarily to Whites, but that it can provide a service and that the schools admission policy schools may be determined by communities themselves under certain conditions.

The Population Registration Act does not therefore regulate the provision of education. The provisions of the draft Act which will repeal the Population Registration Act provides that anything which is done in terms of the repealed Act, remains valid for the purposes of the enforcement of the Constitution until the Constitution is also repealed and is therefore replaced by a new constitution. For example, present voters retain their existing classification.

Children are permitted to enter compulsory education from the age of six and seven. Therefore, pupils who were not classified would only enter our system in about 1996. I am convinced that by that time we will have a different constitution and a different education system, a system which will also satisfy the demands of what is right and fair for my clients as well. In the meantime the pupils who are not classified, are dealt with in terms of measures which are applicable to foreigners.

In terms of the present constitutional dispensation it is therefore not necessary for me to consider other legislation or introduce measures, and I do not intend doing so.

It is well known that the education system of the future—I want to emphasise that I am talking

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

about the education system of the future—will be on the negotiating table, but the hon the State President has already given important guidelines for the future. Provision will be made for schools which are administered on the grounds of their own ethos or mission and an own outlook, but—allow me to state this unequivocally—there will be no law which prevents pupils from attending a school in the new dispensation merely on the grounds of skin colour. Schools with their own language, yes; schools for a community which has certain values, yes; schools which promote an own culture, yes; schools which have a Christian and broader national character, yes; schools which follow a unique curriculum, yes; schools which are racially exclusive by nature, a definite no. Our education must be based on educational values. We must rid ourselves of racial prejudice.

\*Mr A GERBER. Mr Chairman, I am speaking in this debate with the consent of the hon member Mr H D K van der Merwe, who is not present here this afternoon.

I want to begin by saying that the Government did not think through the repeal of the Population Registration Act. It did not take into account the consequences which this would have for schools, for example. For that reason I want to tell the hon the Minister today that as a result of the repeal of this Act enormous practical problems are going to arise for him and his Government schools which he will want to reserve for Whites only.

It is no good saying this afternoon that the Population Registration Act is going to remain valid until the end of the present constitutional dispensation with regard to the admission of children to schools. I want to ask the hon the Minister whether schoolgoing children are going to remain classified on the registers of the State once the Act has been repealed. Will his department be able to establish at the Department of Home Affairs to which race group a child belongs if, for example, a dispute arises with regard to its admission?

A further question is what is the hon the Minister going to do with those children who have never been classified. Is his department going to undertake such a race classification? Surely he knows that after the Act has been abolished many unclassified children are going to apply for admission to schools. How is he going to deal

with the children of Black immigrants who come to South Africa? How is he going to cope with those unclassified children who live in White residential areas next to the White school and are going to demand to be admitted to that school? After this Act has been abolished and all the other Acts which differentiate on the basis of race have been abolished, will he still have the courage to tell these children that they are welcome in the residential area and in the churches in that neighbourhood, that their parents may be on the voters' roll of the local authority, that they may use the swimming pools and facilities in that area, but that the schools are reserved for Whites only? [Interjections.] I want to go further. There are many ANC exiles returning to South Africa. They spent many years abroad [Interjections.] I assume that their children are also welcome in South Africa. Does the hon the Minister think for a single moment that he will be able to convince his new partners to consent to having their children classified for school purposes for the sake of order in South Africa? The hon the Minister is living in a fool's paradise if he thinks that [Interjections.] Those people are going to cause him one embarrassment after another. [Interjections.] They will torment him with one application after another at his White Government schools, and they will put pressure on him until he is blue in the face and, as usual, gives way to the pressure [Interjections.]

Mr R M BURROWS. Mr Chairman, this hon Minister is, in this session, nothing if not consistent. He answered the same question on 19 February, 16 April and 7 May, and he has always answered it in the same way. He says his schools will remain racially segregated because the Constitution says so.

But the Constitution does not say anything about the segregation policy. Let me give hon members an example. This hon Minister's own colleagues, the Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates and the Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Representatives, have opened their schools [Interjections.] They are not obliged by the Constitution to keep them closed.

This particular Minister's problem is rapidly approaching. The hon the State President has taken up a very public position by saying that at the end of this session there will be no more

discriminatory legislation on our Statute Book. He said it publicly. We can accept—and we have said this—that the own affairs structure may have to remain because it is a constitutional structure, but the policy of this hon Minister—because that is what it is—to keep his schools segregated is a discriminatory policy. [Interjections.] There is nothing in the law that obliges him to do so [Interjections.] Therefore, if at the end of this session this hon Minister has not moved to open his schools, we shall say that the discriminatory policy of this hon Minister does remain.

The question remains. Will the repeal of the Population Registration Act affect us? No, strictly speaking it will not, because we had segregated schools before there was a Population Registration Act. The question that remains is whether, in the eyes of lawyers and in the eyes of judges, this hon Minister can have his officials apply a racial restriction when there is no Population Registration Act and when the only thing that remains is the policy this hon Minister is applying.

We reject the policy of the CP to return to absolutely indefensible racial criteria, but the hon the Minister is also wrong. [Time expired.]

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE. And of course, Mr Chairman, it is the hon member for Pinetown alone who is right, as usual, in his own opinion. [Interjections.] There is therefore only one person who has the answers and that is the hon member, or so he thinks [Interjections.]

I have explained the matter repeatedly to the hon member for Brits. If the hon member would just do me the favour of listening to my answer, he will not raise the same argument again [Interjections.] The problem is that the hon member is not concerned about what the answer is going to be, he has decided in advance that he is going to say certain things and then he simply says them. Just to take up time.

I said very clearly—the hon member for Pinetown referred to this—that there were separate schools long before there was a Population Registration Act. That is the first point. The second matter to which I want to refer is that education in this country is administered basically in terms of the provisions of the Constitution and from that powers are given to two other

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



education Acts, namely the National Education Policy Act and the Education Affairs Act. [Interjections] Those two Acts determine that education under the Department of Education and Culture, Administration House of Assembly is for Whites only. [Interjections.]

The hon member for Pinetown referred to the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates and he argued that my saying that this was based on the Constitution, was not true. The hon member should just be slightly more clever than he thinks he is. If he would go and read paragraph 14 of Schedule 1 of the Constitution which contains the service principle, in conjunction with section 16. [Interjections.]

Wait a minute. He will then see that any Minister responsible for education in a specific House has the right to provide service after specific agreements with other Ministers and with the approval of the State President [Time expired]

\*Mr J H HOON Mr Chairman, the hon the Minister recently said in this Chamber that parents who adopted model B could utilise the admission measures to keep their school a White school. In its propaganda the NP adopted the principle of open schools and persuaded parents to accept model B. It was stated that if a Black majority government should ultimately come about in South Africa, parents would then retain the right to admit only White children to those particular schools under those circumstances. The hon the Minister destroyed that hope in his reply which he gave to these NP parents today. [Interjections.] NP parents accepted model B under this pretext with the intention of reserving their school for White children only. Many schools did that.

The NP has now opened its membership to people of colour, who can now buy houses in White residential areas and live there; they can even belong to the same NP branch as hon members. [Interjections.] The Population Registration Act is now being repealed. The references to Whites, Coloured and Asian and Black are now being removed from South Africa's legislation, because they are racist and discriminatory in terms of the NP standpoint.

I now want to ask whether there is any way in which separate schools for Whites can be maintained in the new South Africa, except by means

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

of the unaffordably expensive option of a private school. [Interjections.]

The hon the Minister gave the answer to that. He said no, even in Kuruman where the control boards consist of conservative people who want to keep their school White, the Government will ultimately force parents to throw open their school to members of their party [Time expired]

\*Mr A GERBER: Mr Chairman, I will try to simplify it even further for the hon the Minister. [Interjections.] Neither the Constitution, nor the National Education Policy Act, nor the Education Affairs Act determine who is White and who is not White.

If a pupil were therefore to arrive at a school and he had not been classified and he applied to be admitted to a White school, then we want to know on what grounds such a child could be refused, even if he were Black. That is the question to which the hon the Minister has given no answer this afternoon. That is the simple question to which we want an answer. [Interjections.] He can give it to us now. [Interjections.]

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: Mr Chairman, allow me first of all to reply to the hon member for Kuruman about his model B.

\*Mr J H HOON It is your model B [Interjections.]

\*The MINISTER: The Government's model B, which is an excellent additional model. [Interjections.] Yes, we proudly take responsibility for it. The fact is, when a school community decides to choose model B, they have the right to determine the admission requirements within the larger requirements of the law. Such a management board could therefore decide under the present system either to admit children of colour or not. It is their right to do so, and there is no problem with that.

However, I have often said in public that I did not understand how a school community could decide to choose model B if they wanted to do so to reserve the school for Whites, because according to the status quo, Government schools are for Whites only.

The hon member asked about the future. I want to say again categorically that in the future, in the new dispensation, race and colour will not play a

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

role. It will definitely be true that schools will not be able to remain exclusively White on the grounds of colour, but they will be able to practise their own type of education on the grounds of equal values. These values are, for example, mother tongue, Christianity, culture and so on. It would therefore be practically as well as theoretically possible for a school in a specific community where there are only Whites to consist of only Whites. However, this would not be on the grounds of the fact that their colour was White. We must accept that in the new dispensation, that is the way it will be. [Time expired]

Debate concluded

## QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply.

Own Affairs:

Whites: State housing assistance

\*1 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works

What amount was spent by the State in respect of housing assistance to the White population group in the latest specified financial year for which figures are available?

B1013E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (for the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works):

An amount of R86 080 544 was spent by the Development and Housing Board during the 1990/91 financial year in respect of housing assistance.

Aged Whites' accommodation: State assistance

\*2. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works:

How many accommodation units for aged White persons were built in the Johannesburg municipal area with financial assistance from the State in 1990?

B1015E

†The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (for the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works)

One project was built during 1990, namely Dewetshof consisting of 86 single and 15 double flats for Category A aged persons

The loan amount approved by the Development and Housing Board for this project, amounts to R5 100 213

For written reply.

General Affairs.

Regional Services Council: chairmen/pensions

321 Mr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing:†

(1) (a) How many serving chairmen of regional services councils (i) receive a pension for service previously rendered in a government body and (ii) do not receive such a pension and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) whether a chairman of a regional services council who receives a pension from a government body and has rendered only one day's service and dies, qualifies for a pension; if so, in terms of what statutory provisions and/or regulations,

(3) what requirements must a chairman of a regional services council satisfy in order to qualify for a pension?

B835E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING.

Cape Province

(1) (a) (i) Four

(ii) Seventeen

(b) 25 April 1991

(2) No

(3) The remuneration package of regional services council chairmen does not provide for pension benefits.

Orange Free State.

(1) (a) (i) Three

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



Whether Circular No 45/89, which was issued by his Department on 23 October 1989 and dealt with the appointment of Indian teachers, has been withdrawn; if not, why not; if so, (a) on what date, (b) what is the (i) number and (ii) purport of the circular in terms of which it was withdrawn and (c) to whom was it addressed?

*Handwritten signature*

C98E

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Yes

(a) 25 March 1991

(b) Up to the publication of the main Education Bulletin for the advertisement of teaching posts in May 1990, the Department's policy pertaining to the appointment of persons other than Coloured persons (as stipulated in the Education Act No 47 of 1963), has pertinently been referred to under the heading "Appointment of persons other than those that are served by this Department". After the decision taken on 25 March 1991, this particular clause has been omitted from the Education Bulletin in which teaching posts are advertised. In this regard reference can be had to Education Bulletin No OP 1/91 of 28 March 1991 in which no fewer than 2 170 promotion posts for CS-Educators have been advertised.

(c) The Education Bulletin is issued to all education institutions and other interested parties including for example the library.

For written reply.

Own Affairs.

#### Certain areas: houses for Coloureds

12. Mr A ESSOP asked the Minister of Housing:

(1) Whether his Department built any houses for Coloureds in (a) Beaufort West, (b) Laingsburg, (c) Merweville, (d) Sutherland and (e) Matiesfontein in the financial years 1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, respectively, if so, what amount was spent in each of these financial years on the building of such houses in each of the above-mentioned places; if not, (i) in what financial years was money not so spent and (ii) why not, in each case; *Handwritten signature*

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C61E

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING:

(1) No.

The Department does not build houses. Local authorities may however apply for loans to the Department for this purpose.

(i) During recent years the following loans were approved by the Housing Board, administered by the Department, for housing purposes:

Beaufort West	Approved	Drawn
houses	R5 176 518,00	R4 993 192,77
30 self-help houses	R440 500,25	R291 718,12
Laingsburg		
70 houses	R876 532,44	R847 657,00
Sutherland		
22 self-help houses	R209 000,00	R180 000,00
Matiesfontein		
upgrading	R27 945,00	0
(2) No statement		

#### Transvaal teachers: grievances

15. Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether teachers at schools under his control in the Transvaal recently raised any grievances with his Department; if so, (a) when and (b) what was the nature of the grievances;

(2) whether any settlement has been reached in regard to these grievances; if not, why not; if so, what were the terms of the settlement?

C76E

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Yes, but only one school was involved.

(a) On 4 March 1991.

(b) Control as executed from within the principal's office with regard to current affairs and general human relations problems arising from disunity among the staff

(2) Yes The Regional Chief Inspector concerned conducted an inspection at the school for two days in order to investigate the grievances. His findings were discussed with the entire staff and specific misperceptions on which the grievances were founded have been eradicated. Guidance was also given to the principal pertaining to modern control practices and feedback received from the school thus far has been positive and encouraging.

#### Riverlea Senior Secondary School: posts

19. Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether his Department received any applications for the (a) Biology and (b) English head of department posts at the Riverlea Senior Secondary School in 1990; if so, (i) who were the applicants, and (ii) what were their academic qualifications, in each case;

(2) whether any of these applicants were appointed to the said posts; if so, (a) who were the successful applicants in each case and (b) for how long had each post been vacant; if not, for what reasons;

(3) whether these posts are still vacant; if so, for how long has each been vacant?

C89E

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(a) Head of Department (Biology)

(b) Head of Department (English)

Miss S D Gallon

(i) and (ii) Mr N Pillay (BSc degree in Education)

Mr A N Paulsen (Matric plus Primary Education Diploma)

Mr M A Petersen (Matric plus Primary Education Diploma)

Miss J P Timothy (Student)

(2) No.

It has been decided to readvertise the posts

(3) Yes

Since 1 October 1984 in both cases

#### Juvenile offenders: institutions in TVI

23. Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(a) How many (i) schools of industry, (ii) reform schools and (iii) other institutions for juvenile offenders falling under the control of his Department are there in the Transvaal, (b) what is the name of each of these schools or institutions, (c) where is each situated, (d) how many pupils (i) are and (ii) can be accommodated in each of them and (e) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

C96E

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(a) (i) None

(ii) None

(iii) None

(b), (c), (d) and (e) Not applicable.

#### Riverlea Extension 2: primary school

24. Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 14 on 20 May 1988, it is still the intention to build a primary school in Riverlea Extension 2; if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) where,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C97E

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(a) and (b) In spite of several attempts made by the Department, problems are still experienced in locating a suitable site for the erection of a school building because of the fact that Riverlea is situated in a mining area

(2) A statement is not deemed necessary

## Plan to address problems of 'lost generation'

A CONFERENCE on the "lost generation" is being held jointly by the SA Council of Churches, SA Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Kagiso Trust

The conference, on June 8 and 9, will attempt to work out strategies for addressing the plight of youth "marginalised" by unrest

Business, trade unions, youth groups and political organisations have been in-

TANIA LEVY

vited to take part. Kagiso Trust projects officer Hazy Sibonyani said yesterday the role of unemployed youngsters in crime and violence was well documented

But the causes of the "lost generation" went beyond the political events of 1976 or 1985.

The education system,

social issues and, most importantly, the structure of the economy had to be examined.

Sibonyani said the economy would have to be restructured to accommodate more of the thousands of young people entering the job market each year

He hoped the conference would lead to a programme of practical strategies to address the problems.

### Own Correspondent

LONDON — Job losses in British manufacturing, regarded as the engine of the economy, have topped 90 000 already this year, a survey published last week said.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union says it has been informed by its shop stewards of 90 068 redundancies announced between January and May 15 as the recession continues to bite.

Major international companies such as Rolls-Royce engines, British Aerospace, Ford, Hawker Siddley, Jaguar, British Steel, ICI and GEC are shedding labour, as well as small firms.

AEU president Bill Jordan called on the government to reduce interest rates immediately to ease the pressure on industry

"These appalling figures clearly show

## Huge job losses in manufacturing

that the government's policies are a disaster for industry, forcing company closures, putting Britain's companies on short time and causing massive redundancies," said Jordan

"The government must put an end to this economic vandalism immediately."

The AEU report, Manufacturing Industry in Crisis, is based on job losses collated at the union's southeast London headquarters and redundancies are estimated to have cost the union 30 000 of its 740 000 members in the first two months of 1991 alone. — Daily Telegraph



**Political Staff**

THE government spends six times more on children's homes for whites than on those for blacks, the Minister of National Health, Dr Rina Venter, revealed yesterday.

She said the grants for the 5,075 children accommodated in white children's homes totalled R34,7 million, while the grants for the 1257 children in black children's homes

## **'More spent on white orphans than black'**

amounted to R5,7 million for the 2 187 children in coloured children's homes.

Dr Venter, who was replying to a question tabled by Mr Rob Haswell, DP Maritzburg South, also said R2,6 million was paid for the 290 children in Indian children's homes and R10,5

This means that the average grant per child was R6 847,08 for whites, R9 112 for Indians, R4 798,9 for coloureds and R4 536 for blacks.

RAAC

Sowetan 11/6/91

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EXPR

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D

Boys  
earn  
R8 a  
week



TRAPPED: Mzwamadoda Mgiqi (16) is a teenage welder earning a pittance from his black employer

PICTURE: MGI 17/11/91

### CHEAP child labour is rampant in black townships.

In the latest incident Sowetan found 15 boys aged as young as 14 toiling in a welding shop, making chairs, flowerpot holders and burglarproofing with steel.

They then spraypaint them inside a workshop at Kalebong Industrial Park on the East Rand.

The boys said they earned R8 a week and worked 24 hours a day for

### By THEMBA MOLEFE

Mr Monde Jobela.

There are no adults in the workshop. The boys work behind closed doors. The only time they get out is between noon and 1pm for lunch and they can only leave the park with permission.

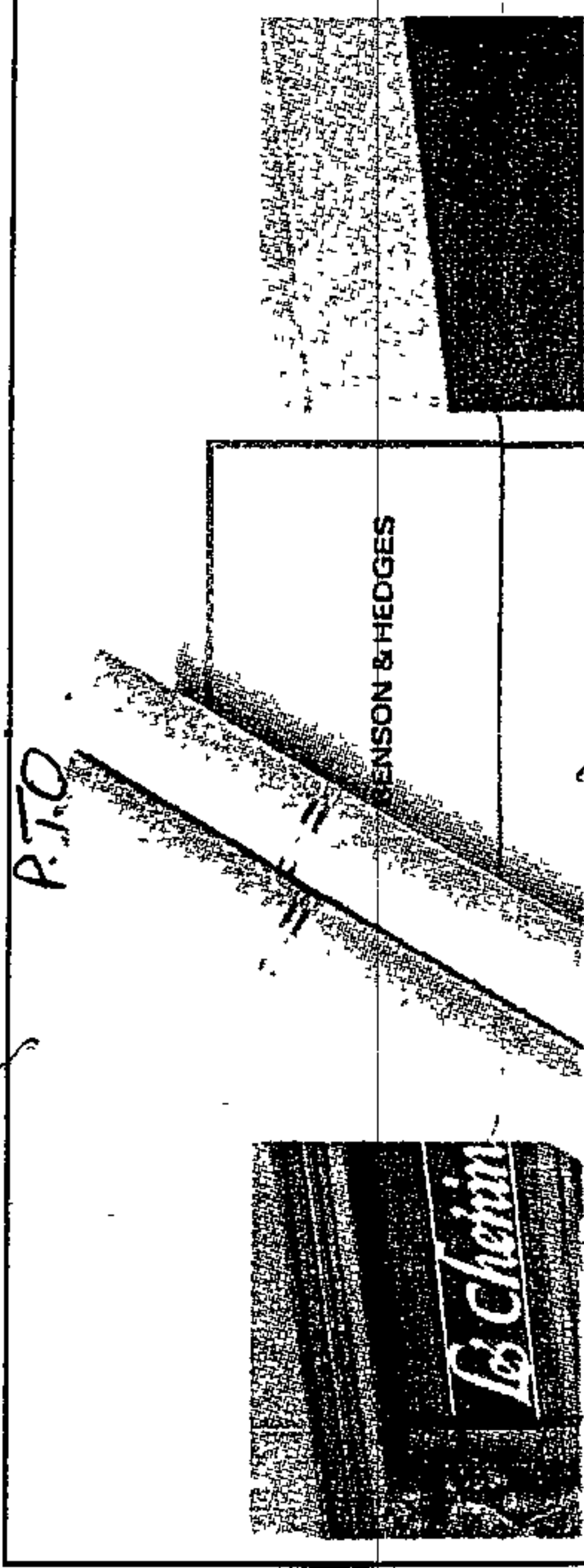
They claim they sleep in shacks and disused cars outside the workshop. This was denied by Jobela's wife, Nomanyano.

One of the boys, Mzwamadoda

• To Page 2

### Talkback

On Page 6 today we report on the "new Robben Island". What do you think should be the future of the Island? Telephone Radio Metro DJ Tim Modise between 4.30 and 5pm today and share your opinion with the nation. The hotline number is 714-8063.



P.T.O.



# 'Quiet catastrophe' in health care

B 10cm 1615191.  
PRETORIA — SA was facing a "quiet catastrophe" as child mortality rates continued to soar and nutritional problems worsened, National Health and Population Development director-general Coen Slabber said yesterday.

Speaking at a forum on primary health care, Slabber said another aspect of the catastrophe was an increasing incidence of diseases of poverty. One example of this was tuberculosis, he said.

He said SA had the means to combat these problems.

Slabber said it was children who bore the heaviest burden of poverty.

This was happening because progress was slowing down.

"This last decade of the 20th century has for many become the decade of despair," he said.

298 249 243  
GERALD REILLY  
Pitfalls that had plagued efforts in the past had to be avoided.

The major pitfall was trying to develop communities without their participation and involvement.

Slabber warned that if a significant proportion of the SA population was consigned to continuing poverty, frustration would cast a long shadow of violence and tension over the entire country.

He also warned that health care resources would remain limited.

To be successful, a primary health campaign had to be backed by adequate housing, basic education and literacy programmes.

What was needed were achievable, large-scale, low-cost, high-impact and politically attractive plans, he said.



EMELDA BOIKANYO

# Soweto creches open their doors to parents

298

Soweto 17/5/91

THE African Self-Help Association will have an open day at all its creches around Soweto tomorrow.

"We appeal to all parents to make a point of coming to the creches and see what goes on."

"Many parents leave their children here in the mornings and pick them up in the afternoons. There is hardly time for

BY PEARL MAJOLA

them to find out what exactly happens to their children all day long," said the senior supervisor and founder member of the creches Mrs Josephine Mnyakeni.

"We want them to see for themselves what we do. We have had a concerning drop-out rate since our fees increased from R65 to R75 a month for each child, so we want to show parents that their money is being put to

good use," she explained. The creches were started in the '50s by a group of concerned Soweto women with the help of some white women from the Johannesburg.

"They taught us sewing and fund-raising with jumble and cake sales. We sold what we sewed and the money went into the fund to build creches.

"We started by running these creches in private homes of elderly couples who did not mind having the children around and needed the money we paid them as rent.

## The first

"Our first creche, the Helen Silge, was opened in Orlando East in the 1960s," said Mnyakeni.

Today there are 39 creches run by association in Soweto and one in Wattville, near Benoni, under the administration of professional staff.

Many developments have taken place - like the youth clubs which provide recreation for children after school. There is also a resources centre where the staff is trained.

The creches will be open from 7am.



# How parents can help children

A baby watches, listens, touches — and is learning many new things all the time

Children love to learn — they are naturally curious about the world. If we encourage this joy in learning, we will help our children to develop quick, lively minds. They will become successful learners. Learning to read will be easy for them.

Reading is very important to your children. If they can read well, they will be successful at school and in later life. They will grow into independent people who can find things out for themselves.

They will enter the world of books, which is a world of knowledge and enjoyment.

Life is very difficult for people who cannot read well. Many children struggle to learn to read when they start school. Is this because they are stupid? No, not at all. It may be because they are not prepared for it.

Some adults do not realise that they can help their child to prepare for school. You are your child's first teacher. You do not need to be highly educated to give your children a good foundation for learning. They learn by sharing your life with you and joining in everyday tasks.

They also need you to play with them and talk to them.

There are many simple activities that you can do with your child.

When children enjoy exploring the world around them, they become confident and keen to find out more.

This is the first step towards getting ready for school.

## What parents say

Some parents are confused about how they can help their children. In this section, we discuss some of the things



Key to the future . . . Parents can help their children to read. Picture: READ

Today The Star begins a series adapted from the READ booklet called "Getting ready to read" by Elizabeth Burroughs and Hilary Wilson

they say

● "Surely it is the job of the school to prepare children?"

Teachers do their best, but they often have such large classes that they cannot give their full attention to the child who has difficulties.

In any case, preparation must start earlier, while the child is growing from a baby to a toddler to an active, thinking young person. Preschools can help, but it is really up to you to prepare your child for school.

Children are naturally inquisitive and learn new and exciting things every day. We must use their curiosity and energy to gradually introduce them to writing and books.

● "I hated school and did

badly. How can I help my child?"

Each child has an adult who is important to them — perhaps a parent, a grandparent, aunt, uncle or older brother or sister. This person can provide the security, encouragement and interest that the child needs to become a successful learner.

Children copy people that they love. They want to be like them and they believe what they say. If an adult shows that reading is important, the child will also be convinced. So the adult should let the child see him or her reading newspapers, magazines, books and letters, so that the child will want to follow the example.

When children are forced to learn they do not succeed.

School becomes a boring place and the child loses the natural love of learning. This is a tragedy — why should a child feel like a failure before she has even started?

● "What kinds of activities will help to prepare the child?"

First, the child needs to practise listening and speaking. All children do this, but we can encourage it by talking to them, even when they are still babies. Singing and story-telling show children that words are fun. They also stimulate their imaginations.

It is important to keep talking to children and to listen to their ideas.

When the child is old

enough to understand, the adult can show the child that books also "speak". The child must realise that words printed on a page have the same meanings as the words that we use to talk.

So we can help by looking at books with children and reading stories aloud to them.

If a child knows that books contain exciting stories, she will be eager to read the books for herself.

There are other activities we can encourage: drawing, counting and remembering.

● "What about TV? We watch every evening. The children enjoy it and they learn a lot."

Yes, TV teaches children a lot, but we must not let them overdo it. It can be harmful to a young child's eyes.

Also, TV should not take up all the time that we spend with our children. There are more important things to do, such as talking, playing and looking at books together.

Children learn when they are active, so they should not just watch a screen.

Take time to talk to your children about what they see on TV. This helps them to develop their understanding.

● "Do children need special toys and equipment?"

No, special toys are not necessary. Children enjoy playing with all kinds of things: sand, water, clay, stones, pots, pans and cardboard boxes.

Their games help them to learn about the world. They start to understand shapes, colours and sizes and how things fit together.

This helps them to notice things and ask questions. They are building up their knowledge and experience.

But children do need to have books around them, to look at, and talk about. We will discuss this in the next section.



# Fears come to surface in drawings and thoughts

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**A** TEACHER'S request to her pupils to draw and write about anything that perturbed them has revealed that the current wave of violence is at the edge of the children's minds.

The teacher, who asked that their name and school be withheld, received shocking diagrams and essays from Std 3 and 4 pupils in Soweto and Alexandra.

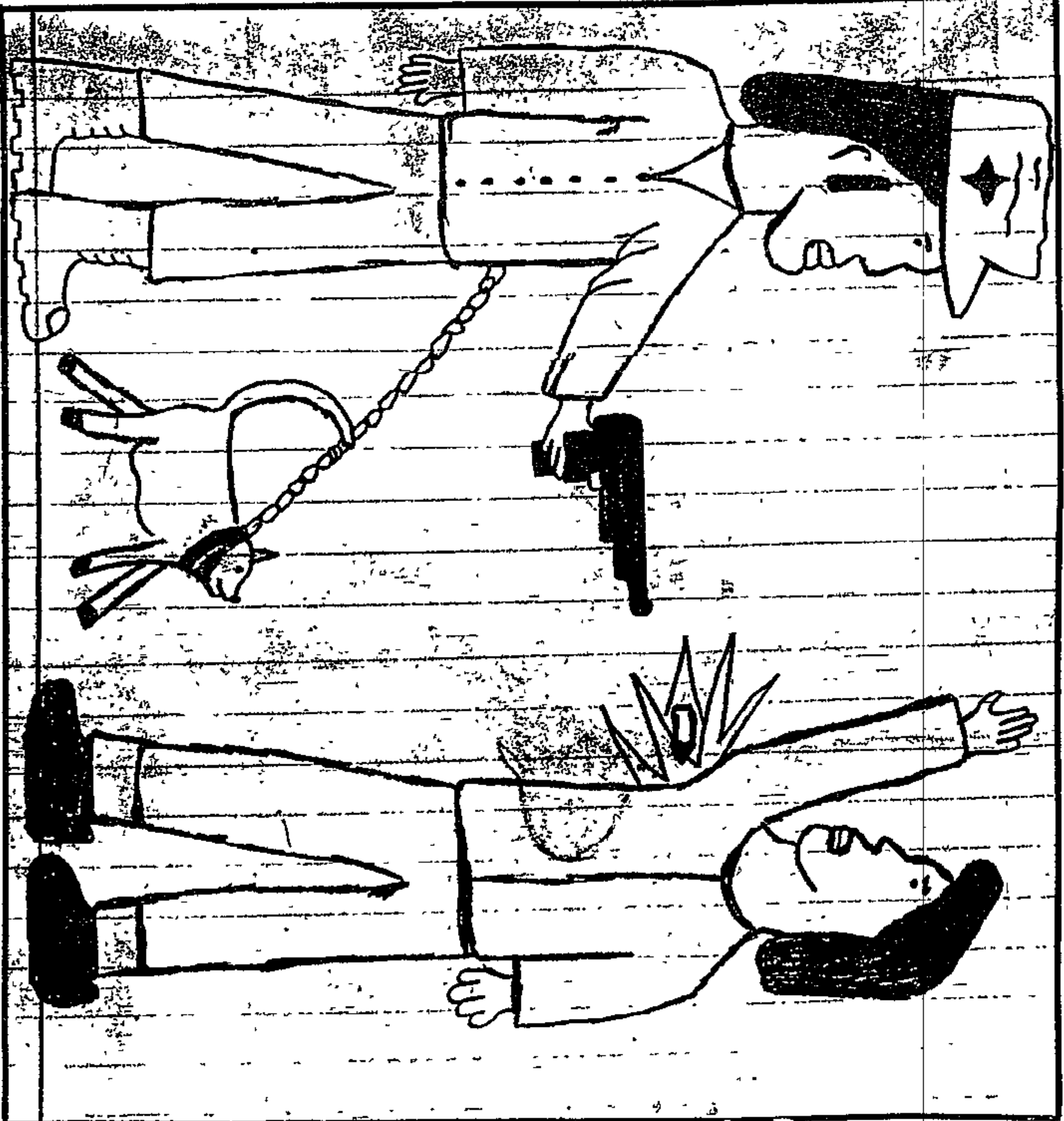
Notwithstanding the poor use of English, the children successfully brought out what was on the edge of their minds. Some wrote how they feared another attack from hostel dwellers.

Busaphi, a 12-year-old girl, drew a policeman in uniform — a dog chained to his waist — pointing a firearm at a helpless man raising a hand in submission.

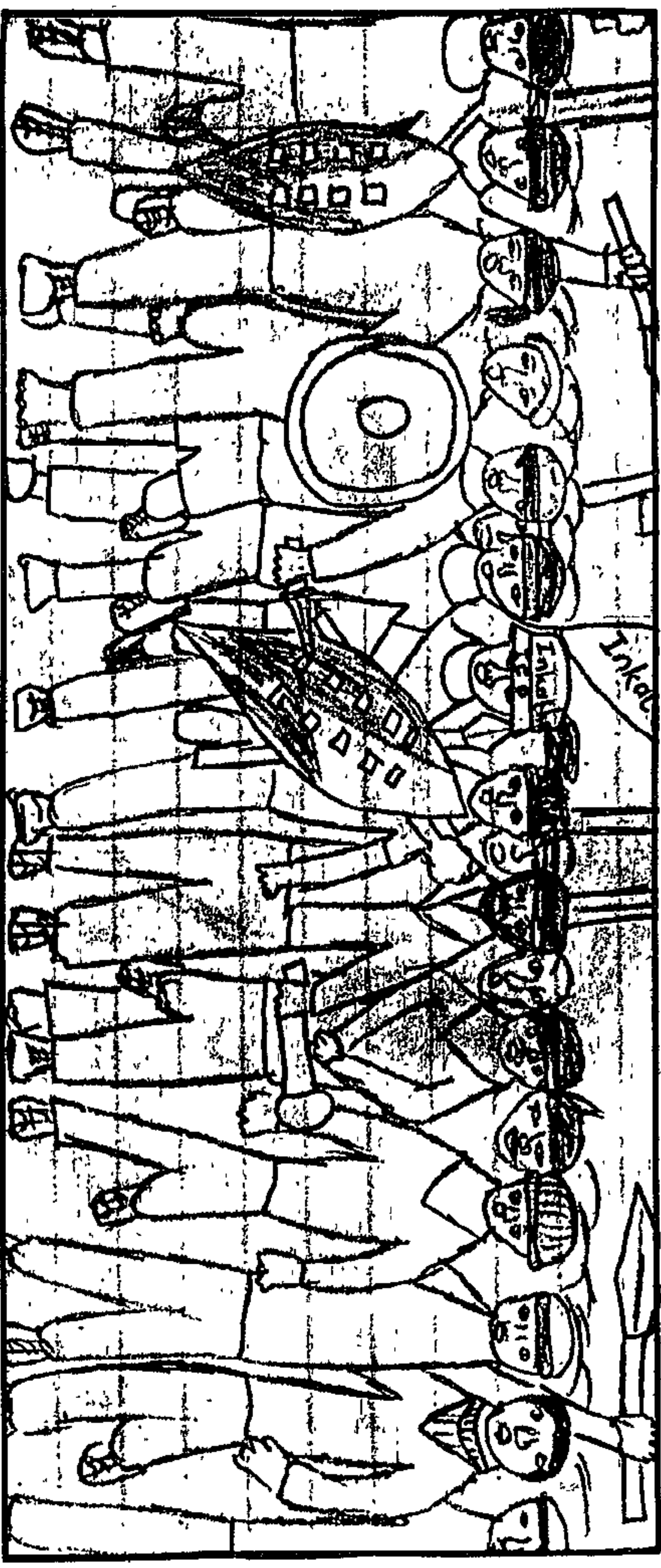
To accompany the drawing, Busaphi wrote this caption: "The police shoot some people ... they were not perfect ... they

were even shooting at people who were no fighting ... please let there be peace in South Africa."

Thobile, a Std 3 pupil, wrote: "I don't know what is going to happen tomorrow. Maybe Inkatha and the ANC are going to fight and maybe they are going to kill us. Everybody is scared and ... looking for a place where there is no Inkatha and ANC — a place where there nothing can harm them and where they can feel better."



PICTURE OF AUTHORITY: How 12-year-old Busaphi saw police action.



MOB RULE: Armed groups such as this one menace the minds of many township children asked to reflect their fears.



# The criminals we are creating

They have been left orphans, homeless and perhaps without a future. Iraq, Ireland and Kuwait have them, so does Lebanon. South Africa has its own too — children of violence. JOVIAL RANTAO and ABBEY MAKOE report.

Star 18/5/91

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**A** SOCIETY of murderers, psychopaths and criminals is being bred here.

In 10 years' time, this country will probably be the one with the world's highest crime rate. There will be more blood than there is now, father will kill son and son will turn the sword on his father.

Child experts and psychologists have warned that the effects of the violence, which most black children are subjected to almost daily in the townships, will have an everlasting effect on children who might believe that violence is a way of life.

Traditionally, children are prohibited by their parents from seeing gory scenes such as corpses, let alone human flesh hacked beyond recognition or a burning body. But, for instance in the latest eruption of violence in Swanieville on the West Rand, children saw their parents being hacked to death.

Some saw their houses being looted and set alight. Probably the children did not understand why the violence took place, but it will certainly be rooted in their minds for years.

"Children are the true victims of the violence. We've got ahead of us criminals who are children today," warns Heather Regenstein, of the National Institute for Crime Rehabilitation of Offenders.

"We are breeding a society that will lack the ability to form deep and trusting relationships. They will also lack the ability to become good loving husbands or wives. You cannot be a loving husband or wife if you did not experience warmth and love yourself," she added.

The development of a child exposed to brutality and a disrupted family and school life would be severely stifled, said Joanne Stevens, a Johannesburg social worker.

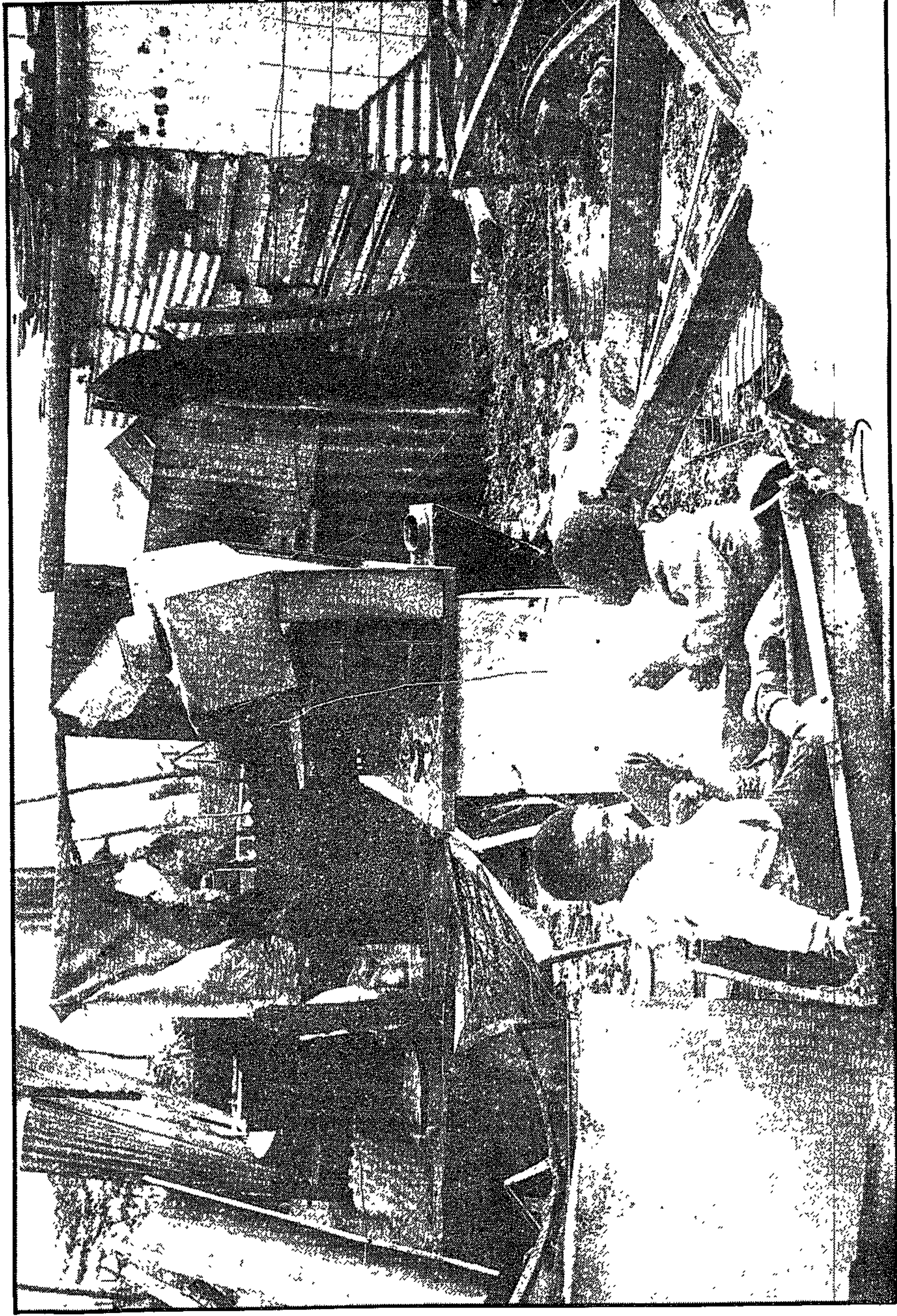
Ms Stevens was concerned that violence tended to dehumanise life and was used as a means of resolving problems.

"This tends to form a misconception among children that life is worthless and that violence is the way to resolve disputes."

Vivi Stavrou, a researcher at the Project for the Study of Violence at the University of the Witwatersrand, regretted that violence was seen as a legitimate way of resolving any conflict and was socially acceptable.

The Johannesburg Child Welfare Society's assistant director Lyn Perry said the worst aspect of violence was that it taught children who were going through it that life had no value.

"With education also disrupted, there is not much hope for these kids when they reach adulthood," she said.



WITNESS TO HORROR: Abdul Mavimbela (left) was lucky to survive the fury of attackers who left this trail of destruction in Swanieville.

©Photograph: Alf Kumalo.



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## Abdul (6) has seen too much horror

**T**he only time six-year-old Abdul Mavimbela saw death and destruction was on TV.

However, on Sunday morning, the television scenes became reality when about 800 men, armed to the teeth, attacked his family along with other members of the Swanieville squatter community.

For the first time, Abdul saw men, blind with fury, breaking everything in sight, pouring petrol on his parents' belongings and threatening to set them alight.

At his age, what matters most to Abdul is having toys, from self-made wire cars to any other item that holds fascination for a child. But the little boy has seen horror.

He gave a chilling account of the events he witnessed during the massacre of 50 residents in Swanieville, Krugersdorp, last Sunday.

Abdul was there, but survived the carnage. His close encounter with death will not disappear from his mind.

"My father was away," says Abdul. "I was with my mother and aunt when a group of about five heavily armed men forced their way inside the house.

"Still drowsy from my sleep, I heard one of the men, who had a shotgun in his hand, asking where the men and children of our house were. Other men carried sharpened irons and sticks — and looked vicious."

Abdul told Saturday Star that his mother and aunt pleaded with the man, who had begun to pour petrol all over the bedroom, not to burn the house.

The little boy continued: "I was crying. My aunt was screaming. My mother asked them not to kill us, and not to burn our house. She said we had done nothing wrong."

The Mavimbela shack was spared — only its windows were broken. After the attackers had left, Abdul, still in trauma, watched other shacks in his neighbourhood being engulfed by flames.

He recounted the stampede that ensued as people ran in all directions — seeking cover, seeking safety.

His father, a mine employee in Rustenburg, said of Abdul:

"I don't think my son will ever be the same again. He has seen what he shouldn't have seen. I think I'll have to take him to the rural areas to recuperate."

Like many other children of violence, Abdul dreams of the carnage every night he goes to sleep. In his dreams he still sees those bodies among the rubble and shacks in flames.



By S'BU MNGADI

YOUNG black people are adept at using their leisure creatively, according to new research.

The research, entitled *Last Generation: Black youth at Leisure*, finds that political repression, violence, and social neglect are no barriers to creative leisure.

The research was conducted over three years by the Youth Centre Project (YCP) of the Centre for Social and Development Studies at the University of Natal, and the journal *Indicator South Africa*.

The report compares the everyday lifestyles with the ambitions of urban and peri-urban youths in the 1990s.

The research finds leisure is a critical issue for young black people and can spell either hope or frustration.

A nationwide survey, recorded the leisure activities of young people in the 16 to 24-year-old category, and their attitudes towards leisure.

Smaller-scale investigations were undertaken into the leisure facilities available in the Durban area, and to what extent the youth were using the facilities.

A study was made of the leisure needs of young people living in four shack settlements in the Durban area and the need for a regional youth centre in the Pinetown area.

A national poll among all population groups confirmed the need for neighbourhood youth centres, offering educational and recreational leisure.

Researcher Valerie Moller said the findings indicated that "leisure meant much more than recreation to young people".

She said the evidence suggested that black youth in South Africa was not a "lost genera-

# Black youth let the good times roll!

tion but one starved of meaningful leisure outlets".

In an attempt to describe township life, 1 200 young people in three cities were asked to keep weekday and weekend diaries.

Results showed that the most popular activities are: television viewing; listening to music; conservation; relaxing; reading; sports; physical activities and travel.

Other popular activities are: music and arts (mainly singing and choir practice); social outings; spectator events; spending time with a boyfriend or girlfriend (including courting, kissing and sex); playing board or card games, and prayer services.

Moller said township youths were similar to young people in most parts of the world. "Playing soccer is the 'prestige' activity for young men, followed by partying, discos, social drinking and cinema.

"Young women like partying and dancing

more than soccer and drinking. Beauty and fashion shows, competitions, gospel and singing are also popular.

"Only a quarter of the youths said they went to political rallies on a monthly basis," Moller said.

"But participating in political debates is one of the most popular leisure pursuits in some areas."

Moller said research findings revealed tensions between the leisure needs of young men and women; between youths with jobs and those without; between church-going and politicised youth; and between township and shack-land youth.

"The problem is how to apply a fair solution to meet the recreational needs of young people from diverse backgrounds."

Moller said it could be argued that township youth were "so isolated from the mainstream of South African society that their

opportunity to experience the full range of leisure activities was very limited because they were too busy catching up with the necessities of life".

"Others would argue that the youth expressed a shallow satisfaction — a sure sign of hopelessness in the face of the obstacles they faced in a socially divided society."

She said more than 25 percent of those surveyed could not recall a "positive" event for the youth in their township in the year before the survey, and about 15 percent could not see a positive side to being a young person in South Africa.

"The current political tension in South Africa may also limit leisure choices and restrict opportunities for fulfilment.

"Even the less important answers show the impact of political instability and violence on leisure options for young people.

"Crime and delinquency — by-products of the political violence — were given as the single most serious disadvantage for contemporary black youth."

Riots, school boycotts and being forced to become involved in the political conflict, were some of the key issues which worry the youth.

Being back at school after the school boycotts was one of the best-liked events, according to some of the youth interviewed.

The research also revealed that teenage pregnancy weighs heavily upon the minds of young people attending social meetings for the first time.

"Although teenage pregnancy tops the 'problem list' for both girls and boys, many more young women than young men identified teenage pregnancy as a major concern," she said.



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**LYDIA SEKATI**

It takes even more courage for a woman to do this voluntarily.

Mrs Lydia Sekati is  
one such woman.

Sekati, who has two children of her own, has for a long time been concerned about the welfare of mentally retarded children.

It all started in 1986 when her nephew was deserted by his wife. The woman left him with three children, one of whom was a mentally handicapped two-year-old boy.

The children moved in with her. But she was soon to discover that she could not cope.

She then took the boy to a social worker, hoping he would be sent to a special school.

**But there was no such facility in Sebokeng.**

There was a long queue of people with the same problem waiting to be helped by the social worker.

**It was after observing this that she decided to do something for the poor children.**

## Bedroom

"It always saddened me to see mentally retarded children locked in bedrooms of their own homes and uncared for because people don't have the patience to wipe the saliva that oozes out of their mouths uncontrollably or clean them when they wet their pants.

“My children are normal and they can do things for themselves. They can tell me when they are not feeling well.

“But these poor children here cannot speak or think for themselves,

somebody has to do it for them."

With the help of a local social worker, Sekatit managed to raise a donation of about R20 000 to start a centre for the mentally handicapped children in the township.

The Lekoa Council allocated her an unused bungalow at the Sebokeng Women's Hostel which she later converted into a centre for the children.

The converted bungalow is divided into two nine-bed dormitories, a kitchenette, a playroom, and a small office-cum-TV room furnished with a filing cabinet, a small table, three chairs and a portable black and white TV set.

Some of the money she raised was used to buy the beds, linen, and

stove, a fridge and some toys.

In January 1987 the Lebohang Centre for Profoundly Mentally Retarded Children was born.

Sekati has networked with other organisations such as Operation Hunger who now provide soup for the children.

**‘Initially there were 24 children at the centre but the number dropped to 18 when three of the children were taken by their parents. Three have since died.**

“The parents pay R700 a month mainly for food. They clothe the children although we do have clothes which have been donated to us.

**'The centre closes during the festive season'**

to allow the children to visit their families," said Sekati.

“Some parents wanted the centre to provide day-care facilities. But I suggested that they should be boarders here because transporting them would be expensive.

“Their parents, who needed to work but could not because they were looking after them, could also be able to find jobs and generate some income.”

**“Two parents offered to help me at the home**

and since then we have two additional people who are working with us," she said.

Between the five of them, the women cleaned the home, wash the children, cook and feed them and do the washing.

The four women are paid for their work, but Sekati does it on a voluntary basis.

**She only visits her two daughters twice a week.**

The council has now allocated them a three-hectare piece of land while the British Consulate has promised to help with the building.

**Sekati has big plans for the new centre.**

**"It will cater for about 100 children. We already**

have 80 on our waiting list and I know the social worker has another long list of children waiting to be placed in special schools or in homes," she said.

"If there are more children than we can take, I hope we will be able to start a day-care facility for them.

“I also hope that we will be able to get a physiotherapist and other professionals to volunteer to help us.”

**Readers are urged to write in and submit nominations for Woman of the Week. Our address is PO Box 6663, Johannesburg 2000 or phone us at (011) 474-0128.**

四二五



## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

## Rape: charges/arrests

283 Mr B B GOODALL asked the Minister of Law and Order

How many (a) Black, (b) White (c) Coloured and (d) Indian men were (i) arrested for and (ii) charged with rape during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available?

## QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For written reply.

General Affairs

## SAP: labour disputes/work stoppages/strikes

199. Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Law and Order:

In how many instances were the South African Police called to the scene of (a) labour disputes, (b) work stoppages and (c) strikes in 1990?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: B520E

(a) 241

(b) 67

(c) 628

## Illegal strikes: arrests

245. Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Law and Order

How many workers were arrested for striking illegally in 1990? B633E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

796 persons

## SAP: staff composition

258. Mr P J GROENEWALD asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

What was the staff composition, expressed as percentages, of the South African Police in respect of (a) Whites, (b) Blacks, (c) Coloureds and (d) Indians in 1988, 1989 and 1990, respectively? B683E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

	1988	1989	1990
(a)	44,96	43,47	42,61
(b)	44,23	45,83	46,30
(c)	7,61	7,45	7,75
(d)	3,20	3,25	3,34

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: B747E

Statistics are not kept in separate categories as set out in the question. To acquire this information would not only be extremely time-consuming, but would take place to the detriment of other more important police duties. I can therefore unfortunately not supply the hon member with the information requested.

Statistics are only kept of cases brought before court. I wish to point out that more than one person can be arrested and charged in the same case.

Statistics of cases brought before court in 1990 are as follows:

(a)	Black males	11 646 cases
(b)	White males	497 cases
(c) and (d)	Coloured and Indian males	52 cases

Statistically, no differentiation is made between Coloured and Indian men.

As regards convictions for rape, I refer the hon member to the answer by the hon Minister of Justice on 27 March 1991 to written question no 215 in the House of Assembly.

## Children's homes: statistics

318 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health: 298

(a) How many children's homes are there for each population group in each province of the Republic, (b) what are their names, (c) how many children can be accommodated in each and (d) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B828E

1507

1508  
MONDAY, 20 MAY 1991

## The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

(298)

1508

(a) Province	Indian	White	Coloured	Black
Cape	0	24	25	3
Transvaal	0	29	3	6
OFS	0	5	0	1
Natal	7	12	5	4,

(b) and (c)

White

## Province and Accommodation

Name of children's home	Cape	Transvaal	OFS	Natal
Boys Town	20			
Oranija Jewish Children's Home	100			
Christine Kiddie Kindersentrum	28			
Children's Home	60			
Durbanville-Kinderhuis	144			
Eastern Province Children's Home	90			
East London Children's Home	57			
Friedrich Schweizer Kinderheim	16			
Herberg-Kinderhuis	122			
Huis van Heerde	50			
Janne Roux Kinderhuis	48			
Kestell-Kinderhuis	225			
Kinderoord Htr Smit	77			
Marsh Memorial Homes	75			
Môreson-Kinderhuis	80			
Murray-Kinderhuis	120			
Nazareth House (Cape Town)	40			
Nazareth House (Port Elizabeth)	40			
Oosterland Kinderhuis	120			
Saleson Institute	60			
St John's Hostel	65			
St Michael's Children's Home	72			
Suid-Afrikaanse Kinderhuis	40			
Teen Centre	24			
Abraham				
Kriel-Kinderhuis(Langlaagte)	364			
Abraham Kriel-Kinderhuis				
(Nylstroom)	250			
Abraham Kriel-Kinderhuis				
(Potchefstroom)	200			
Andries Hendrik	14			
Apostoliese Gelooft				
Sendungkinderhuis	220			
Abraham Kriel Kinderhuis (Pretoria)	250			
Albert Herbst Kinderhuis	120			
Arcadin S.A Jewish Orphanage	50			
Boys' Town (Magaliesburg)	68			
Bramley-Kinderhawe	54			
Catherine Robson Home	66			

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

1509

1510  
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(298)

1510

## Province and Accommodation

Name of children's home	Cape	Transvaal	OFS	Natal
Cotlands Babies' Sanctuary		50		
Epworth Children's Home		80		
Furlands Boys' Home		70		
Johannesburg Child Welfare Society				
Children's Home		24		
Johannesburg Children's Home		60		
Louis Botha Kinderhuis		98		
Boys Town (Observatory)		10		
Lushof-Kinderhuis		72		
Maria Kloppe-Kinderhawe		60		
Nazareth House		42		
Jac Von Belkum Huis		196		
President Kruger-Kinderhuis				
(Johannesburg)				
President Kruger-Kinderhuis			91	
(Pretoria)				
S A V F -Kinderhawe		63		
St George's Home		50		
St Mary's Children's Home		30		
Strathyre Girls' Home		60		
The Guild Cottage		60		
Charlotte Theron-Kinderhuis		18		
Gedenk-Kinderhuis			280	
Ons Kinderhuis			155	
President Kruger-Kinderhuis			310	
(Reddersburg)				
Winburg-Kinderhuis			65	
Hilltops Children's Home			164	
Durban Children's Home				70
Mary Cook Children's Home				95
Môrester Kinderhuis				31
Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk				140
Kinderhuis (Greytown)				148
Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk				110
Kinderhuis (Durban)				58
Joseph Baynes House				
St Martin's Diocesan Home for				
Children				72
The Ethelbert Children's Home				60
Wylie House				36
William Clark Gardens				117
Boys Town, Glenwood				10
Black				
Khayamandi	80			
Masikhule Philipi	78			
Masigane	28			
Orlando				
SOS Kinderdorp		60		
Emdeni		150		
		60		

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



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*Handwritten*  
MONDAY, 20 MAY 1991

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1512

## Province and Accommodation

Name of children's home	Cape	Transvaal	OFS	Natal
Othandweni Family Care Centre		88		
Bethany Girl's Home		160		
Legae la Rona		200		
Tshiresong			85	
Othandweni Infant's Home				120
St Vincent				110
Ekujabulem				32
Sacred Heart				170
<i>Indian</i>				
Lakehaven				80
Sunlit Gardens				60
M A Motala				30
Aryan Benevolent Home				102
Muslim Darul Yatama Wal				
Masakeen				66
Boys Town, Genazzana (Tongaat)				55
Boys Town, Verulam				10
<i>Coloured</i>				
Annie Starck Village	60			
Boys Town Duin-en-Dal	60			
Bruce Duncan Kinderhuis	70			
Christine Revell Kinderhuis	30			
G C Williams Kinderhuis	60			
Habibia Children's Home	18			
Heatherdale Kinderhuis	60			
Holy Cross Orphanage	115			
James House	12			
Lelebloem House	60			
Margaret's House	10			
Morna Kinderhuis	20			
NG Sending, Kamieskroon	100			
NG Sending, Potadder	132			
Ons Plek	16			
Patrick's House	30			
R K Kamieskroon	74			
St Francis, Athlone	60			
St Francis, Onseepkans	60			
St George's House	40			
St Mary's Kinderhuis	40			
SOS Kinderdorp (Port Elizabeth)	80			
Steintal Kinderhuis	646			
The Homestead	17			
The Retreat	10			
SOS Village Johannesburg		160		
St Joseph's Home		88		
St Nicholas, Newville		60		
Bethshan Children's Home				30
St Monica's Home				84
St Philomena's Orphanage				80

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

1513

*Handwritten*  
MONDAY, 20 MAY 1991

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1514

## Province and Accommodation

Name of children's home	Cape	Transvaal	OFS	Natal
St Theresa's Home				105
St Thomas's Home				61 and
(d) White		22/4/91		
Black		30/3/91		
Indian		22/4/91		
Coloured		31/3/91		

## Social services: money set aside

320. Dr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of National Health +

(a) What percentage of the money set aside for social services in respect of Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, respectively, during each of the latest specified two financial

years for which figures are available, (i) reached the recipients of social benefits and (ii) was spent on (aa) administrative and (bb) other specified expenses and (b) what amounts are involved?

*Handwritten*  
The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

	WHITES	COLOURED	INDIANS	BLACKS
	1988/89	1989/90	1988/89	1989/90
(a) (i)	95.2%	94.7%	96.06%	98.22%
(ii)(aa)	4.8%	5.2%	3.54%	1.78%
(bb)	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
(b) (i)	R821 375 000	R918 951 000	R6 777 674 000	R813 898 000
(ii)(aa)	R4 142 000	R31 000 000	R24 860 000	R14 720 000
(bb)	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
			R3 107 000	R4 114 000
				unknown

Above information as received from various departments Concerning Blacks the information is only applicable to the RSA

be acquired and (iii) what is the cost of providing these books?

Dr Nelson R Mandela High School: statistics  
322 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Education and Training:

*Handwritten*  
The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

With reference to the Dr Nelson R Mandela High School in Crossroads as at 8 April 1991,

(a) what was the (i) total pupil enrolment and (ii) capacity of the school, (b)(i) what were the names of the textbooks required for each standard, (ii) how many copies of each were required and (iii) what is the total cost of acquiring these books, (c)(i) what science equipment was available in each of the four laboratories at this school, (ii) what (aa) equipment and (bb) furniture was required and (iii) what is the cost of providing these items of (aa) equipment and (bb) furniture and (d)(i) how many books were available in the school library, (ii) how many books needed to

	(a) (i) 1 865 pupils	(ii) 1 225 pupils
(b) (i)		
Titles of Hand Books		
Sid. 6		
Akasia Taalreks	50	
Active General Science	150	
Active Mathematics	100	
Active Geography	200	
Active History	100	
A Book of English	250	
Joey	80	
African Skyblue	250	
Active Business		
Economics	75	

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

# End to race barriers on adoption praised

By Shirley Woodgate 298

The scrapping of section 40 of the Child Care Act — which prevented inter-racial adoption — was yesterday welcomed by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

The ANC, however, expressed reservations in terms of the entrenched background of racism in South Africa.

JCWS director Dr Adele Thomas said adoption agencies now had the freedom to make the right choice for the right child.

"While there are long waiting lists of white adoptive parents in Johannesburg alone, there are hundreds of black children in our care.

"This new move, for which we have lobbied for years, could address the issue," she said.

Stressing the necessity for strict screening, she

said it was vital that prospective white parents did not merely make political statements by adopting black children.

"It wouldn't be ideal if a child's only role model was a domestic worker." It was unlikely the scrapping of section 40 would result in white couples queueing for black children, given the existing prejudice in South Africa, she said.

The change in legislation also affected mixed-race couples, who until now had not been allowed to adopt children.

Speaking yesterday at a JCWS workshop on transracial and international adoptions, children and women's health care specialist Regina Nzo, wife of ANC leader Alfred Nzo, expressed reservations about instant inter-race adoptions because of the lack of research on the issue in this country.





No buildings, no books, no food. But the children of Qoqizizwe are, against all odds, being given the best education – and food – principal Richard Selana and his teachers can supply.

## Starving kids of Qoqizizwe

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE principal and 20 teachers at Qoqizizwe School at Orange Farm are feeding some of their 500 pupils at their own expense after many fainted from hunger during lessons.

Each teacher feeds four or five children every day.

Most of the pupils come from east of Orange Farm and have to walk for hours to get to school because they cannot afford the R1,20 bus fare.

Some leave home without breakfast and have no money to buy bread for lunch.

This week I saw principal Richard Selana help a small boy on the verge of collapsing from

hunger. He took the child to a hawker and bought him a bunny chow.

The child gobbled down large hunks while some of his pals stood around looking hungry. They too, showed signs of hunger. Their lips had turned grey.

"Seeing children in this condition is not unusual. It happens most of the time," said Selana.

Qoqizizwe – which means "unite the nations" – is a combined school which takes pupils from Sub-Standard A to Std 8.

Because the building cannot hold all the pupils, some classes are held in the open in winter, while in summer pupils shelter under trees.

When it is very cold, or when it rains, the smallest children are sent home, while those in higher standards squash into a disused garage.

The school, founded several years ago on Weilers Farm by squatter community leader Olga Lutu, moved to the area when the squatter families were resettled at Orange Farm. The squatters had to start from scratch in the whitewashed building which once served the community as a shopping centre.

"I know about the problems. When I started the school I realised education was the only way to help the children and that is what the school is still trying to do," said Lutu.

# Black babies for white mums?

By LULAMA LUTICIPRES  
9/16/91

ALTHOUGH the scrapping this week of Section 40 B of the Child Care Act of 1983 has been hailed as a major step forward by child welfare organisations, it has started a gruelling debate on the advisability of now-permitted adoptions across the colour line.

Until now adopted children had to be placed with parents of the same race group. (298)

At a two-day conference organised by the Johannesburg Child and Welfare Society on how the problem could be solved, its head, Dr Adele Thomas said: "It is important for the needs of the child to be taken into account. More than anything else, the new move will prevent children from living in institutions instead of growing up in normal family environments."

A representative from the ANC's social welfare office, Daluxolo Mpofo, said adoption was not just a legal process to keep social workers busy.

"It is a process that seeks to provide a child with a basic necessity - a family. This is where his cultural identity is shaped.

"The most important aspect of the process is that we should ensure that it serves the purpose for which it was intended - that the child should have a family. And

that he should grow in an environment that will make him develop a positive cultural and self identity," he said.

Social work consultant, Jackie Loffell, said the reluctance of the black community to adopt children was largely because of poor socio-economic conditions.

"There is also an endless queue of infertile white couples desperate to adopt from an ever-shrinking pool of healthy new-born white babies. Some of these couples would be happy to take in black children," she said.

Professor Rita Simon of the American University in Washington said a study of transracial adoptions in the US revealed that they did not cause any special problems.

"We have observed black children adopted and reared in white families and have seen them grow up with a positive sense of their black identity and a knowledge of their history and culture," she said. However, she pointed there had been some opposition to the process.

Such adoptions started in the US after World War II when there were thousands of homeless children in Europe and Asia.

The process did not get underway on a large scale until the mid 1960s.

Organised opposition to transracial adoption began in the early part of the 1970s, and by 1975 it was formidable enough to reverse major adoption agencies' policies.

According to Simon, there was opposition from black social workers and leaders of black political organisations.

Opposition also came from American Indian groups who labelled transracial adoption as "genocide".

Brown said there had since been a considerable shift from this school of thought.

The director of Specialist Services for the South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare, Jeanette Myburgh, told of two schools of thought in Britain.

She said the Parents for Children agency believed no child was unadoptable, and that black children were better off with white parents than in institutions.

Another group, the New Black Families Unit, was vehemently opposed, believing that enough black families were available for black adoption.

Myburgh suggested there was a need to move away from looking for ideal parents when placing a child, and to consider the ones that were available.



## EDUCATION BRIEFS

W/MAN 716 13/6/91  
■ The Joint Enrichment Programme is to host a national conference next weekend to begin addressing the plight of South Africa's marginalised youth. The conference — to be attended by representatives from political, church, youth, labour, education, civic, development and women's organisations and embassies — will take place from June 7 to 9 at the Alpha Training Centre in Broederstroom. 298

# Survival of the fittest children

298

WHEN a mentally retarded boy continued receiving inadequate attention at Millsite Sanatorium, near Randfontein, his mother sought to have him transferred elsewhere. However, a nursing sister advised against it.

She accepted the advice although he showed increased signs of malnutrition, neglect and unexplained scars on his neck each time she made her weekly visit to the hospital.

The nurse's reason was that general maltreatment of patients at Millsite could only be addressed if the mother kept her son there and challenged hospital management. The nursing staff are too afraid to do this for fear of victimisation or losing their jobs.

In comparison to the neatly kept hospital grounds, several of the patients in the children's wards showed signs of inadequate attention.

Children with outstretched hands immediately surrounded me when I entered one of the wards, some tugging at my clothes as they tried to say what they wanted. For some, it may just have been the desire to have the snacks I was carrying in my guise of a visitor. For others, it may simply have been the need for some form of human contact or mother surrogacy.

One boy, saliva dribbling on to his snout-filled short-sleeved top, followed me around, at times holding tight as he tried to rummage through my bag. An abandoned child, he was sent to the hospital while still a baby and could well be given a pauper's funeral — the "tradition" with death cases — because relatives or parents are often not traced, according to health workers there.

In a number of wards, several totally immobile children lay on the floor where they spent most of the day. Spastic and incontinent, they have to be force-fed, dressed and escorted to the bathroom.

Neglect and shocking conditions are a commonplace in the children's wards of the Millsite Sanatorium. **LINDA RULASHE** gained access to the hospital

A child lay on a bed in a potentially hazardous position as a pile of blankets covered half its head. There was only one nurse on duty at the time. "It's the survival of the fittest," the mother with me commented.

Inadequate numbers of beds mean children have to sleep together. The ward was stuffy and there was an unbearable stench of urine.

Except for a large picture of a happy clown painted on one of the walls of a ward named "*Jabulani*" (Be happy) — a word demoralised nurses adopted in the face of trying circumstances — the rest of the walls and environment are blank.

The few toys available are stuffed dolls and wooden toys described by a nurse as "not relevant enough" for the patients' mental stimulation.

None of the children was dressed in standard hospital wear but wore khaki tops and trousers which were neither clean nor warm.

In comparison, most adult patients are allocated blue sweaters with the Lifecare logo on them. These are allegedly used as for identification if "they wander off and get lost".

The mother who accompanied me around the hospital wanted to provide her son with extra clothing and pyjamas but a nurse told her it wasn't allowed because "they get stolen by those who aren't profoundly retarded and sold to miners at the compounds across the road".

The nursing sister said, however, that the real reason was to control the

laundry load.

There is also a shortage of shoes: most of the patients walk around with dirty, calloused feet.

According to the health worker, the "privilege" of being provided with shoes and proper clothing is only afforded those who were not as retarded as the others. They are required to assist nurses with the laundry, cleaning up after fellow patients, removing excretion from the floor, gardening and washing dishes.

Two children were sorting out blankets and sheets while another walked past, pushing a big waste disposal bin for dirty linen after having emptied its contents.

A Lifecare representative commented: "No child is involved in any kind of work. Those who are able are all in a registered school on the premises."

The patients' rehabilitation work, which includes weaving mats, making engraved paintings and stuffing pillows, is sold with little remuneration to the patients.

In the official "showroom" wards — where official visitors are taken — babies were sleeping in their own neat white-painted cots with proper sheeting and blankets.

Not a single nurse was in sight, however; most of them had congregated at the front desk.

Supper time was at 4pm. Among other things the children were fed a bowl of crumbs and crusts, mixed with a brownish liquid. The nurse said the staff had never been able to ascertain whether the liquid was a form of soup. Those who couldn't take in the "soup" were given cocoa instead.

Patients are washed in what one health worker best described "in a cattle dip manner".





Transvaal MEC Olaus van Zyl after yesterday's meeting with Cast. Picture CATHERINE ROSS

# TPA rejects calls for moratorium

Wilson Zwane

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday told the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) that it would not declare a moratorium on power cuts in black townships.

Speaking to reporters in Johannesburg after meeting Cast representatives, Transvaal MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations Olaus van Zyl said the TPA could not support a moratorium.

"A moratorium is buying time. Who is going to supply funds to buy time?" Van Zyl asked, adding that the intergovernmental grants to the local authorities were not meant to subsidise rent boycotts.

"Because the TPA has no funds available to ensure the supply of services to the black towns during negotiations, it is not in a position to support the moratorium."

He said the TPA was not responsible for cutting off services in the townships. This was done by the local authorities or bulk service suppliers.

The question of power cuts would be looked into by a joint Cast/TPA working group, he said.

Yesterday's meeting between the TPA and Cast came two days after Cast threat-

ened to suspend talks unless a moratorium was declared. Cast was not available for comment yesterday.

Transvaal townships still without electricity include Sebokeng in the Vaal Triangle, Atteridgeville near Pretoria and Thokoza and Katlehong on the East Rand.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said yesterday power had been restored to two sections of Sebokeng after more than 70% of its residents paid their accounts.

Power was cut in six townships under the jurisdiction of the Lekoa City Council earlier this week.

Sapa reports that the Pretoria City Council management committee yesterday announced its plan to restore bulk electricity to Atteridgeville for a trial period of one month under conditions accepted by Atteridgeville's administrator.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the township clinic in Tumahole, near Parys, said it had no evidence that 33 people had died as a result of drinking contaminated water. It was claimed earlier that this had occurred because fresh water supplies to the township were cut off on May 13.

## 'Stream of black babies up for adoption'

Tania Levy

THERE was an endless stream of abandoned black babies in Johannesburg and an endless queue of infertile white couples desperate to adopt from a shrinking pool of white babies, Johannesburg Child Welfare social welfare consultant Jackie Loffel said yesterday. *6/Day 7/6/91*

Speaking at a workshop on Transracial Adoptions held at Wits University, Loffel said the number of white couples prepared to adopt black babies could grow as the "new SA" emerged.

Matching these couples with black babies could help balance out adoption needs and resources.

She said there was a place for trans-

racial adoptions, although a restricted one.

If done indiscriminately and in isolation from other strategies, adoptions across the colour line would reflect dubious ethics. It would amount to treating the symptom of massive community crisis — namely child abandonment — without responding to the people caught up in that crisis.

In the US and UK the one-way traffic of black children into white homes had been seen as another form of cultural imperialism in which black children were another commodity of exchange, said Loffel.

Star 6/6/91

## Mobs avenge rape attacks

At least 10 schoolgirls have been raped in Soweto this week — and mob revenge attacks carried out by pupils are increasing. ~~SE~~ 298

In the latest revenge attack, two youths accused of raping a schoolgirl were severely beaten by a rampaging group of Anchor High Schools pupils in Mzimhlophe yesterday.

Police and the school principal intervened to save their lives.

The incident is the third revenge attack in a week in Soweto. — Staff Reporters.





# Street kids have dreams too

Winnie Graham 6/6/91  
lives and origins of Johannesburg's street children but also vivid contributions from the children themselves

She says there are thousands of children on the streets. They live in alleyways, drains, doorways and coal yards — and nearly all are boys from the age of ten up. Boys of four to six are occasionally also found on the streets. Sometimes girls as young as eight or nine appear but they dress as boys as a form of protection.

## Appears

"If a white child appears on the street, he is immediately conspicuous because of his race and social workers move to have him returned to his family or to foster care," she said. "A similar support structure for black children does not exist."

In Hillbrow, however, there are three organisations geared to help the children: Streetwise, Twilight and Process which provide homeless children with shelter, meals and a place to wash themselves and their clothes. Streetwise is primarily an education and job skills project for street children.

Ms Swart has examined the complexities of life on Johannesburg streets by conducting interviews with 13 street children and with two young men who virtually grew up on the streets. Group discussions were also held with other children living on the streets.

During individual and group discussions, children were asked to draw according to themes from known environments, such as home life, street life, running away, school, glue smoking or the police. By illustrating situations they found difficult to describe verbally, they provided a valuable means of inaccessible information to the researcher.

She found the *malunde* ("those of the street") of Hillbrow aroused very mixed feelings in the local community. Some people resented the "street urchins" while others felt compassion for them.

Compassion, according to Ms Swart, stems from unexpected glimpses into their vulnerability as, for example, when people found them asleep in shop doorways or see them being rounded up by the police.

A Johannesburg businessman told her: "When I come out of a restaurant and I see the street kids in the cold, begging, I feel really guilty."

A college student who met a street child "of about nine" when she left her waitressing job one night was as touched.

He asked for money and as she had none, gave him her hamburger. The street child was shocked to find she planned to walk home alone and insisted on escorting her "because it is dangerous for you to go alone".

## Hit

Those who saw the children as waifs felt free to abuse them. They hit the children to correct their bad habits, took away their cigarettes to cure them of smoking, took their blankets because they believed them to be stolen, smeared their glue into their hair and threw cold water on them in midwinter to encourage them to "go home".

Ms Swart commented: "Many Hillbrow residents remark on the children's seeming cheerfulness despite adverse living conditions."



Street wise . . . a group of children with Know Mogosho, an art instructor at the Streetwise Education Centre, and Jeanne Swart, Jill Swart's daughter and a post-graduate psychology student.





Child-abuse figures rocket

By ANTHONY JOHNSON  
Political Correspondent

REPORTED cases of serious assault, rape, child neglect and sodomy involving young children in South Africa have rocketed in the past year, according to figures released by Law and Order Minister, Mr. Adriaan Vlok.

At the launch of an anti-child abuse campaign in Pretoria this week, Mr Vlok said 1 297 cases of serious assault on children under 14 years were reported in 1990 — a jump of 54% over the previous year.

The rape of girls younger than 14 years increased by 23% in 1990, to a total of 2 623 cases.

The incidence of child neglect increased by 39% to 1 453 cases, while sodomy of children in-

creased by 14% to 475 cases.

Mr Vlok said most of the victims are classified black or coloured.

He said it was critical that youngsters be educated about the dangers associated with "these shocking crimes against our most valuable possessions — our children".

Mr Vlok announced that the Anglo American Corporation and four black sports stars had agreed to assist in an information project to warn children about the dangers of such crimes.

Mr Vlok said that four sports heroes — Dingaan Thobela (boxing), Sugerboy Malinga (boxing), Tshakile Nzimande (athletics) and Mathews Temane (athletics) — had donated their services free

of charge to assist the crime prevention project.

Anglo American had financed the publication of information booklets aimed at children.

The AAC has covered the cost of printing a million copies of an information booklet that concentrates on the problems which beset many black children.

"This is the first of its kind in South Africa — a bookmark in the chosen language of the pupil and addressed to the child," Mr Vlok said.

He said children identified with their heroes and the way they operated in the community.

"It is for this reason that four sports stars, after very careful consideration, were selected and asked for their help."



# Children on plane from Lusaka

THE repatriation programme of 20 000 ANC members is continuing, with schoolchildren expected on the next two flights, according to Mr Jackie Selebi, head of the ANC's Repatriation Committee.

He said two planes are expected to arrive next Thursday from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

"This time those on board will be predominantly children of primary school going age."

Some of the children are studying at the ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Mazimbu near Morogoro, but it would be better for them to start learning at home rather than outside the country, Selebi said.

However, National Coordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South African Exiles (NCCR) member Mr Moss Chikane said there was no special school programme for the returnees.

Some would enrol at private schools with the help of the NCCR. But there were not enough funds to pay for their school fees.

Selebi said that, besides accommodation and education,

finding jobs for returnees was one of the ANC's main problems.

Some employers had offered to employ some returnees, "but while we appreciate this, we would be much more comfortable if there was employment for the millions of others looking for jobs," said Selebi.

It was "strange" that the government was able to give aid to bandits like Unita in Angola but not to the victims of their own policies, he said.

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Pilgrimage



"It only shows how insensitive they are to the plight of their own people."

Selebi said the government was refusing to register doctors and other professionals who had qualified in the Soviet Union, Cuba or Hungary.

He accused the government of double standards in allowing immigrants from Eastern Europe to enter South Africa without going through examinations and other bureaucratic procedures.

"If a certificate from the Soviet Union is not acceptable to them, how can a Polish one be acceptable to them?"

"It is again the double standards of a government that cannot extricate itself from its racist policies," Selebi said.



# Rise in child abuse linked to tension

By Shirley Woodgate

A recent report on the dramatic escalation of child abuse among black and coloured communities highlights high aggression, depression and tension levels among all South Africans.

Commenting on figures released this week by Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, Human Sciences Research Council researcher Dr Louise Olivier said children were easy targets for people venting feelings of helplessness, and people were increasingly using aggression to tackle problems.

She said the figures could also be attributed to greater awareness of sexual molestation.

Mr Vlok's figures, compared with those for 1989, show serious assaults on children increased by 54 percent last year, rape of girls

under 14 increased by 23 percent, and child sodomy increased by 14 percent.

Figures from Dr Olivier's report show that 21,6 percent of whites, coloureds and Indians could not curb their aggression. The figure for urban blacks increased to 27,8 percent.

Aggression and depression in turn led to increased tension among 26 percent of blacks, 34 percent of coloureds and 38,1 percent of whites and Asians.

Dr Olivier attributed the high percentage in the white and Asian groups to the fact that many in these groups held high-profile jobs which led to increased stress, accompanied by tension, aggression and depression. Other reasons for depression might be unemployment and financial problems.



# Thousands of little girls raped last year - Vlok

SHOCKING crimes  
against children in-  
creased tremendously last  
year. *Apr 11/91*

Law and Order Minis-  
ter Adriaan Vlok said in  
Pretoria this week that  
the SAP had prepared a  
bookmark leaflet on the  
problems that face many  
black children.

The leaflet, sponsored  
by Anglo American, ad-  
vises children how to deal  
with potentially danger-  
ous situations.

Vlok said serious as-  
saults on children under  
14 increased by more  
than 54 percent com-  
pared to figures for 1989.

Of this number 79 per-  
cent were black and col-  
oured children.

The rape of girls under  
14 years of age increased  
by 23 percent last year to  
a total of 2 623. Vlok said  
83 percent were black  
and coloured girls.

## The MINISTER OF FINANCE

- (1) and (2) No. The Commission did, however, recommend that although no concession with regard to tax on fringe benefits flowing from share option schemes should be granted, a limited degree of exemption must be granted in respect of benefits derived from share incentive schemes which have been approved by the Commissioner for Inland Revenue and which are created for the benefit of all permanent employees of a company and not only for new entrants. These recommendations were accepted, in principle, by Government. The matter is being investigated by the Commissioner for Inland Revenue in consultation with the Tax Advisory Committee and shall enjoy further consideration on completion of the investigation.

- (3) The investigation will still take some time and I do not consider it advisable to make a statement before I receive a report back in this regard.

## Bedfordview: new police station

\*12 Mr B B GOODALL asked the Minister of Law and Order.

Whether it is intended to build a new police station in Bedfordview; if not, why not, if so, when will building operations (a) commence and (b) be completed?

B620E

## The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

Yes

(a) and (b)

The provision of the service is determined by the availability of funds. The projected tender date for a new police station in Bedfordview is September 1995.

A new planning of all South African Police accommodation requirements is presently being carried out with a view to reducing costs, i.e. state expenditure. This process can have an influence on the date.

Consequently, I cannot at this stage indicate when building operations will commence or be completed.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

## Abortion/sterilisation: legislation

\*13 Dr Z J DE BEEER asked the Minister of National Health

- (1) Whether she intends to introduce any legislation in regard to abortion and sterilization during the present session of Parliament, if not, why not, if so, (a) what legislation and (b) when;

- (2) whether she has received any representations in this regard during the past 12 months, if so, (a) from whom and (b) what was (i) the nature of and (ii) her response to these representations?

Hansard 9/4/91

B623E

## The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

- (1) No, the majority of persons who reacted to the invitation to comment, are against any amendments of the existing Abortion and Sterilisation Act, 1975.

- (2) yes, representations in this regard have been received after an invitation for comments was issued to the general public on 20 March 1990.

- (a) a total of 48 846 persons reacted to the invitation. This includes individuals of all population groups, several organisations and professional persons and

- (b) (i) 98,62% of the persons that reacted to the invitation were against any amendments of the existing Act and

- (ii) it is clear that the general public is not in favour of amendments of the Act. Therefore the decision was made not to amend the Act.

## Illegitimate children: rights of access to fathers

\*14 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice

Whether it is the intention to introduce legislation in terms of which rights of access will be granted to fathers of illegitimate children, if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) what is envisaged in this regard?

B644E

## The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

The rights of a father regarding his illegitimate child are at present being investigated by the

South African Law Commission and it is appropriate to await their recommendations in this regard.

## Pension contributions: backlog

\*15 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Finance:

Whether there is a backlog at present in the payment of the State's share in pension contributions, if so, (a) since when, (b) how large is the amount concerned and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B649E

## The MINISTER OF FINANCE

No

- (a) Falls away  
(b) Falls away  
(c) 28 February 1991

## Unrest incidents: ANC/SAP

\*16 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether the ANC has been granted permission for some of its members to accompany the South African Police to unrest incidents, if so, with effect from what date;

- (2) whether an exception to the usual procedure has been made in the above-mentioned case, if so, why;

- (3) whether the same concession has been granted to (a) Inkatha and (b) other political parties, if not, why not, if so, to which political parties?

B650E

## The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

- (1) No, no general permission has been granted.

- (2) After the declaration of the unrest regulations in accordance with section 5A of Public Safety Act, (Act 3 of 1953) on 11 November 1990, which also provided for the application of a curfew in Atteridgeville, the ANC alleged that the curfew and the presence of the Operational Branch of the South African Police in Atteridgeville was stirring up animosity

amongst the youth and residents of Atteridgeville. In an attempt to refute these allegations it was agreed upon with the ANC that they would appoint two lawyers. The purpose of this was that they would accompany the Police to scenes of unrest, after the Police had notified them of such incidents. In this way it could be shown to the organisation that the conduct of the Police was *bona fide* and taking place within their powers.

However, it was found that the two lawyers were pursuing the Police everywhere without invitation and without good reason. In view of this the Regional Commissioner accordingly decided not to proceed with the procedure agreed upon. No occasion had arisen, before the pursuit referred to, for the Police to contact the two lawyers.

- (3) (a) and (b) No, because no such requests have as yet been addressed to the South African Police and neither has any such instance yet occurred where it was in the interest of the maintenance of law and order. If Inkatha, or any other political party deems it necessary to have discussions with the South African Police about this matter, they are welcome.

\*17 Mr R F HASWELL—Public Works and Land Affairs. [Question standing over.]

## Atmospheric Pollution Act: amendments

\*18 Mr R F HASWELL asked the Minister of National Health.

- (1) Whether her Department intends motivating amendments to the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act, No 45 of 1965, during the current session of Parliament, if not, why not, if so,

- (2) whether she will consider introducing amendments providing for (a) stricter national and regional regulations and (b) economic incentives; if not, why not?

Hansard 9/4/91

B654E

## The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

- (1) No, the Department of National Health and Population Development is waiting for the report of the President's Council

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



THURSDAY, 11 APRIL 1991

THURSDAY, 11 APRIL 1991

Brandvlei  
Colesberg  
Durban  
East London  
Groenpunt  
Johannesburg  
Klerksdorp  
Krugersdorp  
Modderbee  
Pollsmoor  
Port Elizabeth  
Pretoria  
St Albans  
Uppington  
Zonderwater

(2) (a) Yes.

(i) and (ii)

All deaths in prisons in respect of which a medical practitioner is unable to certify that the prisoner died as a result of natural causes, are dealt with in terms of section 86 of the Prisons Act, 1959 (Act No 8 of 1959).

During 1990 one (1) prisoner at the Kimberley Prison was killed by a fellow-prisoner. Available information indicates that the deaths of a further twenty (20) prisoners who died at the following prisons; Barberton, Pietersburg, Bethal, Grootevlei, Durban, Groenpunt, Johannesburg, St Albans, Uppington, Modderbee, Pietermaritzburg, Pollsmoor, Fauresmith, Robben Island and Witbank were presumably caused by assaults by fellow-prisoners. However, these inquests have not yet been finalised.

(b) Yes

(i) and (ii)

The Department of Correctional Services regards every complaint of an assault, no matter how petty, in a serious light. Prisoners are daily given the opportunity to lodge any complaints or requests, and preventative measures, for example the re-allocation of sleeping quarters or working places, are instituted should it appear that there is reason to believe that a prisoner is threatened. In cases of injuries which are related

to complaints of alleged assault, a suitable entry is made in a complaints register and/or a register of injuries and in addition to the necessary medical treatment which may be administered or prescribed by the medical officer, a departmental inquiry into the alleged assault is instituted. Where such a complaint is substantiated suitable disciplinary action is taken in terms of Prison Regulation 99 in the case of minor assaults, while complaints of serious assault are reported to the South African Police without delay for investigation in order that the legal process may take its normal course.

In total, 466 prisoners were injured in such a manner as a result of assaults by fellow-prisoners that they had to be referred to prison hospitals or hospitals outside prisons. These assaults took place at the following prisons

Barberton Medium A and B  
Baviaanspoort Maximum and Medium  
Brandfort  
Brandvlei Maximum and Medium  
Caledon  
De Aar  
Durban Female and Medium D  
East London Female  
Eshowe  
Grootevlei Maximum and Medium  
Goedemoed Medium B  
Groenpunt Medium  
Helderstroom Medium  
Hawequa  
Johannesburg Medium B  
Klerksdorp  
Kroonstad Medium A and B  
Leeuwkop Medium C  
Middelburg (TV)  
Mossel Bay  
Nylstroom  
Patensie  
Pietersburg  
Pietermaritzburg Medium A  
Potchefstroom  
Pollsmoor Medium B  
Pollsmoor Female  
Port Shepstone  
Port Elizabeth Male

Port Elizabeth Female  
Robben Island Medium  
Rustenburg  
Sasolburg  
Senekal  
Seventeen  
St Albans Maximum and Medium  
Vereeniging Male  
Verulam  
Victor Verster Medium A and B  
Waterval Medium B  
Witbank  
Zonderwater Medium  
Zonderwater Open

I refer the Hon Member to my written reply in the House of Assembly on 9 April 1991 to question number 180 which deals with complaints of alleged assault on prisoners by members, (see col 902).

Officers: firearms/swords in safe custody

247. MR L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Defence:

Whether officers who are not directly involved in operations have to have their firearms and swords placed in safe custody, if so, (a) since when, (b) by whose order and (c) why?

B647E

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

No. Instructions are, however, periodically issued by the various Chiefs of the Arms of the Service with regard to the safekeeping of SA Defence Force weapons. (a), (b) and (c) fall away

Persons under 18 serving sentences

272. MR D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

(a) How many persons under the age of 18 years were serving prison sentences on (i) 30 June 1990 and (ii) 1 January 1991 and (b) in which prisons were these persons serving sentences?

B693E

THE MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

(a) (i) 318  
(ii) On 31 December 1990—276

(b) Allandale

Barkly East  
Barkly West  
Baviaanspoort Medium  
Bethal Male  
Bethlehem  
Bellast  
Brandvlei Medium  
Brits  
Bulwer  
Caledon  
Craddock  
Dundee  
Dordrecht  
Durban Medium B  
Durban Female  
Dwaarsrivier  
Eshowe  
Escourt  
Fort Beaufort  
General J C Steyn  
George Female  
Goedemoed Medium A  
Graaff-Reinet  
Grahamstown  
Greytown  
Groenpunt Medium  
Hawequa  
Helderstroom Medium  
Ikopo  
Johannesburg Female  
Johannesburg Medium A  
Johannesburg Medium B  
Kimberley Male  
King William's Town  
Kokstad  
Kroonstad Medium A  
Krugersdorp  
Ladysmith  
Leeuwkop Maximum  
Leeuwkop Medium B  
Lydenburg  
Malmesbury  
Middelburg (TV)  
Middelburg (KP)  
Modderbee  
Mtunzini  
Nelspruit  
New Hanover  
Nigel  
Nylstroom  
Odendaalsrus  
Patensie  
Pietermaritzburg Female



Pietermaritzburg Medium A  
 Pollsmoor Female  
 Pollsmoor Maximum  
 Pollsmoor Medium A  
 Pollsmoor Medium B  
 Port Elizabeth Female  
 Port Elizabeth Male  
 Port Shepstone  
 Potchefstroom  
 Richmond (KP)  
 Robertson  
 Rustenburg  
 Sasolburg  
 Springbok  
 Staart van Paardeberg  
 St Albans Maximum  
 St Albans Medium B  
 Stellenbosch  
 Swellendam  
 Tzaneen  
 Upington  
 Vereeniging Female  
 Verulam  
 Victor Verster Maximum  
 Volksrust  
 Voorberg  
 Voortrekkerhoogte  
 Waterval Medium A  
 Waterval Medium B  
 Worcester Female  
 Worcester Male  
 Zonderwater Open

Leeuwkop (since 1986) and Pollsmoor (since 1987)

Generally the intention with these programmes is to equip the juvenile with the life skills which could contribute to his successful reintegration into the community after release.

The following basic guide-lines are followed:

— The achievement of a certain level of education in order to facilitate adaptation into the community. In other words— acceptable norms and values must be acquired.

— Education and training as the basis of the programme. Depending on the present level of education, intellectual capabilities of prisoners and the term of sentence it is endeavoured to achieve a specific level of education. The aim is to achieve at least a Std 4 qualification.

— Meaningful utilisation of time which is aimed at positive orientation after release

— Maintenance of present social structures to counteract institutionalisation and so doing prevent recidivism e.g. maintenance and strengthening of family ties

— The fulfilment of religious needs

— Healthy physical development through physical training and care.

Should the need arise, the further centralised detention of sentenced juvenile prisoners will be considered at certain centres which are deemed suitable for this purpose

Crimes against security of State: prisoners  
 274. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services

How many prisoners who were (a) 18 years and older and (b) under the age of 18 years were serving sentences for (i) crimes against the security of the State and (ii) other crimes as at 31 December 1990 and the latest specified date for which information is available, respectively

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.

31 December 1990

(a) (i) 237

(ii) 68 815

(b) (i) 0

(ii) 276

25 March 1991

(a) (i) 171

(ii) 70 691

(b) (i) 0

(ii) 423

Section 21 of the Prisons Act, 1959 (Act No 8 of 1959) states, inter alia, that any prison or any part of a prison may be used for the detention, treatment and training of juveniles. Existing prisons or parts thereof are therefore set apart where required for this purpose and sentenced juvenile prisoners are transferred to these prisons on a regional basis for detention, treatment and training.

In regions which do not yet have separate prisons for sentenced juvenile prisoners or where centralised detention has not yet been implemented, they are accommodated in prisons in separate sections or cells as far as possible, and depending on their needs, the available programmes are also offered to them if feasible.

Furthermore, it can be mentioned that the centralised detention of sentenced juveniles in certain regions is a direct consequence of the successes obtained with the youth centres at Leeuwkop (since 1986) and Pollsmoor (since 1987).

Generally the intention with these programmes is to equip the juvenile with the life skills which could contribute to his successful reintegration into the community after release.

The following basic guide-lines are followed:

— The achievement of a certain level of education in order to facilitate adaptation into the community. In other words— acceptable norms and values must be acquired.

— Education and training as the basis of the programme. Depending on the present level of education, intellectual capabilities of prisoners and the term of sentence it is

endeavoured to achieve a specific level of education. The aim is to achieve at least a Std. 4 qualification.

— Meaningful utilisation of time which is aimed at positive orientation after release

— Maintenance of present social structures to counteract institutionalisation and so doing prevent recidivism e.g. maintenance and strengthening of family ties.

— The fulfilment of religious needs.

— Healthy physical development through physical training and care.

Should the need arise, the further centralised detention of juvenile prisoners will be considered at certain centres which are deemed suitable for this purpose.

As far as the release of security prisoners is concerned, the hon member is referred to my reply in the House of Assembly to Question No 21 for oral reply on 26 February 1991. (Hansard Col 207-208)

#### Own Affairs

Groot Constantia State Estate: external contracts  
 28. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works:

(1) Whether any external contracts for (a) building, (b) maintenance, (c) drainage, (d) road and (e) other specified works on the Groot Constantia State Estate were awarded during the 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 financial years; if so, in respect of each of the above categories, in each of these financial years, (i) what contracts, (ii) to what value and (iii) to which contractors;

(2) whether tender procedures were followed in each case; if not, why not in each case? B393E

The MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS:

(1) Yes

1987/88

(a) Building: None

(b) Maintenance: 1

(i) Repair thatched roof of Hoop Op Constantia



# Confusion over pension fund death benefits for children

CHILDREN who support themselves no longer benefit automatically from pension fund death benefits and must be specifically nominated as beneficiaries, tax experts warn.

The warning follows confusion because of changes in the Pension Funds Act.

In the past, members' benefits would either pass to dependants — who included all children, whether self-supporting or not — or, in the absence of dependants, to nominees.

Dependants were now defined as spouses and children not supporting themselves. They added, also, that where funds were sufficient, the benefits could be distributed between dependants and nominees.

But one industry source complained: "Even if a self-supporting child is nominated, if the trustees do not think there is enough money to be adequately distributed between the dependants, the nominee will still not receive any benefit."

Old Mutual assistant GM Chris Newell said that any beneficiary nomination signed before June 30 1989 in favour of a person who no longer qualified as a dependant

GILLIAN HAYNE

would be null and void, and the dependant would need to be re-nominated.

"Any member wishing to benefit a self-supporting child must designate the child as a nominee in terms of a nomination form signed on or after June 30 1989.

"The results of the change in legislation can be alarming. Should a member neglect to make a beneficiary nomination and, for example, be survived by two children — a self-supporting child of 21 and a dependant child of 19 — the trustees will not be able to allocate any portion of the death benefits to the 21-year-old, self-supporting child.

"The fact that the member may have bequeathed his entire estate to these two children in equal shares cannot be taken into account by the trustees. In terms of the new law, the dependant child will receive the entire death benefit, while the self-supporting child, disqualified through the member's neglect, will receive nothing," said Newell.

## Curiosity can kill the child — doctors

The natural curiosity of pre-school children can lead to accidental poisoning — often because drugs and other toxins are freely accessible in the home, University of the Orange Free State researchers have found.

Drs P J van der Merwe and J J de K Botha, attached to the Poison Control Centre at Universitas Hospital in Bloemfontein, undertook an epidemiology study of the centre's 1988 records to establish trends in poisoning of children 18 years and younger.

Their findings were published in a recent edition of the South African Medical Journal.

The doctors found that acci-

dental poisoning occurred most often in the pre-school years.

Boys (67,5 percent) were twice as likely as girls (32,5 percent) to fall victim to a poisoning accident.

Deliberate poisoning occurred mostly between the ages of 13 to 18 — with twice as many girls (65,1 percent) as boys (34,9 percent) poisoning themselves.

Almost 50 percent of the accidental poisonings and 67 percent of the deliberate poisonings had required hospitalisation.

Of the 306 poisonings, 77 were deliberate and 229 accidental.

Accidental poisoning occurred most often during normal working hours, while children intent upon poisoning themselves were at risk at all times.

Various drugs were used, as well as other agents, including household products, plants and alcohol.

Drs van der Merwe and Botha expressed concern that adults were careless about storing drugs and household products.

Parents as well as grandparents should be made more aware and alerted to the potential danger of these agents, they said.

CARINA LE GRANGE



# Refugees from the womb

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE scourge of baby-dumping at Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto is putting the hospital's welfare division under heavy pressure.

Last week alone, eight children were abandoned at the hospital and their parents cannot be traced. Some of the children are picked up in the streets, while some are just dumped in the corridors before the parents disappear.

A spokesman for the Child Welfare Society said newborn babies were abandoned "everywhere". Some were left in rubbish bins, others at the sides of the streets and others were taken into hospital for treatment and the parents never

CLP/ren  
14/4/91  
fetched them.

The parents gave hospital authorities false names and addresses - making it impossible to trace them once the child was ready to be discharged from hospital.

Those who were admitted to hospital without names were given names by the welfare officers for record purposes.

Welfare workers at the hospital said there were various reasons why parents dumped their babies. These ranged from poverty to homelessness.

The hospital is also trying to trace the relatives of several adults who were admitted with loss of memory and cannot remember their history after their recovery.

298

## Academic hospitals: statistics

260. Miss M SMUTS asked the Minister of National Health *Hansard 15/4/91*

- (1) How many academic hospitals are there in South Africa;
- (2) what percentage of the (a) total number of hospital beds in South Africa, (b) number of (i) in-patients and (ii) out-patients treated and (c) total national health budget does each of these hospitals account for;
- (3) whether her Department has statistics on the number of magnetic resonance scanners in use in South Africa, if so, how many such scanners were in use in the (a) public and (b) private health sector as at the latest specified date for which statistics are available?

B687E

## The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (1) 14,
- (2)
 

	(a)	(b)	(b) (i)	(b) (ii)	(c)
Groote Schuur	2,45	1,80	4,53	5,12	
Tygerberg	3,28	1,63	1,73	3,99	
Pelonomi	2,12	0,75	1,92	1,40	
Universitas	0,78	0,42	0,25	2,07	
National	0,41	0,21	0,06		
King Edward VIII	3,31	1,80	3,55	2,72	
Baragwanath	5,18	2,45	1,79	2,85	
Coronation	1,03	0,60	1,00	0,73	
Ga-Rankuwa	3,38	1,28	1,07	1,87	
HF Verwoerd	1,66	0,69	2,91	2,41	
Hillbrow	1,37	0,51	1,12	1,32	
JG Strijdom	0,86	0,20	0,48	0,73	
Johannesburg	1,62	0,74	2,97	2,83	
Katlong	2,13	1,19	1,49	1,26	
- (3) yes,
- (a) 1 and
- (b) 14 as on 27 March 1991

Children: places of safety *298*

261. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Health: *Hansard 15/4/91*

- (1) (a) How many places of safety other than police cells and prisons were there in South Africa for children of each race group, and (b) what was the total number of children who (i) could be accommo-

dated and (ii) were being held in each of these places of safety, as at the latest specified date for which information is available; *298*

- (2) whether her Department has statistics on the number of children of each race group being held in police cells as places of safety, if so, (a) what are the relevant statistics and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

*Hansard 15/4/91*

B695E

## The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (1)
 

	(a)	(b)	(i)	(b)(ii)
Population Number of places available on 28/2/91				
Indian	2	148		112
White	7	505		374
Coloured	8	675		598
Black	10	1 279		1 008
- (2) yes,
- (a)
 

	Indian	White	Coloured	Black
Number of places available on 28/2/91	1	9	103	222 and
- (b) 28 February 1991.

## Illegal strikes: workers charged/convicted

278. Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Justice: *Hansard 15/4/91*

- (a) How many workers in each race group were (a) charged with and (b) convicted of illegal strikes and related conduct in 1990?

B737E

## The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available in the Department. In an effort to be of assistance to the honourable member, the following information was obtained from the Central Statistical Service for the period 1 July 1989 to 30 June 1990:

(a)	Males	49
	Females	4
	Total	53
(b)	Males	31
	Females	3
	Total	34

## Divorce cases: guardianship/custody of children

280. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Justice

- How many (a) wives and (b) husbands were given (i) guardianship and (ii) custody of their children in divorce cases during each of the latest specified five years for which information is available?

B744E

## The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available in the Department. To obtain the information all court records pertaining to divorce cases will have to be examined, which is not economically feasible.

Infanticide *298*

288. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether any (a) men, (b) women, (c) mothers and (d) fathers were (i) charged with, (ii) taken to court for and (iii) sentenced for infanticide during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available; if so,
- (2) (a) how many in each case and (b) how many of the (i) men, (ii) women, (iii) mothers and (iv) fathers so sentenced were certified insane?

*Hansard 15/4/91*

B758E

## The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available in the Department. In an effort to be of assistance to the honourable member, the following information for the period 1 July 1989 to 30 June 1990 was obtained from the Central Statistical Service:

	Male	Female	Total
Prosecuted for infanticide	24	6	30
Convicted of infanticide	17	5	22

## Murder of spouses: charged

289. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) How many (a) men and (b) women charged with murdering their spouses were convicted of (i) murder and (ii) culpable homicide during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available;

- (2) whether any such (a) men and (b) women were found not guilty as a result of diminished responsibility; if so, how many in each case?

B759E

## The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available in the Department. To obtain the information all court records pertaining to the crimes concerned will have to be examined, which is not economically feasible.

## Legal abortions

290. Dr Z J DE BEER asked the Minister of National Health *Hansard 15/4/91*

- (1) Whether any applications for legal abortions were made to her Department in 1989 and 1990, respectively, if so, how many (a) such applications were made and (b) legal abortions were performed as a result;
- (2) how many of these legal abortions were authorized in respect of (a) statutory rape, (b) rape and (c) incest?

B765E

## The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (1) (a) Applications for legal abortions are not made to this Department. Applications are being referred to the Superintendents of the relevant hospitals and
- (b) 960 in 1988/90  
868 in 1989/90.
- (2) in respect of section 3(12)(d) of the Abortion and Sterilization Act, 1975 where rape or incest is involved, 34 legal abortions in 1988/89 and 70 in 1989/90 were performed. There is no distinction between (a) statutory rape, (b) rape and (c) incest in the available data

Crimes: persons sentenced *34*

292. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice:

- For each of the crimes of (a) murder, (b) rape, (c) car theft and (d) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, how many persons were sentenced to (i) a fine, (ii) corporal punishment, (iii) imprisonment for less than two years, (iv) imprisonment for two to four years, *Hansard 15/4/91*





## Accept your responsibility parents told

By ALINAH DUBE

PRETORIA clinical psychologist, Mrs Anne Masetle has called on parents to take it upon themselves to initiate projects addressing the needs of their children.

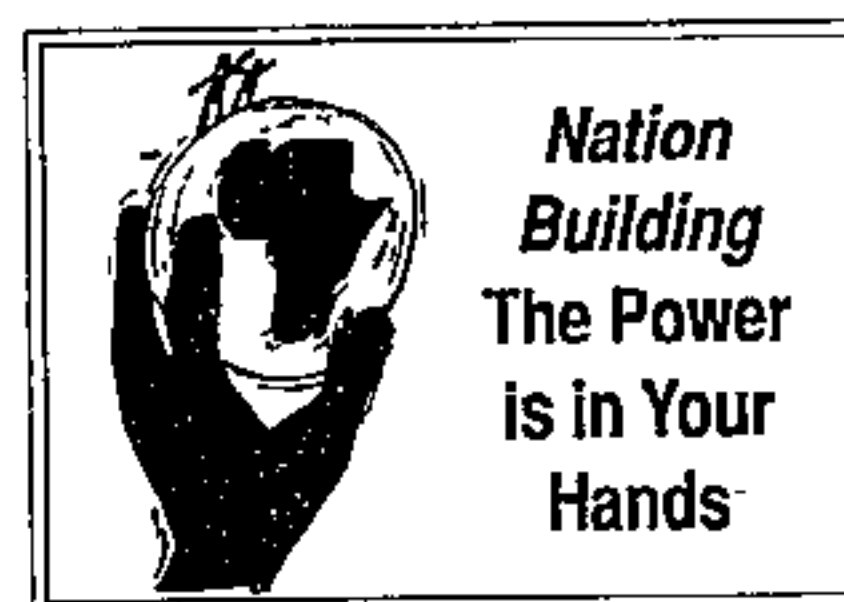
She was speaking at a Pick 'n Pay/ Sowetan workshop held at the Boulevard Hotel in Pretoria on Saturday. The workshop was on the 'Role of the Parent in Nation Building'.

This was in preparation of the health and parenting seminar scheduled to be held on June 8 in Pretoria.

Although society was faced with many problems, Masetle said the most worrying symptom was anger and its product - violence. She said violence was having adverse effects on children.

"Normal control mechanisms and coping skills of our children are profoundly affected. These children need intervention at all levels and we are all

Some of the Pretoria parents who attended the Nation Building workshop in the city at the weekend. Pic by VELI NHLAPO.



guilty of not teaching our children the acceptable ways of letting out anger," she said.

She added that collapsed structures in the communities were compounding peoples' problems including the children. There was no balance in the children's socialisation and as a result there was a need for an intervention with a multi-disciplinary approach.

She said all people and professionals were equally important when it came to solving the problems of the community or the nation. The Nation Building project needed the involvement of everyone in the community.

She said it was high time people understood that Nation Building was not an organisation, but a move towards producing good quality people for the future.

268  
Sowetan  
15/4/91





Caring people . . . Mary Hanna (left) and Lucy Taylor do great work for the underprivileged.

# **'It's the kids who are all important'**

Imqualife is not some Zulu word with a tongue-and-roof-of-mouth explosion somewhere in the middle.

It stands for Improved Quality of Life, and was founded by two specially caring women, Mary Hanna and Lucy Taylor, who also head the Save the Children Fund (SCF), a non-racial charitable organisation that does marvellous work among the underprivileged young.

Imqualife was founded 11 years ago as a direct result of the closing down of Kupugani, and in cramped but cheerful surroundings at the top end of West Street, just in front of the Westgate station where the trains leave for Soweto, sells high protein foodstuffs at incredibly low prices.

## **Rural**

The organisation also transports food to the rural areas, managing to keep costs to a minimum through sheltered employment packaging, done by workers afflicted by physical misfortune in one way or another.



**Stoep Talk**

MICHAEL SHAFTO

But as Mary and Lucy wrestle with month-end balances, answering the telephone, queries from staff and singing out cheery hellos to old friends, it is the Save the Children Fund I'm there to talk to them about.

Mrs Taylor, as co-ordinator, is a half-day employee.

## **Free**

Mrs Hanna, who describes her assistant as "indispensable", gives her services free.

The SCF, which operates in urban and rural areas mainly in the Transvaal, is run on the principle of one hand washing the other.

Nothing, including time and energy, goes to waste, and in one way or another everything is ploughed back into the project for the benefit of the children.

Mrs Hanna happily admits to being a bully.

"We use people shamelessly, but never for ourselves. It's the kids who are all important.

"Every cent raised can be followed through to its logical conclusion and is used for the purpose for which it was donated."

In one area of KanGwane alone, there are 17 centres in private homes which care for about 500 destitute children. There are striking examples here of the one hand washes the other

and no waste principles.

Vegetable gardening, which produces a major portion of the food sold, has a ripple effect throughout the community, with an increase in labour opportunities.

Similarly, sewing groups, a candle-making industry, bread-making and brick and fence-making all generate income that goes towards making the SCF a viable organisation.

Two projects of special importance to SCF right now are the Hlayi-sasani day care centre at the Graveyard squatter camp in Alexandra.

The name is a Shangaan word meaning "Helping each other". It opened in January and cares daily for 45 children aged two to six.

## **Generator**

With the help of white and black business, the centre was established in a barnlike building.

The aim is to give the community a good pre-school creche, but at present it is without electricity, drainage and running water, although pipes are in place.

"It's a long-term project, but we could do with some kind of generator as a kick-off," says Mrs Hanna.

The other project is aimed at the upliftment of children in the Bertrams area. It starts later this month and will be based at one of the local schools.

The idea is to keep as many kids as possible off the streets outside school hours.

"Some of these kids come from such poor backgrounds they don't even have underclothes," Mrs Taylor reveals.

Children will be looked after and fed at the centre and given the chance of one-on-one encounters with adult carers. "That's something many never even get at home," says Mary Hanna.

A competition with many prizes carries a first prize of a return air trip to London for two and free accommodation for seven nights.

More information can be obtained from SCF at (011) 788-3394.



(298)  
**Help required  
for children's  
Soweto haven**

In the heart of Soweto's Mofolo South is the children's home Othandweni (Place of Love), where youngsters abandoned by their parents are being cared for. This is the only home most of them will know from birth to the age of 18.

Some have not only been abandoned, but also abused and neglected by their parents.

Staff of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, who care for these children, try to give them that extra little bit of love, security and support.

The organisation's aim is to reconstruct families, therefore Othandweni is only a temporary shelter for some of the youngsters.

JCWS director Dr Adele Thomas says R700 000 a year is needed to run the home.

The JCWS is responsible for raising the necessary funds, but a tremendous amount of help is also needed from the community to ensure that the service is continued.

This is why she has appealed to people who are keen to become voluntary committee members to attend an information evening on April 20, when they will be briefed on fundraising events and other ways in which they can help the children.

The meeting will be held at 6 pm at Othandweni Children's Home, 739 Roodepoort Road, Mofolo South. Phone Roseline Dlamini on 984-4117/8 for information. — Staff Reporter.

only sub-division (2) of Question 14 can be answered.

(1) No (Vested in the Administration House of Assembly) This question relates to Question 5 in the House of Assembly

(2) Yes, the area in question was proclaimed a nature area in 1984. The nature area was not deproclaimed. On 6 August 1985 a permit for the use of land (75 ha) within a nature area was granted by the Department of Environment Affairs. A further permit for 50 ha was granted by the Cape Provincial Administration on 3 September 1990, this permit was issued because the changed land-use is more acceptable from an environmental point of view.

(3), (4) and (5) Vested in the Administration House of Assembly.

#### Schools in Lindaleni area: transfer

\*15 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Training

- (1) Whether a decision was taken to transfer to his Department schools currently falling under the KwaZulu department of education in the area of Lindaleni near Durban, if so, (a) when, (b) by whom and (c) why,
- (2) whether it is his intention to proceed with this transfer, if not, why not; if so, when will the transfer be effected;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B824E

#### THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- (1) No
  - (a) Falls away
  - (b) Falls away
  - (c) Falls away
- (2) No.
 

The area falls under the jurisdiction of KwaZulu.
- (3) No

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

#### Education renewal strategy

\*16. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

- (1) Whether he, his predecessor or his Department appointed an integration committee to co-ordinate recommendations and findings in regard to the education renewal strategy; if so, (a)(i) when was the committee appointed, (ii) who are its members and (iii) from which bodies and/or organisations were they appointed and (b) when is it anticipated that the integration committee will report;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Answer 23/4/91 B825E

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION.

- (1) The Integrating Committee was established by the Committee of Heads of Education Departments
- (a) (i) 6 August 1990.
- (ii) The members are

Dr J G Garbers (Chairman)  
 Dr J Blignaut  
 Dr P H Breidenkamp  
 Dr E H Davies  
 Prof J P de Lange  
 Prof J W Grobbelaar  
 Dr F L Knoetze  
 Dr K R Paane  
 Mr B Phillips  
 Mr W H Smit  
 Dr A G W Steyn  
 Prof J F Steyn  
 Dr H J Stone  
 Dr R H Stumpf  
 Dr S W Walters  
 Dr D H Wild

- (iii) The Education Departments, the Universities and Technikon Advisory Council, the Teaching Profession, the Private Sector, the Committee of University Principals, and the Committee of Technikon Principals.

- (b) It is anticipated that the Integrating Committee will report to the relevant principal during the present session
- (2) No.

#### Lakehaven Children's Home: placement denied

\*17 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing:

- (1) Whether the Natal Provincial Administration recently denied three children, whose names have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, placement in the Lakehaven Children's Home; if so, (a) when and (b) on what grounds,
- (2) whether representations in regard to this matter were made to the said Administration by a certain social workers' association in Durban, the name of which has also been furnished to the Minister's Department; if so, (a) when and (b) what is the name of this association,
- (3) whether the Administration has responded to these representations, if not, why not, if so, what was the response?

B826E

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

- (1) Yes
- (a) During November 1990
- (b) The Lakehaven Children's Home is registered with the Department of Health and Welfare: House of Delegates and not with the Natal Provincial Administration. The Natal Provincial Administration has no jurisdiction over this home.
- (2) Yes.
- (a) November 1990
- (b) South African Black Social Workers' Association Durban and the Society for Social Workers Durban.
- (3) The associations were informed that the Lakehaven Children's Home is registered with the Department of Health and Welfare: House of Delegates and not with the Natal Provincial Administration. The Natal Provincial Administration has no jurisdiction over this home.

The Administrator is empowered to execute the provisions of the Child Care Act,

1983 (Act No 74 of 1983) in respect of the Black population group only

#### Desegregation of hospitals

\*18. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

- (1) Whether she laid down guidelines in May 1990 in regard to the desegregation of hospitals; if so,
- (2) whether the Welkom Hospital is being desegregated in terms of these guidelines; if not, why not,
- (3) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

B827E

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (1) The Health Policy Council approved a management model to manage hospitals. The purpose of the management model is to furnish superintendents with fixed guidelines in order to provide patients with all the means at the State's disposal;
- (2) the situation at Welkom Hospital and also at other hospitals are being evaluated according to these guidelines. I will discuss the matter at the next meeting of the Administrators Health Council,
- (3) no

#### Pretoria Minute: progress

\*19 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice

- (1) What progress is being made in giving effect to paragraph 7 of the Pretoria Minute of 6 August 1990 in regard to the (a) repeal of various sections of the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982, and (b) review of security legislation and its application in order to ensure free political activity,
- (2) whether legislation arising from deliberations on the matters referred to above is to be submitted during the current session of Parliament, if not, why not, if so, when?

B829E

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



# Flood of response to child abuse hot-line

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THERE has been a 75-fold increase in the use of the child crisis help-line since the service was introduced in August 1989, the Minister of Welfare, Dr Sam de Beer, said in Parliament yesterday.

The demand for the 24-hour child abuse hotline had grown to such an extent that the installed telephone system had become inadequate.

"A new, sophisticated system will be operational

soon," Dr De Beer said during the welfare debate yesterday. CAPT TCA 24/4/91 (298)

Since the inception of the service, the number of calls had increased from 300 a month to the present level of 22 591 a month. The majority of reports concerned sexual abuse, neglect, family problems and financial and housing problems.

Dr De Beer noted that not everyone had telephones or easy access to them: "Because of this, the

liaison committee is considering instituting a letter service."

Dr De Beer said a telephone information service Dial-a-Fact — would be established to provide information on social problems.

● Dr De Beer announced that he would appoint a working group to investigate the question of white poverty and the role of housing in the problem.

# Kiddies march pays off fast

298

Sowetan 25/4/91.

A PROTEST march by about 250 nursery school children, teachers and parents in Alexandra yesterday morning had immediate success when the town council began addressing their demand.

The council started repairing sewage pipes near the creche - the main demand of the marchers.

Montessori Creche teacher Mrs Deborah Mduduma said the toddlers had marched to Alexandra Town Council offices to demand it repair burst sewage pipes, blocked storm-water drains and blocked toilets at, and around, the creche.

After the children, aged between

two and five years handed the petition to town clerk Mr Willie Khumalo, council workers began repairing the pipes and drains, said Mduduma.

She said a burst sewage pipe from nearby flats had created a health hazard around the school as streams of stinking water had been flowing into the creche's premises, resulting in stagnant pools of water.

This situation had existed since January and "I can't even count how many times we have reported it to the council", she added.

She said 200 toddlers and about 50 teachers and parents had

marched from the school to the nearby offices to deliver a petition.

"The children carried posters and sang nursery school songs," she added.

Some of the posters read: "Help us, don't neglect us, we are your future," Mduduma said.

Khumalo had "promised to fix everything", on receiving the petition.

A few hours later council workers were busy attending to the problems, she said.

Schooling returned to normal later yesterday morning. - Sapa.



# Shock findings on child mental health

ALMOST a quarter of all white, coloured and Indian primary school children suffer from psychological problems caused by uncertain political conditions, child abuse, poverty or poor living conditions, according to a study by the Human Sciences Research Council. *Stimulus 28/4/91*

Researcher Maretha Visser questioned 1 739 children aged 10 and 11 and found that a high degree of tension among 23 percent of the children led to sleep disturbances, headaches, stomach-aches, weepiness and bed-wetting.

She found that 47 percent of the children showed one or more symptoms of depression, while serious signs of depression were discovered in 5 percent. Seven percent had suicidal tendencies, while 10 percent said they generally felt unhappy.

A quarter of the children thought badly of themselves: 24 percent wanted to be someone else and 12 percent felt they were not accepted by their peers.

By DE WET POTGIETER

Mrs Visser called for mental health centres to be established in communities where children were exposed to social problems such as urbanisation, family disintegration, poverty, unemployment, housing shortages, political unrest and child abuse.

She said doctors, nurses and social workers should be trained to identify children's emotional problems and situations that could have a negative effect on a child's development.

## 298 Sample

She also recommended that teachers should be trained to promote mental health among children and spot children's emotional problems.

The investigation was conducted by sending questionnaires to a sample of Std 3 pupils at schools falling under the House of Assembly, House of Representatives and House of Delegates.

# Sana to hold forum on parenting and Aids

THE Kutloano branch of the South African Nursing Association will hold a one-day seminar on parenting, teenage pregnancies and Aids at Isidingo Technical College in Daveyton this weekend.

The theme for the day is "Challenges in the role of today's parents" and the guest-speaker will be Anne Masitile, a clinical

psychologist at Medunsa.

Chairman of the branch Mrs Roseline Setshedi said: "Our main objective is to build the nation. The issues that are going to be discussed are of great importance and we see them as connected to each other.

"We are concerned

community about Aids and parenting, which indirectly leads to teenage pregnancies and the poor relations between children and their parents. We are therefore trying to bring about awareness," she said.

Mrs Zola Yoke will speak on Aids and Mrs Thembi Masilo on teenage pregnancies. - *Sowetan Reporter.*



LEGEND has it that a traveller found an old man sitting on the side of the road and asked: "What became of the black people of Sumer?"

The old man replied: "Ah, they lost their history, so they died ..."

People learn from their past to avoid making mistakes which have already been made.

In African mythology the living impart the knowledge they have learned from the dead to their offspring.

For the people of Sumer the link between the dead and the living was broken and they lost their wisdom and died. The same is happening to the black people of South Africa.

Hardly a day passes without people killing each other.

Looking back, it seems this process started almost 15 years ago following the "Soweto Uprising".

It was after that period that the social fabric of our society started to unravel.

The youth, by challenging Pretoria, assumed a role that had in the past been that of their parents.

No mechanisms were provided to ensure the continuity of adult control and thus June 1976 marked the beginning of a process which ultimately robbed the youth of parental leadership in civic matters.

The warning of what might happen in "the struggle", was made about three decades ago by Mangaliso Robert Sobukwe.

He warned that as soon as violence breaks out, people "will be taken up with it and give vent to their pent-up emotions and feel that by throwing a stone or burning a particular building, they are small revolutionaries engaged in revolutionary warfare".

# Why we need adult control again . . .

C/Pres 5/5/91.

JABU MAPHALALA looks at our "lost generation" and warns we may be heading for a situation like Cambodia's Khmer Rouge.

After 1976 it was the youth who threw stones and waged running battles with the police.

Education became less of a priority. Some people objected silently while waiting for "the true leaders" to return from prison and exile to sort out the mess.

After 1983 people could only be listened to if they had "a mandate". Thus when Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi warned against the "liberation before education" mentality, few listened as the advice came from the "wrong mouth" - even though it was good.

Today we have a "lost generation" of youth who are unemployed, unskilled, under-educated, and in some cases, "unemployable".

These are the people who have tasted power and now run the lives of residents through street

committees, "people's courts", and through the enforcement of stayaways and boycotts.

Dissatisfaction with how these things are run has given people with ulterior motives opportunities to take advantage of the situation. Today we hear about "third forces" being involved in the Reef fighting.

About a year ago when Nelson Mandela asked fighting groups to "throw their weapons into the sea", it was reported that some of the "youth" tore his picture from their T-shirts.

It is ironic that the crumbling of the "pillars of apartheid" may well contribute to a process of decay in black society.

The removal of the Group Areas Act may also bring about a form of brain drain, removing expertise and positive role models from black townships.

Not because some people want to live with white people, but because they prefer to live in peace with their families.

What will happen to the people who cannot escape the psychologically damaging effects of the ghetto?

A few years ago, a black American congressman commented that while desegregation in America was a positive thing, it removed positive black role models from the ghettos. The new role models became the materially successful people like pimps, prostitutes and drug dealers.

With unemployment so high in this country, we seem to be headed in the same direction.

Statistics show that environmental factors play a very important role in a child's psychological and mental development. A child from a disadvantaged background has a smaller chance of succeeding in life than a child from an advantaged background.

The problem we face in South Africa is that members of the "lost generation" constitute a large section of our society.

We are not yet close to being a society ruled by uneducated unskilled and heavily armed youth similar to the Khmer Rouge rule in Cambodia, but we seem to be headed in that direction.

How long can we hope to survive when we continue like this?

Something has to be done urgently to help channel the energy and enthusiasm of the youth and to bring back adult control. The time to put national interest above political ones and rebuild the broken structures of our society is now.

# Home's cash crisis

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LULAMA LUTI 515191.

OWETO'S Othandweni Children's Home is experiencing a funding crisis, and officials are pleading for assistance from the public.

More than R500 000 is needed annually to run the home, which provides shelter for 93 children. This number fluctuates as children are sometimes put up at the home for one night only.

The home is an affiliate of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society and depends on it largely for funds. Private donations are required to ensure proper services for the children are maintained.

A 10-member home support group - the Othandweni Family Centre - will hold an information evening on April 20. The aim of the event is to create an awareness among the community of the services available to abandoned and neglected children.

People interested in attending should contact Rose-tine Dlamini at (011) 984-4117/8 during office hours.

been left stranded by the



## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

## QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply:

## General Affairs:

## Persons under 18 awaiting trial

271. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Law and Order:

How many persons under the age of 18 years were awaiting trial in police cells as at 31 December 1990?

B692E

## The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

611 persons.

## Note

Children are not, if it is at all possible to accommodate them in any other approved place, detained in police cells. When it is unavoidable that a child be so detained by the Police, the strictest precautionary measures are taken to prevent children from coming into contact with adult prisoners.

The children detained on 31 December 1990 were in police cells because there were no approved places or places of safety to which they could be sent, and in single instances where places did exist, they could not be accommodated because those places were full.

There were also instances where parents were not prepared to take the children into their care, and where the Police had grounds for believing that the parents would not bring the children to court.

## Methanol/ethanol research: funds voted

328. Mr J CHIOLÉ asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs:†

(1) Whether any funds have been voted in respect of research in regard to (a) meth-

anol and (b) ethanol for the 1991-92 financial year; if so, what amount in each case,

- (2) whether a study has been made as regards the total diesel consumption of the Republic being supplemented by means of diesel engines; if so, what conclusion has been reached,
- (3) whether a study has been made of how long it will take to make the Republic totally self-sufficient in respect of diesel needs in the event of a total oil boycott; if so, what were the findings;
- (4) whether any amount for socio-economic upliftment has been set aside for the above-mentioned financial year out of the funds used for the supplementation of oil supplies and other strategic raw materials; if so, what amount?

B866E

## The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS:

- (1) (a) and (b) No specific research projects concerning methanol and ethanol have been budgeted for the 1991-92 financial year. However, the National Energy Council is continuing to monitor worldwide developments in this regard.
- (2) Yes, when a diesel shortage was anticipated during the early 1980s thorough studies were conducted and it was concluded that diesel could be used as a diesel substitute subject to specific technical and safety conditions which would need to be complied with. Technical reports in this regard are available.
- (3) Yes. A study was done regarding increasing the level of self-sufficiency in liquid fuels, including diesel, and it was concluded that it would not be economically viable to become fully self-sufficient in diesel requirements within the foreseeable future.
- (4) Concerning the activities of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs, no funds were put aside to augment oil stocks and other strategic materials for the 1991-92 financial year.

Star 915791.  
**Court protection  
for minors soon**

CAPE TOWN — A Bill proposing that a child may testify from behind one-way glass or via closed-circuit television is to be tabled in Parliament.

Mr Justice Pierre Olivier, deputy chairman of the SA Law Commission, said yesterday that it had recommended these methods be used if the presiding judicial officer felt a minor could be exposed to substantial psychological stress.

Use could also be made of a mediator through which all questions, except by the court, would be directed. — Sapa.



## DET to look at measures to protect children

THE Department of Education and Training (DET) in the Johannesburg region is looking into measures to guarantee the safety of children both inside and outside school, sources close to the department revealed this week.

The move comes as schooling in Soweto came to a virtual standstill due to an escalation of violence in the past two weeks. *New Nation (Learning Nation)*

DET spokesperson, Solomon Mushokwe, confirmed that his department was investigating ways to ensure the protection of children, but declined to elaborate.

DET Sources told PUPILS FORUM that the police were likely to be drawn into the task of safeguarding schools.

The Soweto SA Police liaison officer, Captain Joseph Ngobeni, said police had not received any requests to protect schools. He declined to say whether they would be able to do so once the request had been made.

### Guarantee

Meanwhile, the Congress of South Africa Students (Cosas) has called on the state's security apparatus to guarantee the safety of students, but the organisation said the protection of students should not interfere with their freedom and education.

The government was also challenged to "speedily" act against the perpetrators of violence "which is interfering with our education by harassing students".

The Kroonstad Three Million Gang was also accused of targetting students for harassment.

In the meantime, fears of a repetition of last year's bad matric results are mounting since no proper learning has taken place in many schools since the beginning of the year.

## The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) Yes

(a) The Jackals.

(b) The names which the hon member furnished

(2) Should the lives of the persons be threatened by the organisation, they can approach the South African Police for protection whereafter it will be determined what measures of protection will be afforded the persons.

(3) Yes, in one instance a charge of contravening section 1(1) of the Intimidation Act, 1982 (Act 72 of 1982) is being investigated. Until now the accused have not been traced. The investigation is continuing. In the other four instances the persons did not wish to lay any charges with the South African Police

## Tugela Ferry police station: charges

\*8 Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order.

(1) Whether he will disclose the purport of the charges contained in CR 31/12/89 at the Tugela Ferry police station; if not, why not, if so, what are the charges,

(2) whether identification parades were held in regard to the investigation of these charges, if so, (a) when, (b) where and (c) with what result;

(3) what progress has been made in the above investigation to date,

(4) whether any members of the South African Police laid charges relating to the matter referred to above; if so, what are the relevant details,

(5) whether the policemen who laid these charges had previously been involved in other incidents leading to charges being laid against them; if so, (a) what charges and (b) what was the outcome? B952E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes, three charges of alleged assault and one charge of pointing of a firearm.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(2) No, because it was not necessary as the suspects are known

(a) to (c) Fall away.

(3) The investigation has been completed and the case docket submitted to the Attorney-General. His decision on whether or not to prosecute is being awaited.

(4) Yes, two charges of alleged assault were reported and are being investigated

(5) No.

-(a) and (b) Fall away.

## Nhalakale area: unrest-related incidents

\*9. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order.

(1) How many unrest-related incidents of (a) murder, (b) attempted murder, (c) assault and (d) destruction of property were recorded in the Nhalakale area near Greytown in each month of the 12-month period ended 28 February 1991;

(2) how many (a) arrests and (b) prosecutions were made as a result of these incidents? B953E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1)

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
March 1990	0	0	0	0
April 1990	2	8	4	1
May 1990	0	8	2	3
June 1990	3	9	0	0
July 1990	2	6	2	0
August 1990	3	12	1	5
September 1990	3	10	1	3
October 1990	5	11	0	3
November 1990	6	17	0	1
December 1990	2	0	0	1
January 1991	3	5	1	1
February 1991	0	0	0	0

(2) (a) Murder

Attempted murder

Assault

(of which two instances were withdrawn in court)

Malicious injury to property

(of which all four instances were withdrawn in court)

TOTAL

43

(b) Murder

Attempted murder

Assault

Malicious injury to property

TOTAL

45

## Note

The difference in the numbers per case between (2)(a) and (2)(b) can be attributed to the fact that several of the arrested persons were involved in more than one case.

## Kwamagoda/Ndalem: unrest-related incidents

\*10. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) How many unrest-related incidents of (a) murder, (b) attempted murder and (c) destruction of property occurred in Kwamagoda and Ndalem near Richmond in each week during the period 21 January to 3 March 1991;

(2) how many (a) arrests and (b) prosecutions were made as a result of these incidents? B954E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
21 January until	3	0	2
27 January 1991	3	0	2
28 January until	2	1	0
3 February 1991	2	1	0
4 February until	1	2	2
10 February 1991	1	2	2
11 February until	0	3	0
17 February 1991	0	3	0
18 February until	1	2	3
24 February 1991	1	2	3
25 February until	3	6	4
3 March 1991	3	6	4

(2) (a) Attempted murder

(b) Attempted murder

Death of schoolboy in SAP custody

\*11. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether a 16-year-old schoolboy recently caught by the South African Police while allegedly sniffing a chemical solvent died

in police custody, if so, what are the circumstances surrounding the incident,

(2) whether the matter is being investigated, if not, why not, if so, what progress has been made,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the frequency with which allegations are being made in regard to the use of violence by the Police against persons held by them? B955E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes

On 15 February 1991 the South African Police reacted to an anonymous complaint of two suspect persons. Two boys were found where they were publicly sniffing "TIPPEX" thinners. They were obviously intoxicated and the members concerned judged it to be in the best interests of the youths' safety to take them to their parental homes where they could be cared for

Their addresses were obtained and they were taken in a patrol vehicle to their parental homes. The deceased's parents were not home and he was taken with to the home of the second child. On their arrival there the Police officials noticed that the deceased did not appear normal and immediately rushed him to the nearest day clinic in Hanover Park, where he was certified dead on arrival

A post mortem found that he died as a result of "Verslikking" (Suffocation).

(2) An inquest docket has been opened and is still being investigated

(3) No, except that I wish to draw the attention of the hon member to my answer to Oral Question No 9 in the House of Assembly on 7 May 1991

Unrest situations: additional remuneration for SAP

\*12. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether members of the unrest and/or operational units of the South African Police received or have received any

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



# Starving on our doorstep

## But help is at hand for mums and children

ONE-YEAR-OLD Cynthia's thin arms were wrapped possessively around her mother's neck.

Unlike many children her age, who are full of life and grab at anything with interest, she looked tired and unresponsive.

Her eyes lacked the sparkle and mischief common to most children.

On picking her up she was as light as a baby half her age. In fact Cynthia weighed only 6kg, the weight of a normal six-month-old baby.

She and her 18-year-old mother have just been admitted to the Gold Field Nutritional Unit in Pretoria for a week of rehabilitation.

Cynthia, like most of the children in this wing of Medunsa University, is suffering from malnutrition.

Her problem arises from what was described by the supervisor of the unit, Mrs Lizzy Dikobe, as incorrect feeding.

"Many of the children we admit suffer from kwashiorkor caused by lack of body-building food which results mainly in loss of energy," she said.

### Methods

"However, there are some babies who become malnourished because of wrong feeding methods, such as the 'mpea' method common in Shangaan and Tswana society.

"Such babies are force-fed by pouring food into their mouths.

"This is not only wrong it is also dangerous because the baby can choke."

The existence of the Gold Field Unit is an admission that malnutrition is a reality, not only in Ethiopia or Bangladesh, but in our own backyard.

Operation Hunger, which runs one of the largest nutritional schemes in South Africa, estimates that by the end of March next year they

will be feeding more than 1,5 million families.

Most of them will be from the Free State, where there are 71 000 families on the list.

In Hammanskraal alone, Operation Hunger feeds more than 4 500 underweight children under the age of five. They have started a feeding scheme for 12 000 children.

In Winterveld 11 000 local families and Mozambican refugees are fed.

In the Mmabatho and Rustenburg areas, Operation Hunger feeds 26 000 children in 88 schools. In Rustenburg 500 families are on the waiting list.

In the Western Cape Operation Hunger runs about 230 schemes - most of them during winter.

### Changes

In the Eastern Cape about 240 000 people are now being fed, with a further 210 000 on the waiting list.

"There is no improvement in the situation, the only changes are for the worse," said Operation Hunger director in the region Mrs Glynis Baer.

"Feeding figures are soaring and formerly 'breadline' people have moved into the ranks of the desperate ones.

"Thousands have returned from the mines (Transkeians in particular).

"Most of the feeding

programmes in the Eastern Cape provide soup kitchens in schools, creches, clinics and the community."

Natal is faced with "chronic malnutrition" among young children, according to Operation Hunger worker Mr Anderson Mkhize.

"There has been a remarkable shift from family feeding to child feeding and soup kitchens," said Mkhize.

### Feeding

"Family feeding has been decreased by 50 per cent. We are now feeding more than 70 500 people and appeals from Ubombo, Ingwavuma, Nseleni and Nguthu are pouring in daily."

The Gold Field Nutritional Unit is the result of research done in paediatric wards of Garankuwa hospital, which found a lot of patients were malnourished, according to Dikobe.

### Treated

Since the unit opened three years ago it has treated more than 2 200 babies, most of whom spend a week as in-patients with their mothers.

"The main cause in the increase of our patients is attributed to a complex transition from rural-tribal culture to urban-industrialised society, undesirable infant



Mrs Lizzy Pico, a trainee at Gold Field Unit, gives lessons to the in-patients.

feeding methods, lack of resources, poor personal and environmental hygiene, family disruptions and poor baby care because of working mothers," she said.

The maximum time for treatment and training mothers about baby care and feeding is a week.

There are also mothers who only come in during the day.

### History

Workers at the unit interview the mothers to find out the cause of malnutrition, the medical and diet history of the baby and about its immunisation.

"Some babies become malnourished because of taboos and beliefs," explained Dikobe.

"In some cultures people believe babies should not eat eggs because it will cause some type of allergy.

"Some speak against meat, saying it will cause worms.

"We try to give mothers emotional, spiritual and moral support. If we can, we re-establish breastfeeding and give self-reliance skills," she said.

Malnutrition, like many diseases arising from socio-economic difficulties, is seen as a shame on the family.

"We have had problems trying to get many mothers to admit they have the condition," said Dikobe.

"They always argue that they are feeding their babies daily and correctly.

The unit, which also provides practicals for student doctors and paediatricians, may have to cut down its services as Medunsa is going through a financial crisis.

"If the unit closes due to financial problems experienced at Medunsa, what would happen to these kids," asked Dikobe.

# 600 youths have fled South Africa

**LUSAKA** - More than 600 South African youths of school-going age have fled the country to seek better education outside its borders.

The youths, aged between 10 and 20, have for the past two months been flooding the Zambian capital of Lusaka.

The African National Congress, in the city said the arrival of the youths would not in any way affect the repatriation of South African exiles.

ANC spokesman in Lusaka, Mr Tom Sebina, said the youths were fleeing South Africa to "search for education".

## Education

He said the youths felt they would have better prospects for education if they left their country, "especially with the assistance of the ANC and the international community".

Sebina said the youths could not have contacted the ANC in South Africa before deciding to leave.

"My impression is that the youths are leaving

on their own without the knowledge of the ANC," he said.

The young South Africans have been arriving via the Dukwe Refugee Camp near Francistown, Botswana, before entering Zambia at Kazungula.

Some of the youths will soon be heading for Kenya and Nigeria as soon as arrangements between the ANC education department and host governments are finalised.

With regard to the repatriation of exiles from Lusaka, Sebina said most people had received indemnity "but the problem now lies with Pretoria".

He said the Government was stalling the issuing of emergency travel certificates.

In view of some unforeseen problems, the repatriation exercise - due to end on April 30 - could spill over to the first half of May.

The chartered flight this week has been postponed to a later date because fewer than 40 people had been issued with the emergency travel certificates. - Sapa.

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SOW

Sowetan  
3/4/91



Going out to play . . . boys and girls at the Refengkhotsa nursery school leave the classroom after lunch.

By Winnie Graham

It was lunchtime at the Refengkhotsa nursery school and the tiny boys and girls hungrily opened their bags.

Like all small children after a busy morning, the youngsters were ready for their meal.

They sang grace, then settled down on the cement floor of the church to eat their food which, in virtually every case, was a small lump of dried pap or bread accompanied by a little bottle of black tea.

Sister Elizabeth Porogo who, with Sister Harriet Mokoena, runs a clinic close to the Refengkhotsa squatter camp, watched sadly.

"We should be giving the children at least one hot meal a day but we need gas stoves and money to buy

# Rural folk hope to break shackles of poverty, hunger

food," she sighed.

Refengkhotsa is about 100 km south of Johannesburg. The corrugated-iron shacks are miles from anywhere, and no obvious job opportunities exist other than on adjacent farms or in the nearby little village of Denysville.

Yet people from as far afield as KwaZulu, Transkei and the northern Transvaal have made their home here. Many earn just R50 or R70 a month with others bringing home a bag of vegetables each month. Roughly 95 percent are un-

employed and malnutrition is responsible for the death of between 25 and 30 small children every month. Kwashiorkor, marasmus and pellagra — all diseases of severe malnourishment — take a daily toll. Tuberculosis is another problem.

## Bewitched

Even conflict in the squatter camp is caused by malnutrition, Sister Porogo said. "Sometimes, when a child dies, the family will blame someone for witchcraft," she said. "They don't understand

that the lack of proper food can cause death.

"Just the other day I stopped a group from pulling along an old woman whom they said had bewitched a child and caused her death. I had to explain how the child came to die of malnutrition."

The infant mortality rate, coupled with the large number of teenage pregnancies and the high rate of sexually transmitted diseases (running currently at at least 40 percent), has prompted the community to ask the Leadership Institute for help in acquiring a proper clinic.

Picture: Stephen Davinnes

The Kellogg's Foundation has made a grant of R900 000 available over three years to fund a primary health care facility. The State has added a further R137 000 to this.

This will be followed by the establishment of a job creation project and the establishment of an agricultural smallholding for the growing of vegetables.

The community also wants to establish a proper day care centre for the small children.

Stan de Klerk, executive director of the Leadership Institute, a community-based developmental training institute, said: "We helped by structuring a committee, identifying potential sponsors and devising an action plan to combat the many problems in the area."

State news agency

## Leadership programme for the underprivileged

Staff Reporter

The We Care Trust Fund — which organises interactions between children of all races — has started a Postcare programme to develop leadership potential of underprivileged children.

The Travelbags organisation, which is made up of people connected with the travel industry, announced last week it had started a tertiary education fund for a child from the programme.

Children who have shown leadership potential on educational tours organised by We Care have been selected to take part in the Postcare programme.

The aim is to allow children to develop a better understanding of themselves and their environment, and to help other people in their community more effectively.

At the end of the

three-year programme, one child will be selected from each of the seven regions. These children will be interviewed by a national selection committee, and one will be nominated for the Travelbags Trust Fund scholarship.

A further boost for the non-profit organisation last week was the announcement by SAA that We Care had been adopted as one of its social responsibility programmes.

We Care relies on donations from business to run their bridging programmes.

Started in 1987, the organisation now takes between 800 and 1 000 children, mostly disadvantaged, on educational weekend tours in South Africa.

It allows children to interact in a non-discriminatory environment, encouraging better awareness and understanding of each other.



# Scarred for life by the law

By GAVIN EVANS

298

EACH year South African courts sentence around 40 000 young men, and an unknown number of juveniles, to whippings which scar for life.

Outside of the Islamic countries this form of punishment is generally regarded as fitting with the United Nations definition of "cruel and unusual". It is said to cause excruciating pain for a long period.

The difference between adult and juvenile whippings is that with the former the cane is far heavier, the stroke is harder, and the target area is larger — frequently leaving hideous scarring as a permanent reminder of how to behave. *W/ Mail 8/3-14/3/91*

A medical doctor examines the adult or juvenile recipient to see if he's ripe for his whipping. The physical trauma from an adult whipping is so severe that, according to the Criminal Procedure Act, "no person shall be sentenced to a whipping more than two times or within a period of three years of the last occasion on which he was sentenced to a whipping". No females or males over the age of 30 may be whipped and the maximum number of strokes is seven.

The Department of Justice said they had no information on the number of adults or juveniles whipped in 1989 or 1990.

In the year up to June 30 1988, 40 933 were whipped (5 529 in addition to being imprisoned). This is 1 605 more than in the previous year. Of those whipped in 1988, 97,1 per cent were black (25 983 Africans, 13 459 coloureds and 305 Indians compared with 1 186 whites)

No figures are available for juvenile whippings (those under 21).

Today you can be sentenced to a whipping when found guilty of offences such as receiving stolen property, breaking and entering, public violence, sedition, arson, malicious damage to property and stealing from a motor car, as well as more serious crimes like murder and rape, and several statutory offences.

According to the Department of Justice no change in the legislation permitting whippings is currently being considered.

But one SA Correctional Services brigadier, who spoke to *The Weekly Mail* off the record, said it had been decided to phase the practice out.



# Grim past haunts Dale

From Claire Keeton  
East London

IT IS afternoon at Dale College and throngs of uniformed boys, black and white, are darting around green playing fields, enjoying the bright summer sun.

The boys are heirs to a 130-year-old tradition at this King William's Town school, consciously modelled on the elite English public school system.

The school's imperial past is exemplified in its imposing war memorial "To Our Glorious Dead" and in the hostel's colonial-style dining room hangs a plaque engraved with the names of meritorious former pupils.

But behind Dale's imposing stone facade, lies a darker legacy. Side by side with the school's proud tradition of serving God and country, exists a violent, racist tradition.

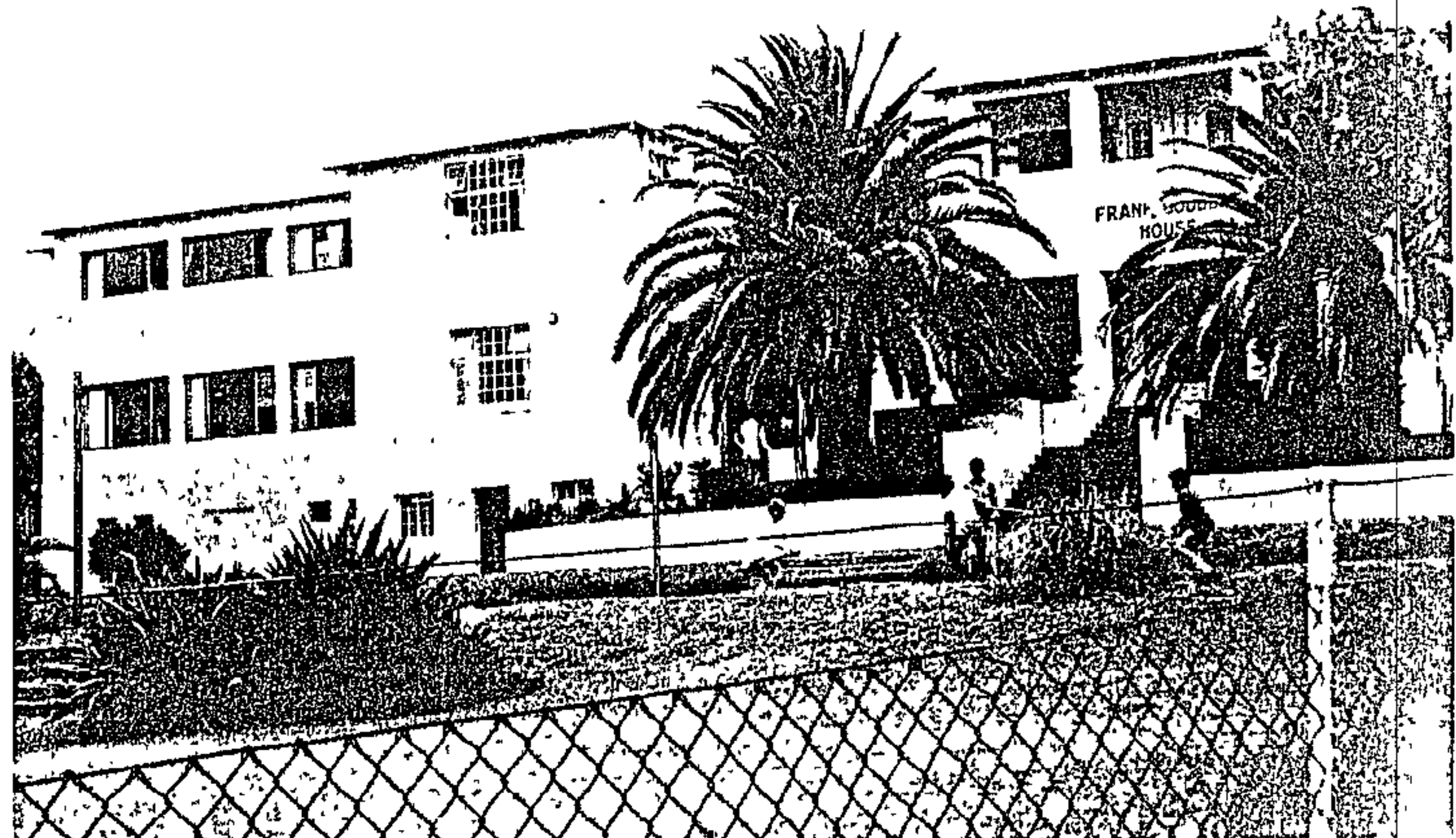
A long established, secret Kaffir Bashing Society at the school was exposed this year during the trial of four Dale pupils for culpable homicide after a fatal assault on a vagrant sleeping in the school grounds.

The society was based at the school's Frank Joubert Hostel — a solid building surrounded by palm trees and rolling lawns.

Outside the hostel, an energetic game is in full swing, its participants seemingly oblivious to the hostel's new found notoriety.

Inside the sturdy building, boarders are playing pool and larking about in the wood-panelled corridors which lead to dormitories and bedrooms.

One of these rooms was the nerve centre of the society where ringleader Richard Bester kept a register of members' names in his room. A police truncheon hung on the back of his door and



**DARK LEGACY:** Palm trees and lush lawns facade hide the dark secrets of the Frank Joubert Hostel at Dale College

The trial of four Dale College boys for culpable homicide in East London Supreme Court has focussed attention on one of the Eastern Cape's top boys schools. This week as the boys were sentenced — one to two years jail and the others to community service — Claire Keeton visited the hostel which served as the headquarters for the "Kaffir Bashing Society" South 7/3 - 12/3/91 (298)

his red desk pad was decorated with an AWB insignia.

Here Bester planned midnight attacks in which the society's members stealthily set out from the hostel armed with bats, truncheons and knuckledusters to beat up vagrants sleeping in the school's sprawling grounds described by the headmaster as "the recreational heart of King William's Town".

The members of the society would gather at night in one of the bedrooms,

unbolt the front door and creep through the grounds in search of victims.

In February last year, Bester and his followers launched a fatal assault on a 70-year-old vagrant Tom Reuters, which resulted in Bester and three other boys being convicted of culpable homicide.

Evidence in court depicted a chilling picture of the "kaffir bashing" activities. Earlier on the day of the assault, the boys spotted Reuters sleeping on a dirt path — clearly visible from the hostel.

That night, wearing stocking masks blackened with shoe polish, the boys bunked out of the hostel, threw Reuters over a fence, dragged him down concrete steps across a field and into a cricket shed where they beat and kicked the already injured man.

After the assault the boys stopped for a chat before sneaking back to the hostel. One of them checked on Reuters, whom they had left at the cricket nets, and reported he was coughing blood.

According to evidence in the trial during the assault Reuters had said: "No boss, I'm not a kaffir, I'm a coloured."

Bester had replied with a kick in the face and the words: "I hate you all."

The raw racism that motivated the Kaffir Bashing Society contrasted sharply with Dale's open school policy.

This year under the "open school model", 43 of the 130 new admissions at the school are black pupils.

They include the son of ANC national executive committee member Sibusiso Tshwete.

While hostel security has been tightened up and the school's lush playing fields look like an advertisement for new South Africa, more than a year after Reuters' death Dale is still struggling to overcome its grim past. **ELNEWS**

By Chiara Carter

SCHOOLS have an important role to play in preventing racially motivated violence such as occurred at Dale College.

This is the view of Mr Chris Giles, a clinical psychologist at the Cape Town Child Welfare Centre, who gave evidence at the trial of four former Dale College students convicted of culpable homicide last month.

The four — Andrew Bester, 18, and three juveniles — were members of a "Kaffir Bashing society" at the school. Mr Tom Reuters died after being assaulted by the four boys while asleep on the school premises last year.

## Racist attitude

Giles said a range of contributory factors led to Reuters' death, among others, their racist attitudes and the "macho" nature of the school they attended.

What disturbed him, though, was that none of the boys showed any regret for what they had done.

He was appalled that since the death, none of the boys had attempted to contact the relatives of their victim or make any effort at reparation for their actions. "There are no signs that they understand the seriousness of what they had done."

He said all four boys viewed black people as non-people.

The key to this attitude lay in the boys' homes.

In racist households, a person, usually

## Macho school partly to blame for racist killing

the domestic worker, is perceived as being without feelings.

Domestic workers are unable to assert personal feelings or rights and children conclude such employees have no inner life.

They are therefore seen as "dull housemates" who have to obey the child.

According to Giles, Dale College itself was another major contributory factor to Mr Reuters' death at the hands of the four pupils.

Like many South African schools, Dale has an ethos which emphasises toughness and being macho.

"Sporting achievement is seen as the pinnacle of success."

For boys who did not match up to this standard, the "Kaffir Bashing Society" provided a sub-cultural activity where they could assert themselves.

He said the fact that the society had been in existence for a long time indicated that the school had in a sense legitimated it even though the society was against school rules.

Giles criticised Dale sharply for refusing to accept responsibility for the boys

who were expelled from the school after they were arrested.

"The school acts in loco parentis for its students. There is a level at which the school is responsible for what happened," he said.

He said it was clear that while the school knew how to negotiate with middle class people who used its grounds, the staff had no idea of how to negotiate with people from other backgrounds, hence the headmaster's suggestion that pupils use force if they found vagrants vandalising the premises.

## Political changes

He said recent political changes in South Africa had created a "doomsday" feeling in the boys, particularly the leader, Bester, whose father had to close his business after a consumer boycott.

There was a feeling of being abandoned by the Nationalists and hence a view that law could not be entrusted to the state," Giles said.

Coincidentally the boys watched the video "Mississippi Burning", a film

about racist conflict in the American Deep South, a few days before the killing.

Another contributory factor was their backgrounds.

All four boys came from families where the parenting had left them feeling emotionally insecure.

They came from homes where there were divorces and remarriages, one was adopted as a child.

The result was general anxiety and lack of self-esteem.

According to Giles, boarding school accentuated these feelings, the more because the boys were sent to Dale because their parents could not cope with them at home.

They had also grown up seeing violence as the way to resolve problems.

Giles said while he viewed their immaturity as indicated in their racist attitudes as a "mitigating factor", the crime was extremely serious.

The boys could have reasonably foreseen the possibility their victim would die.

It was not the first time they had as-

saulted someone, there were no signs they had lost control during the assault, they had not tried to get help for their victim after the assault.

He said despite their family problems, the boys were all relatively privileged children and therefore had a high degree of personal responsibility for their actions, and the community had the right to expect the boys would be punished.

"Many people in South Africa are anxious about the future, many are tempted to take the law into their own hands."

There are serious questions about the legal system in the black community. White children can't be seen to have carte blanche," Giles commented.

## Fateful events

He said in addition to being punished, the boys' racism had to be challenged, and one way of doing this would be for them to be ordered to do community service with black community organisations where they would meet black people as people and indeed be in a position where black people were powerful.

While a complex set of factors led up to the fateful events at Dale College, Giles said the case highlighted key issues which schools would have to address.

"Schools have a special responsibility to address the emotional, social and political deficits pupils have as a result of growing up in apartheid households."

"Children are anxious and feel inadequate, schools can't withdraw from this. They should rather re-examine the curriculum to help pupils adjust to a non-racial country."



# Critical shortage of foster parents

Sowetan 8/3/91

WHILE the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society had managed to ease a financial crisis, the critical shortage of foster parents still remained.

In a statement earlier this week a spokesman for the society said they believed the ideal form of alternate accommodation for a child that had been removed from his or her home was in a foster home.

The children requiring homes have all been through traumatic experiences and need the individual attention foster parents can provide. While many foster parents have their own children, they can still provide a more secure, warm and loving environment than a children's home.

## Vital

"In a children's home, all the children need special attention and there is just not the staff to go around. It is also vital for abused children to experience family life in a non-abusive family environment."

She said the society would be holding a foster care information evening on March 20 at 7.30pm at its head office, 7th Floor, Liberty Life Broker Centre, 112 Main Street, cor Elloff Street. For further information phone 331-0171. - Sapa



A donation for the children...Noxolo Ndlovu, Koos Mokawu and Thembelihle Masina were among the hundreds of people who supported Red Nose Day at Nu World on Saturday. Plastic red noses were sold throughout South Africa to help the national Child Welfare organisation. The charity drive, which received extensive TV coverage on M-Net, raised more than R4,1 million.

Pic: VELI NHLAPO.

## Red noses raise R4,2-m

THE target of R3,5 million set for Red Nose Day was exceeded lavishly on Saturday as R4,2 million was donated for Child Welfare Society this year.

A variety of weird and wonderful methods was

used to raise the money throughout South Africa.

The sale of red plastic noses, red nose roses and gonks through wellknown sponsors raised R1,6 million, the organisers said in a statement yesterday.

And a 12-hour live telethon, featuring well known personalities on M-Net TV, raised another R2 million.

A business telethon, challenging the business

community to pledge money on March 3, raised more than R167 000.

All funds will go to Child Welfare South Africa, which permanently supports over 25 000 children nationwide. - Sapa.

Sowetan 11/3/91

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# Adoptive parents still face pitfalls

Star 12/3/91 298

**M**AJOR pitfalls still lie ahead for whites wanting to adopt black babies once Parliament approves the Child Care Amendment Bill this session.

Doors will not automatically be opened to all comers, and meticulous screening will eliminate whites seeking to adopt black children for purely political reasons, says Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) director Dr Adele Thomas.

She warns that the repeal of laws blocking South Africans from adopting children across the colour line will also not cut down the massive waiting list of black babies overnight.

At any given time on the Reef, there are about 400 black infants awaiting adoption, but only between six and eight are placed monthly by the JCWS.

Dr Thomas believes that, at best, that number could treble once the law changes.

Focusing on inter-race adoption, Dr Thomas says that theoretically the move should solve the ongoing problem of an oversupply of black babies and few adoptive parents, coupled with too few white babies and a three-year waiting list for prospective white adoptive parents.

"But the American experience indicates this simplistic scenario is far from complete."

Many American blacks have opposed whites adopting black babies, alleging the children lose their cultural identity.

**Race barriers bedevilling the adoption process in South Africa will be scrapped when the Child Care Amendment Bill is approved by Parliament this session, reports SHIRLEY WOODGATE.**

The main reason for the lack of black adoptive parents, according to JCWS adoption manager Manionka Manias, is poverty and the lack of a stable middle or upper class — the main pool from which prospective adoptive parents are drawn.

Dr Thomas suggests that the solution lies in the introduction of a market-related grant (similar to the meagre fostering grant of R176 for whites and R102 a month for black foster parents), which could significantly dent the imbalance between black babies and prospective black adoptive parents.

A positive side-effect of adoption across the colour line, which goes hand-in-hand with the proposed scrapping of the Population Registration Act, will be the tedious hours saved by staff who have had to reclassify children inter-racially.

The JCWS has submitted recommendations to the Parliamentary Select Committee, and a workshop on inter-race adoptions is planned for June if sponsorship can be obtained. □

# ANC discussing plan to put hundreds of orphans in exile up for adoption

A PLAN to have hundreds of orphaned children returning from ANC exile camps adopted locally is being discussed in ANC circles.

The children are expected back in SA soon. Several people close to the organisation want to adopt them legally.

Orphans at the ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (Somafo) in Tanzania, whose parents died during guerrilla actions, could be adopted.

ANC media spokesman Gill Marcus said she was unaware of a plan to have orphans adopted, but confirmed a decision had been taken to wind down and close Somafo.

Donors had indicated they were not prepared to sponsor an SA project outside the country. Funds were being redirected to the repatriation programme.

Somafo is home to 400 primary school children and 500 at secondary school. There is also a creche. An unknown number of orphans live there.

One orphan in the first batch of exiles to return last week has apparently been placed with an aunt.

Repatriation officials said more orphans were on the way.

It is understood at least two Johannesburg women are keen to adopt children. They were told children between the ages of four and 16 needed homes.

PATRICK BULGER

An ANC official said that while there was no national plan for adoption, local branches could be looking at the possibility. He said ANC orphans had previously been adopted by families in London.

ANC attorney Dali Mpofu, who is said to be close to social welfare head Winnie Mandela and who holds a senior position in the department, is trying to get an adop-

tion scheme off the ground. He is said to be keen to adopt a child, but refused to discuss this last night.

"If there are children who don't have parents, we will try to find homes for them," he said.

Marcus said there was no adopt-an-exile scheme. But at least two repatriation sources said the scheme was launched last year and then dropped because of delays in exiles' return.

It has now been revived, however, and families are being asked to take in exiles — despite the denials of ANC spokesmen.

The latest edition of the ANC journal Mayibuye says many of the returnees are disadvantaged after years of dislocation.

It says of the first group to arrive: "Most will arrive without the basic necessities we take for granted. The majority of them will have to be placed with already overcrowded households. This will no doubt add extra pressure on financially strained families. However, the returnees will receive an initial grant and also a modest monthly allowance to help them settle and to ease the extra burden placed on the families they live with."



# BT opens Gateway to users

Operating losses for Prestel, the British Telecom (BT) viewdata service, have been well into the millions for some time now.

But apart from some fairly minor cost cutting exercises Prestel has escaped any major reorganisation.

There is though at least one good reason for giving Prestel a little more time.

During the next few months about a dozen organisations will begin experimenting with a facility called Gateway which allows companies to connect their own computers to the Prestel network. This will give information providers (IPs) the potential to offer a far wider range of services than is currently available, ranging from instant booking and 'teleshopping' to home banking.

The ability to move away from the purely information retrieval side of viewdata, which is the area Prestel has almost exclusively emphasised, to that of transactional services is considered vital by those in the industry if a public service is to appeal to a sufficient number of customers to be an economic success.

As an informational database Prestel has proved very resistant except for a few highly specialised applications such as the travel trade information services. Currently Prestel does not connect users direct to those supplying the information, so interaction is limited to response pages which are filled in by the user and then sent in batches to the IPs.

When an IP receives an order from a response page it is then dealt with in exactly the same way as telephone ordering works — checking the credit card and so on.

Using Gateway confirmation of an airline booking or insurance cover can be given immediately, and when a form of electronic funds transfer is provided, bills can be paid immediately.

If Gateway is used with the electronic mail system, Mailbox, already available on Prestel, messages can be sent and stored at the receiving end until the user switches his terminal on. Thus gas bills could be sent and a couple of minutes at a terminal could see them paid.

For a company there would be advantages in seeing bills paid instantly, and the cost of providing your own database for Prestel is much cheaper than the £5 a year a page rental that BT charges.

Some IPs would be happier to place information on a public database if they could retain control over it. Sophisticated password systems can be used — an important point if users are not to worry that others could see details of their bank accounts. Prestel deals with a wide range of

Gateway could be the opening that Prestel needs. It will give users services like home banking and shopping, so attracting a wider range of information providers. Matthew May looks at the possibilities.

information, so password checks are at a fairly low level.

Prestel is still the only national public viewdata service, but several countries are running trials of similar services often using Prestel software. In West Germany those trials have overtaken BT. Its opposite number, the Bundespost, bought Prestel software but then commissioned System Designers (SDL) in the UK to write the Gateway software.

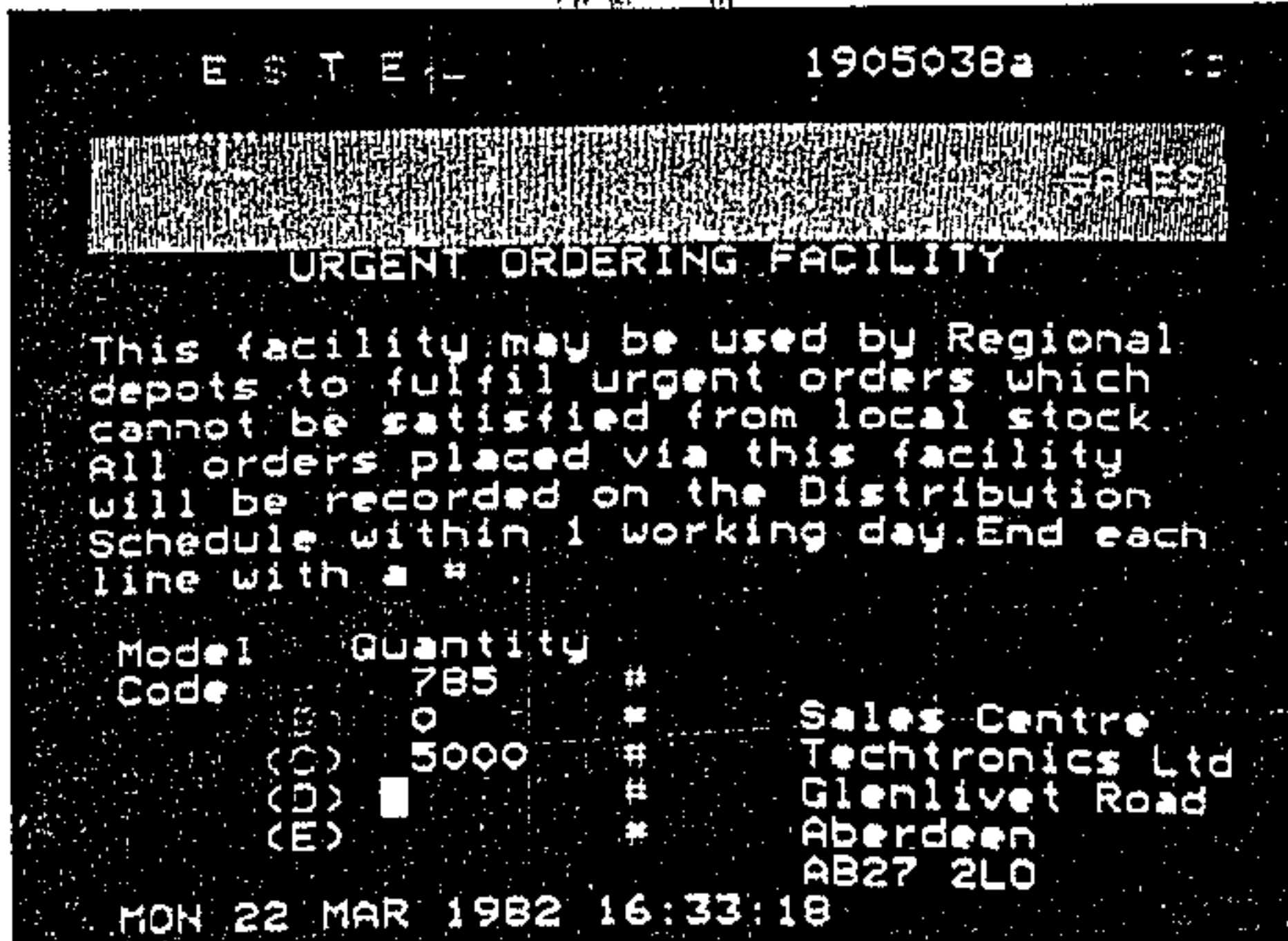
BT had to purchase Gateway and the rights to market it elsewhere in the world from the Bundespost.

West Germany's viewdata system, Bildschirmtext, has been on trial since June 1980 in West Berlin and Düsseldorf. The Bundespost, like BT, decided at an early stage that viewdata had potential as a mass medium but realised sooner the limitations of a system based solely on centralised computers.

Trials of Gateway started in October 1980. West German IPs quickly realised the importance of the Gateway idea, and teleshopping and home banking have been available for some time in the two cities.

The basic monthly charge for users of the system is £1.15 — and there is no computer connection charge — now 4p a minute on Prestel during business hours. In addition adapted television sets are provided at the same cost as an equivalent unconverted colour television set. UK Prestel sets cost from about £600.

Although Bildschirmtext is described as a trial because it is only available in two cities, it has made a considerable impact compared with the national Prestel service provided in the UK. It has 7,500 sets in use, 150,000 pages of information and 750 IPs. This compares with UK figures of 14,000 sets, 180,000 pages and 650 IPs. Currently 17 organisations are busy experimenting with Gateway.



Gateway will allow information providers to offer a wider range of services

The Verbraucherbank, for example, offers its customers extensive home banking.

Large mail order companies offer a wide range of goods and insurance companies are just starting to offer insurance quotes and policies via viewdata terminals in the home.

In West Berlin and Düsseldorf, at least, viewdata is no longer an information retrieval service but is fast turning into a remote data processing system.

So with Gateway about to start in the UK — the first connection is expected during May — will we soon see the same facilities here? It seems that it will be a very slow process before we do. A major stumbling block is cost. Costs of having a residential set have been conservatively estimated at a minimum of £200 a year and a lot of home banking, teleshopping and so on will be needed before that sort of price level becomes attractive. By the same token companies are reluctant to invest heavily in an area where growth is likely to be slow. Those companies offering services on the Prestel Gateway service will, initially at least, aim their services squarely at business users. Although this is largely a cost problem, which such a small domestic market there is an associated effect on many agencies and other companies.

Companies involved include Barclays Bank, computer bureau Banc, a joint operation by Fintel and UCSL, American Express, British Leyland, European Ferries and Hatfield Polytechnic.

There is little hope for some years that UK users will get the kind of domestic services offered by Bildschirmtext.

Perhaps the most important factor in establishing truly interactive services is the provision of electronic funds transfer. With Gateway, Brit-

ish Telecom is fading even more into the background, in terms of viewdata applications. It emphasises its role as purely a common carrier which provides empty viewdata services, just as it provides empty telephone lines.

This means that the provision of electronic funds transfer is up to the major banks and possibly the National Girobank. Though Barclays

is already involved it is envisaged its services will be aimed only at the handling of large corporate accounts for some time. Without the inclusion of bank accounts somewhere in Gateway, its appeal is far more limited.

Apart from the differences in cost when comparing Bildschirmtext to Prestel the probable absence of home banking in the UK for some

years to come may also be partly due to a mixture of traditional city conservatism allied with the major bank's domination of the business. Allegations that the UK's big four banks are reluctant to move into home banking on Prestel because of security problems have been dismissed by one of them as a red herring. No-one suggests that West German banks are less security conscious, but they are providing these facilities.

There are, however, significant differences between the banking structure in the two countries. In addition to several large banks, West Germany has a number of small regional ones that are highly competitive and all too eager to woo new customers with the attraction and convenience of electronic banking.

The small number of Prestel sets in the UK and the strong position of the major banks means that none of them needs fear losing customers.

With Gateway there is a chance of unlocking part of the potential of viewdata so long ignored by Prestel. Although success is not assured, at least Prestel has another chance.

Matthew May is a freelance

## DP Manager



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# Child welfare seeks adoptive loving parents for two little boys

(298)

SDWefam 14/3/91

THE Johannesburg Child Welfare Society is desperately looking for adoptive or foster parents for two boys who need homes urgently.

Parents, preferably with knowledge of parenting and with older children, are sought for a six-year-old boy of normal intelligence but who has behavioural problems.

They will be required to host the boy on weekends for a certain period before they can take him.

The second child is an adorable seven-month-old coloured boy with a minor cerebral palsy problem but presently responding well to treatment.

The JWCS would also

like to place him in a home with other children to stimulate him.

There are other children between the ages of one and three with minor medical disabilities who are waiting for adopters.

If you can help, please contact Mrs Ward at the JCWS offices, (011) 331-0171 during office hours.



# 'NO-ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO TOUCH PRIVATE PARTS'

## Children learn how to say no to sexual abuse

By LINDA GALLOWAY  
Weekend Argus Reporter

THE children giggle nervously when the words "private parts" are mentioned but by the end of the session they are also familiar with the words "sexual abuse".

Their teacher is Child Welfare social worker Biffy Clack, and she has the art of child communication taped

"Hands up all of those who've got bodies," she says. Twenty enthusiastic hands go up and, when she has broken the ice with some energetic break-dancing she settles into the serious message of the programme.

### Good and bad feelings

She explains that everyone should protect their bodies, not only from injury and illness but from sexual abuse as well touching is important, but no one has the right to touch one's private parts without permission. There are good feelings and bad feelings, and if someone is touching you and it feels bad, makes you sad or makes you want to cry, then its sexual abuse

Now they know what to do: Shout "No!" and run away. And most importantly, TELL someone you trust what happened

She explains the difference between GOOD secrets and BAD secrets, and that BAD secrets should not be kept.

They recite the toll-free number for children to call in times of trouble — 0800-123321 — and the hour-long programme is over, although informal interaction continues afterwards.

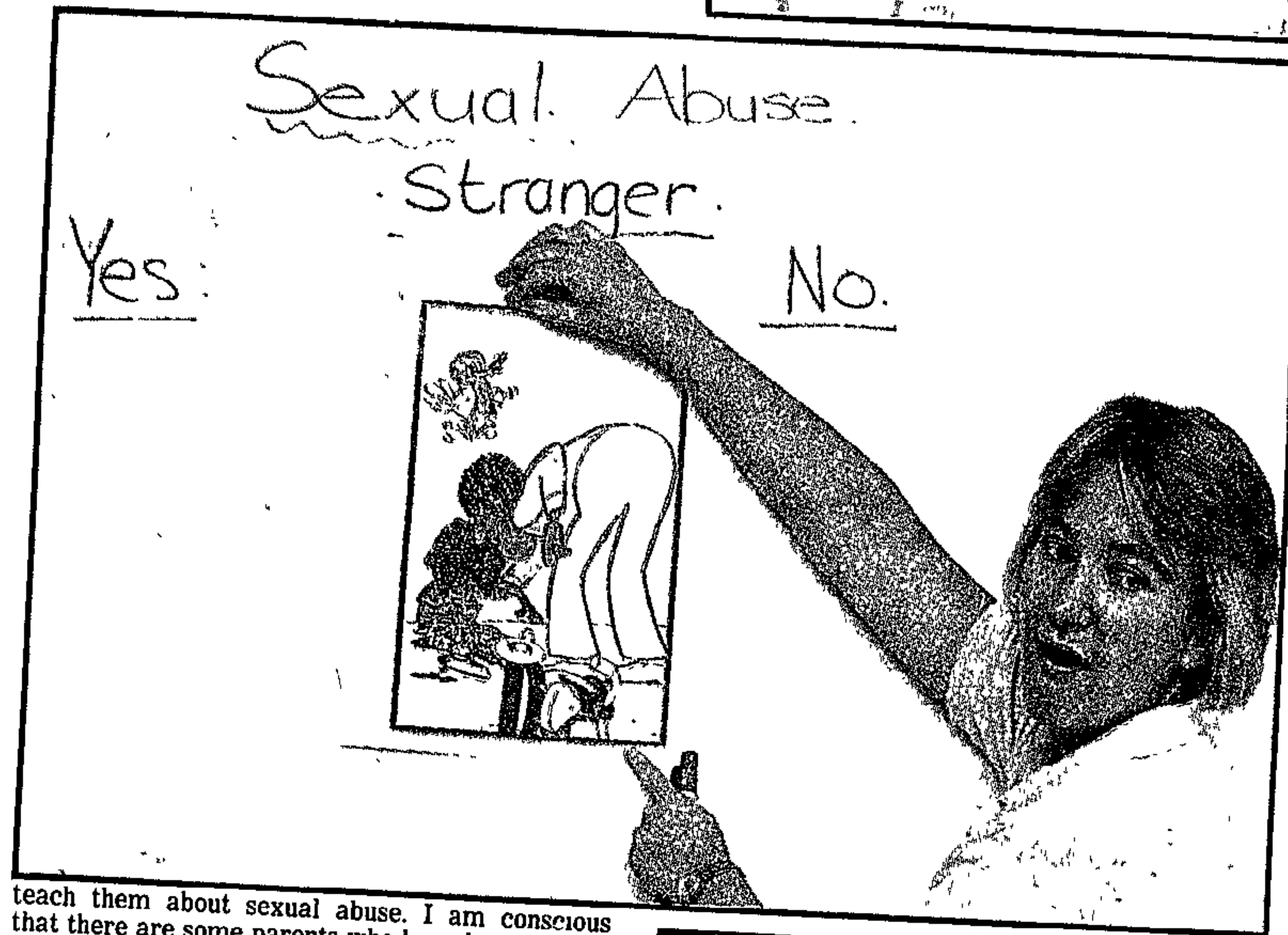
Ms Clack has been doing this programme with puppets, drawings and bright koki pens, for four years with six to 12-year-olds. She has learnt to pick up the signals that abused children give out.

"I watch them and get a lot of feedback on how they are internalising the message," she said.

"I can pick up the ones who feel uncomfortable. Often the teachers, watching from the sidelines, pick up the body language of a child who might have problems"

The first step in the programme is to get the permission of the parents.

"I explain the programme to them and also



teach them about sexual abuse. I am conscious that there are some parents who have been sexually abused themselves, and I refer them for counselling."

The next step is teaching the teachers about the signs and symptoms of sexual abuse and how to deal with a child who discloses that they have been abused.

The teachers are given the teaching aids that go along with the programme, at a nominal fee because the programme is self-funding, and there are follow-up assessments.

Now social workers Ms Kholiswa Jobela and Ms Patience Dolweni are putting together a programme in Xhosa to be done in black schools

"It's the first we know of in the Western Cape and the need is great," said Ms Clack.

Anyone interested in the programme can call Child Welfare 761 7130



Lammie says ...  
Ms Clack uses puppets and cut-outs to get her point across.

Pictures  
LEON MÜLLER  
Weekend Argus

A stranger is a person you don't know. Child Welfare social worker Biffy Clack, left, teaches children about sexual abuse.

Is it a deal? It's a deal! The kids, below, respond to social worker Biffy Clack's challenge to have fun while learning about sexual abuse.





# Former Dale pupil is jailed for two years

EAST LONDON — A former Dale College pupil, Richard Bester, 18, was sentenced to an effective two years in jail and three other former pupils to suspended jail terms and community service for the death of a 70-year-old man on the school grounds.

Bester, leader of the "Kaffir Bashing Society" at the school, and the three minors, who cannot be identified, were found guilty of culpable homicide and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

Their conviction was in connection with the death of Tom Ruiters, a vagrant who had been sleeping on the school grounds when the boys attacked him.

Bester has applied for leave to appeal against his sentence. He was sentenced to a total of three-and-a-half years imprisonment, 18 months of which were suspended. He was also sentenced to 18 months in jail on two counts of assault to do grievous bodily harm, suspended for five years on condition he was not found guilty of a crime involving violence against another person during that time.

The effective jail term is two years.

Bester was granted leave to appeal against the sentence and was released on bail of R300. His application for appeal must be lodged no later than March 22.

The three minors were each sentenced to three years imprisonment for their part in Ruiters' death and to 18 months on two counts of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The jail sentences were suspended in their entirety for three years on condition the youths were not found guilty of crimes involving violence against another person. They were to do 750 hours of community service over a period of two years.

Two of the boys were required to do their community service at the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the other boy at the Stutterheim Hospital.

Mr Justice Jennett described their actions as "detestable and filling one with revulsion". He said racism was an aggravating factor.

The court was told the school headmaster encouraged the assault by urging students to drive vagrants from the school premises. Bester had also seen his father using a truncheon on blacks.

The boys, who had pleaded not guilty to charges of culpable homicide and assault, killed Ruiters after playing truant from the school with the specific intention of "sorting him out". — Sapa-Reuter.

## Special unit to probe violence

POLICE have set up a special unit to probe township violence.

Police spokesman Maj Reg Crewe said yesterday the unit had been formed following the weekend's violence at a Soweto hostel which left at least 24 people dead and 12 injured.

The unit would give its full attention to the hostel killings.

All available investigative techniques, including aerial photographs taken at the hostel, were being used to find those responsible for the murders, he said.

"The SAP gives the as-

WILSON ZWANE

surance that everything possible will be done to bring the perpetrators to book," Crewe said, appealing to people with information to come forward.

Another police spokesman Lt Burger van Rooyen said the establishment of the unit underlined the police's desire to get "to the bottom of the matter as soon as possible".

The ANC's PWV Regional Office spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said while the organisation welcomed the

police move to investigate the Mzimhlophe hostel murders, it would be satisfied only with an independent commission of inquiry into the attack — particularly "into the police behaviour in that violence".

Mamoepa said the ANC had received allegations from township residents that when asked why they were not intervening to stop the fighting, police at the scene said "they were there to watch developments".

The allegations were denied by police.



# Single parents *Star 18/3/91* *298* *298* *298* 'more acceptable'

By Carina le Grange

Although society considers the single-parent family to be incomplete, 124 000 white children were affected by divorce between 1985 and 1989, Department of National Health and Population Development deputy director-general Dr JH Schoeman said in Johannesburg at the weekend.

Dr Schoeman was speaking during the official open-

ing of the first national conference of the South African Council for Singleness (SACS) at the Rand Afrikaans University.

The first co-ordinating body of SACS, a non-profit organisation, was established at the conference.

It is the first national organisation to co-ordinate the needs of all single persons.

Dr Schoeman said statistics for black people were unfortunately not available, but in 1989, 31 654 white, coloured and Asian children were affected by divorce.

Despite this, he said, the single-parent family was increasingly being accepted by society and should not be synonymous with problem families.

To this end, organisations for single parents should accept the task of assisting these families to help ease reintegration and adaptation to changed circumstances.

● Single people and/or parents could contact SACS at (011) 489-2800/795-3502 (Elmarie Erasmus) or (012) 323-6851/57-4139 (Johan le Roux).

# Pupils to be taught about Aids dangers

Sowetan 21/3/91

298

**ALL** school-going children should be Aids literate by the time they reach Standard five.

This was resolved at a national workshop for educationists in Pretoria recently following a shock announcement in Parliament about pupils infected with HIV virus.

Minister of Health and Population Development, Mrs Rina Venter said there were 4 113 blacks infected with the virus, 1 288 whites, 173 coloureds and 39 Indians.

## Cooperation

The workshop recommended close co-operation between the department and the education authorities during all phases of programme development.

It was further resolved that Aids prevention education would occur within phases of programme development.

It was further resolved that Aids prevention education would occur within the context of life skills

By MOKGADI PELA

education.

A major recommendation was that all teachers should receive Aids training to ensure an emphatic attitude. "Specialised training should be given to identified Aids-prevention educators," the workshop said adding that the involvement of tertiary institutions was vital.

Programmes would be planned with consideration of short, intermediate and long term goals. The aim is appropriate health behaviour patterns.

## Modules

The planned modules will be researched and subjected to pilot testing in order to determine their suitability for different communities within South Africa.

Venter said her department has resolved to embark on a massive Aids prevention programme for school-going children and their parents this year.



# Most injured kids die in accidents

21/3/91

298

A comprehensive study on injury-related deaths among children has found that road traffic accidents have been the major cause of mortality, accounting for over 30 percent of all such cases between 1968 and 1985.

The study, which was published by the Medical

By MOKGADI  
PELA

Research Council and conducted by researchers at the Biostatistics and the Child Accident Foundation at Red Cross Children's Foundation, is the first in-depth inquiry into the problem of childhood injury in South Africa. By injury, the re-

searchers included falls, drowning, poisoning, inter-personal violence and motor vehicle accidents.

The report shows that injury was the leading cause of death between the ages of five and 14 years.

In the case of whites the injury death rates were up to nearly four times higher than those in

the United States.

Under-registration and misclassification of deaths among blacks have made it difficult to calculate the injury death rates accurately for this group, the report said.

Data on all registered deaths were obtained from the Central Statistical Services and analysed.

## Choking

Motor vehicle accidents accounted for 31 percent of injury deaths and were the most important cause in all age groups except under one year.

Accidental choking and suffocation resulted in more deaths.

Drowning accounted for 19 percent of injury deaths and burns for 11 percent. In 14 percent it was not determined if the injury was accidental or purposefully inflicted.

In all age and population groups injury deaths among boys outnumbered girls.

## Impact

The impact and types of injury varied considerably between age and population groups, which reflects the important social, economic and developmental factors precipitating injury.

Road deaths had greatest impact on white children, while burns and assault played a greater role in the black population. Eighty-six of burn deaths were caused by fire and 14 percent by scalds.

## Drowning

White children aged one to four years were most vulnerable to drowning as were those of the black population.

The report said since 1968 the impact of injury in the white and black populations has increased relative to a decrease in other diseases, notably gastroenteritis and malnutrition in children under five years.

Generally, between 1968 and 1985 road and burn death rates decreased while assault and drowning increased.

## Researchers

The researchers believe the problem of injury-related deaths requires the active participation of communities, professionals and the government.

As urbanisation progresses the researchers expect to see dramatic increases in the incidence of injury to South African children, and have called for urgent, appropriate intervention strategies.

In that regard, the recently-formed Child Accident Prevention Foundation hopes to fill this need.

**UNITY 91 FESTIVAL**

**AND LETTA MBULU**

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# No action on doctors' unethical methods

THE South African Medical and Dental Council (SAMDC) said it would not take disciplinary action against doctors who were involved in unethical practices, if the complaint was not formally lodged.

This follows Saturday Star's recent reports about some doctors, particularly in the platteland, not keeping records for cash-paying black patients.

Although SAMDC's registrar Nico Prinsloo stressed that while it was official policy that doctors keep records of "all patients for a reasonable period", the council could not rely on press reports to act against doctors.

Some doctors investigated only

issued small slips to the patient as the sole record of a visit.

The onus, according to the doctors, lay with the patient to keep the slip.

In an interview this week, the Medical Association of South Africa (MASA), the representative body of doctors, said it noted "with concern" allegations that some doctors were involved in some unethical practices.

It said its ethical committee, established specifically to ensure doctors practiced properly, had not yet received any complaint or "substantiated evidence".

A formal complaint has to be lodged against a specific doctor or a group of doctors, MASA said.

MASA stressed it would always investigate allegations and make recommendations to the SAMDC, which has the power to take disciplinary action against doctors.

It was in the interest of doctors that those who did not follow norms be called to account, said MASA.

Asked about the consequences of doctors not keeping records, Mr Prinsloo said doctors who failed to do so could either be cautioned, suspended or removed from the registrar, depending on the seriousness of the cases and the circumstances surrounding them.

# 'ANC lured children into camp ordeal'

SCHOOLCHILDREN were allegedly duped into travelling to an ANC camp in Zambia, where they were urged to undergo military training.

The first of a group of 160 pupils from Pretoria and the Rand made their own way back to the South African border last night after what they claim was a month-long ordeal at the hands of the ANC.

After repeated attempts to reach the ANC, no comment could be obtained from the organisation at the time of going to press.

During a Security Police-organised press conference at the posh Mount Grace Hotel near Magaliesburg, pupils alleged they were "recruited" by a Rockville priest and the wife of a Soweto school inspector.

"We were offered scholarships in Kenya for a R160 fee"

The first seven pupils transported by police from Zeerust last night said they were:

- Forced to live under abominable conditions in an ANC camp near Lusaka.
- Guarded by armed ANC cadres.

OWN CORRESPONDENT

- Subjected to political indoctrination.
- Forced to do manual labour.

"In Soweto, a Mrs Mokoeppe collected our passports and said she would fax our particulars to the Kenyan authorities. We were told the scholarships were sponsored by foreign investors."

On Friday, February 22, a group of 160 pupils in their late teens and early twenties left Soweto in three buses and crossed through Bophuthatswana and Botswana.

At the Zambian border they were told to cross the Zambezi river by ferry and were met on the Zambian side by a Mr Nduma.

"We demanded food and wanted to know where we were going, but he said we would be told only what we needed to know."

They were taken to a place on the outskirts of Lusaka identified as the Charleston Transit Centre.

"We were told this was an ANC camp and we were under ANC command

"Our passports, money and personal possessions were confiscated and we were not allowed to leave the camp or make telephone calls."

Pupils said they were forced to do manual labour every day and ablution and cooking facilities were primitive.

"We defied threats of physical violence and went to the ANC headquarters in Lusaka and demanded to go back home."

During a three-week ordeal, the pupils said, ANC officials refused to hand over their passports and frustrated their efforts to leave the camp.

"We eventually persuaded them to give back our passports and we bought our own bus tickets back to South Africa."

Security police said they had no reason to detain the pupils as, by their own admittance, they had not undergone any military training.

"We were approached for assistance once they reached the South African border and we agreed to transport them to their homes in safety."

# Invite by UN to SA kids (298)

FOUR South African children will participate in the annual World Children's Day event at the United Nations on April 21.

The children selected are Stuart Kuus (nine) of Cape Town, Lara-Jane Marais (11) of Eshowe, Francis Mathe (12) of Atteridgeville and Rizia Ebrahim (nine) of Wynberg.

They will leave for the US on April 4.

Last year a delegation from South Africa was one of only 12 out of 120 delegations chosen to deliver a short message to the UN, according to a Foreign Affairs Department spokesman.

"The simplicity and sincerity of the speech delivered last year by Funeka Kadebe, 10, in which she reminded delegates of their duty to contribute to peace and understanding, made a deep impression on the participants from all over the world," the spokesman said.

The South African delegates will again occupy the seat of South Africa's ambassador to the General Assembly and will speak of their current project in relation to the 1991 World Children's Day theme, "Let's build a bright, clean land."

Barbara Bush will be the guest speaker at the event. - Sapa



# Pen mightier 298 than the panga?

South 7/3 - 13/3/91.

PUPILS in Cape Town's Heideveld township are arming themselves with information in a fight against gang activities in the area.

Heideveld Secondary School and Cathkin High School carried out an awareness programme this week on gangsterism and drug abuse.

On Monday pupils will march through the township with adults from the community and hand a memorandum to the police calling for greater police action to stamp out gangs.

Heideveld Secondary School principal Mr Ragery Steenberg said gangs had on several occasions come onto school premises and molested pupils.

Pupils even had to be escorted to the railway station to protect them against gangsters.

"One mother told me her child cannot sleep at night because she is afraid gangsters will attack her," Steenberg said.

Steenberg said the school campaign against gangsterism and drug abuse would continue after this week's programme.

"We hope to show people the situation in which they find themselves can be different. You can't deny some pupils might be in gangs themselves or friends of gangsters. We hope to show them as well that gang activities are wrong," Steenberg said.

Natal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court against certain persons, whose names have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, and whose action allegedly caused the death of a Mr W Ndabula in the vicinity of Vryheid, if not, why not,

- (2) what are the names of the persons concerned?

*Hansford* 5/3/91

B321E

#### THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE

- (1) No, because the Attorney-General concerned is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect of success on appeal. In this regard it must be mentioned that the test which is applied by a court of appeal when considering whether a sentence should be altered, is whether it can be said that the trial court did not exercise its discretion reasonably.

In the case in question, the accused were only convicted of assault (common) and no sound reason can be advanced that the trial court did not exercise its discretion reasonably when passing sentence.

- (2) (a) Kenneth Thomas Edmund Westermeyer

(b) Johannes Fred Westermeyer

**Certain person: torching of minor**

#### \*11. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether the State intends charging a certain person from Messina, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, with purportedly attempting to set alight and burn a minor boy, whose name is not known at this stage, if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) what is the name of the person in question; *Hansford* 5/3/91
- (2) whether any charges have been laid against the minor boy, if so, with what has he been charged? *(298)*

B322E

#### The DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

- (1) The Attorney-General concerned referred the docket to the South African Police for further investigation

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

- (a) A charge of alleged assault with the intent to do grievous bodily harm is being investigated, but the results of the tests done by the Forensic Laboratories of the South African Police are being awaited. As soon as the investigation is completed, a decision will be taken. *Hansford* 5/3/91

(b) Jan van der Westhuizen

- (2) Yes. A charge of alleged housebreaking is presently being investigated by the South African Police. The Attorney-General concerned will make a decision in this regard as soon as a docket is submitted to him.

*Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament*

#### Inquest: witness

- \*12 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Law and Order.

Whether, with reference to the inquest into the deaths of certain persons killed in Mamelodi on 21 November 1985, the South African Police have ascertained the whereabouts of the witness referred to by the Minister of Justice in his reply to Question No 9 on 12 February 1991, if not, why not; if so, what is the name of the witness? *Hansford* 5/3/91

B325E

#### The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

Yes, after an intensive search since 6 November 1990, when the docket was received from the Attorney-General, the witness was traced on 15 February 1991. Tracing him was made very difficult due to the fact that he continually eluded the Police. He initially did not want to make any statement to the Police concerning the events in Mamelodi on 21 November 1985. Section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act 51 of 1977) was subsequently applied. He then made a statement. The docket is presently in the possession of the Attorney-General.

#### Purchase of microwave ovens/refrigerators

- \*13. Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing: *Hansford* 5/3/91

- (1) Whether the provincial health department purchased microwave ovens and refrigerators for the administrative offices in the Northern Transvaal region round about March 1990, if so, (a) how many, (b) for what purpose and (c) what amount was spent,

- (2) whether a needs assessment had been carried out before these items were purchased, if not, why not; if so, what was its nature;

- (3) whether these purchases were made in accordance with the requirements of the tender system of the State; if not, what procedure was followed in this regard? *Hansford* 5/3/91

B327E

#### The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

- (1) During March 1990, no refrigerators were purchased for administration offices in the Northern Transvaal region, but microwave ovens were bought; ie

(a) four of 38 litre each,

(b) for use by nurses to prepare food;

(c) cost was R699,99 each

- (2) Yes, nursing service managers responsible for community health and family planning investigated and assessed the need

- (3) Yes

#### Government Service Pension Fund—accumulated funds

- \*14. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Finance: *Hansford* 5/3/91

- (1) Whether there has been any change in the policy regarding the investment of accumulated funds of the Government Service Pension Fund, if so, (a) what change and (b) what effect has the change had in financial terms in regard to increased interest and/or dividends;

- (2) whether it is the intention to extend any investment policy to utilise most or all of the accumulated funds of other State pension funds, if not, why not; if so, (a) in what manner and (b) over what period,

- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B342E

#### The MINISTER OF FINANCE

- (1) Since 1984—when the Public Investment Commissioners succeeded the Public Debt Commissioners—the management and investment policies of the Government Service Pension Fund have been drastically amended. *Hansford* 5/3/91.

(a) The funds are now being actively managed according to accepted portfolio management principles. Firstly, the investment portfolio has been completely restructured so that the emphasis is no longer on long-term stocks. Secondly, the funds may now also be invested in recognised money market instruments whilst financial derivative instruments, like options and futures contracts, may be employed as hedging mechanisms. Thirdly, and this is a very important amendment, it could be noticed from the 1990/91 budget address that the PIC is no longer formally expected to fund the major portion of the budget deficit.

(b) The effect of this more dynamic approach to the management of these funds cannot summarily be expressed in terms of improved interest income alone. The accepted principle in portfolio management is to express the combination of interest and capital appreciation of the assets in the portfolio as a portfolio yield. Since 1 April 1984 till the end of 1990, an average yield of 17,47% was obtained on the investment portfolio of the Government Service Pension Fund, which yield is substantially better than the 14,7% average inflation rate for the same period.

(2) (a) and (b) All funds under the control of the Public Investment Commissioners—which also automatically include the accumulated funds of other State pension funds—are, since 1984, being managed in accordance with the principles outlined above.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY





SANKU MOLAOLI... founder.

# Ikemelenng centre ready to stand on its own at last

Sowetan 31/1/91

298

THE Ikemelenng Remedial Education Centre, which is presently housed at the Youth Alive Ministries in Dube, Soweto, is to move to the Baptist Church in Orlando East this week.

The centre, started with only 15 pupils about four years, is growing in leaps and bounds.

It now has a total enrolment of 104 pupils who come from all corners of the Reef.

The school was set up in 1986 to assist children with acute learning problems as the drop-out rate in many Soweto schools continued to soar.

In 1989, the centre

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

was adopted by the Sowetan as part of the newspaper's Nation Building campaign. It has, since its establishment, also closely worked with World Vision.

Mr Sanku Molaoli, director and founder of the school, said an old school building near Orlando Stadium had been made available for use by his centre. He said he was now faced with the task of renovating the building.

"As we are part of the Nation Building campaign, we shall appreciate whatever kind of help the community offers us."

We encourage as many residents as possible to take part because this will be one way of recreating some of those structures which have collapsed in our community," he said.

Molaoli said the new premises would have a positive psychological effect on the 104 children the school had enrolled this year.

He said the new premises were bigger and had an ablution block, showers and playground. The centre will be running a series of workshops for parents. Two will be held on February 16 and June 29 for children with learning problems.

Molaoli said a residential workshop would be held at the Alpha Training Centre in Broedersfontein on November 23.

People can contact Molaoli at (011) 982-5854 for more information on the centre.



# Mixed-race adoption will have few hassles

298

Susan 31/1/91

By SIZAKELE KOOMA

THE scrapping of sections of the Child Care Amendment Act will help alleviate the problems of child welfare associations.

The Johannesburg Child Welfare welcomes the removal from the Statute Book of Section 40 (B) of the Act, which states that children should be placed with a person of a racial classification of their own.

However, this will not be a magic wand that will enable the society to place all children needing adoption as quickly as they would like.

Although it is aware that the removal of the restriction will entice prospective parents into inter-racial adoption, the society will be hesitant to place children with parents of races different from their own unless such parents are able to meet the needs of those children.

The society's manager of the adoptions department, Mrs Marionka Manias, said they would have to "tread very cautiously in the first instance" and consider placing children with parents of their races first.

"One has also to consider the plight of children waiting in homes for parents and the change to the law will help prevent children from remaining in institutions purely because of their race.

## Preference

"We always like to look at adoption from the child's point of view, what will be good for him or her in the long-term. We believe that adoption with least risk is often where everything matches," Manias said.

"We prefer the children to be taken care of in an environment that best suits them. We would not

like them growing up accusing us of not placing them with parents of their identity.

"Mixed schools do now alleviate the problem and make mixed race placements easier. I have seen adopted children being devastated when they find they were brought up in families of cultural or religious backgrounds not of their own.

"In Europe and North America civil rights groups in recent years have been campaigning for the right of black children to grow up in families of their own background.

"You do not know how important roots are until you meet an adopted child who is searching for his or her own. We also have to think of the confusion of the child who does not feel accepted in either population group."

Manias said there were many ramifications on mixed adoptions.

She said the Child Welfare Society would have to look at overseas experiences and consider the feelings of the different population groups.

Couples who wanted to adopt across the colour line would have to motivate for that but paramount consideration

but in subsidised adoption," Manias said.

If adoptive parents were given State subsidies, more couples would come forward and it would be easy to place children with parents of races that match theirs.

## Welcomed

The society sees the amended Act as a breakthrough that will, for the first time, enable them to place children of mixed races with mixed couples.

It would also enable placement of homeless children with foster parents not of their own races and in any children's home without consideration to colour.

Mrs Jackie Lofell, also of the JCWS, said placement of children in homes not of their own races can, in the present legal system, only be done by private arrangement with no State funding being provided.

## Political

would always be given to the needs of the child.

"There are people who would want to adopt children of other races for political reasons or just because it is 'fashionable'.

"We have heard of cases where white guardians emigrated and left the black child homeless.

"The answer to the backlog of children awaiting adoption is not only in removing laws that prevent inter-racial adoption



Friends gathered to wish Mrs Hilda Banetsene (in white hat and holding the cake) of Mapella many happy returns on her 50th birthday at a party held at her home.



CHIT Tracks 26/1/91

298

# Big rise in township child sex-abuse cases,

By CHRIS BATEMAN

SEXUAL abuse of children in the local black community is soaring and now accounts for nearly half of all sexual abuse cases admitted to the Red Cross Children's Hospital, the head of the hospital's trauma unit, Dr David Bass, said this week.

There was also a correlation between child abuse and township unrest as children were unsupervised and the community disrupted, leaving them prey to unsavoury characters, Dr Bass added.

The majority of sexually abused children came from the sprawling city of Khayelitsha.

Dr Bass said that until three years ago the majority of sexual child abuse occurred in the coloured community, but was now equalled and would probably soon be overtaken in black areas.

Medical superintendent Dr Gilbert Lawrence said vastly improved liaison between the police Child Protection Unit and the hospital had been effected by a

paediatrician, Dr A Argent. There was now a hotline to the police on the premises and essential court evidence could now be efficiently gathered.

Dr Bass said an "enormous amount" of energy was being directed at preventive education in the black areas, but by relatively few people.

There was very little "acquaintance and family abuse" of children among black people in contrast to whites, where it was more common, he said.

He also revealed that a quarter of all physically (non-sexually) abused children (of all races) treated over the past two years were under a year old.

"This is particularly worrying, because they can't pick up a phone and call Child Line or anyone for help," he said.

Between 1987 and this year the number of abused children among all races treated at Red Cross annually had soared from between 200 and 250 to between 550 and 600.

He put this down partly to increased public awareness through stepped-up media coverage.

A survey of 350 children at the hospital between July 1989 and January 1990 had shown that 60% were sexually and 40% physically abused.

Some 90% of victims of sexual abuse were girls averaging six years old, while 60% of physically abused patients were boys averaging five-and-a-half years old, he revealed.

says hospital

# Teenage promiscuity a growing problem

By GLENN McDOUGALL  
Weekend Argus Correspondent

**DURBAN** — Fourteen-year-old Kate (not her real name) looks like any normal schoolgirl. She's attractive, seems self-assured and is thought of as mature — both mentally and physically — for her age.

School's out for the summer holidays and the party season is in full swing.

Kate comes home from the beach on Friday afternoon. She disappears into her bedroom and in a flash of powder, lipstick, eyeshadow and fashionable clothing she is transformed into a beautiful young woman who could easily pass for 18.

She brushes past her parents. "Don't be too late," they call, happy for a bit of holiday peace and quiet. Kate meets friends and they head off to a local lifesaving club for a party.

## Sexual boasts

A few hours later Kate is drunk. She boasts about her sexual conquests and tells the company that she can "take on any man here". There is no shortage of offers and within the hour Kate has had sex with five men ranging in age from 18 to 42.

One of the witnesses is a policeman. He reports the incident and the police inform Kate's parents, who decline to press charges against the man concerned.

The incident was confirmed by a senior member of the lifesaving club at which it happened.

This may be an extreme example, but a survey conducted by the South African Medical Research Council found that most high school pupils interviewed had engaged in sexual activity, and that one in five South African schoolgirls fell pregnant.

A recent shock disclosure by Liz Towell, manager of the Aids Training and Information Centre in Durban, that a local 17-year-old schoolgirl had tested HIV-positive and that the centre had counselled many other HIV-positive schoolchildren and recent school-leavers, highlights the growing problems associated with teenage promiscuity.

Wendy Mortimer, an assistant director with the Lifeline counselling service, said Lifeline had received calls from young girls saying they had been raped under circumstances similar to those mentioned above.

"This is the time when there are a lot of parties and people tend to drink more, which can affect their behaviour.

"Parents should know as much as they can about where their child is going, and who is likely to be there, without being seen to be prying into the child's life.

"Youngsters in their early teens start trying to prove their independence. Some parents can find their

kids a bit of a burden at this time and tend not to supervise their activities too closely.

"Peer pressure is very strong, but parents should try to instil the self-esteem needed by a child to be able to stand back from the crowd when he or she doesn't feel comfortable with what's happening," she said.

Pamela Cozic of Planned Parenthood said teenagers should be aware that the law had been amended so that any person aged 14 and over could seek medical treatment, which could include contraception, without telling her parents.

"Teenage girls should be aware of the availability of post-coital contraception. This means that if a girl has had sex without taking precautions, she can go to her doctor or a family planning clinic within 72 hours, but preferably sooner, and get the so-called after pill which will prevent pregnancy," she said.

A psychologist who cannot be named as she is in private practice said that she viewed behaviour like Kate's as self-destructive.

"It can be a form of attention seeking or a desire for some form of intimacy. She is likely to have a lack of

self-esteem. I would question what kind of caretakers adults have become in our society," she said.

Forms of behaviour such as this could also arise if parents were either too lax or overly authoritarian in their attitudes towards their children.

In certain instances, extreme promiscuity in such a young child could be a form of acting-out behaviour that was often seen in children who had been sexually abused at some time or another.

"Adults need to take responsibility in our world," she said. "If they don't, who will?"



W/6AK645 298 It couldn't happen to your daughter — or could it?

## Survey finds one in five schoolgirls is pregnant



# Major study on childhood injury in SA

CHC-712B 26/1/88  
298.105

ROAD accidents are a major cause of injury-related deaths of South African children up to the age of 14, a study by the Medical Research Council has found.

The study, the first in-depth inquiry into childhood injury in South Africa, found that between 1968 and 1985 over 30% of all injury-related deaths of children were caused by traffic accidents.

The Medical Research Council, with the Child Accident Prevention Foundation at the Red Cross Children's Hospital and the Institute of Child Health at UCT, studied all registered deaths of children under 15 in South Africa from 1968 to 1985.

They found that between 1968 and 1985 road and burn death rates decreased while assault and drowning rates increased. The decrease in road deaths could be attributed to increased public awareness created by campaigns, they said.

Accidental choking and suffocation resulted in the majority of accident-related deaths of children under 12 months.

Drowning accounted for 19% of injury deaths and burns for 11%. In 14% of cases it could not be determined if the injury was accidental or "purposefully inflicted".

"Road deaths had the greatest impact on white children, while burns and assault played a greater role in the black, coloured and Asian populations," the report said.

Eighty-four children aged between 10 and 14 committed suicide between 1981 and 1985 while 225 children under 15 were killed by firearms or explosives in this same period.

# Welfare group saves itself

Sowetan 25/1/91

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The radiothon run on behalf of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) last year has raised R750 000 so far and more is expected.

This means that the society, which provides important services to un-

deprivileged children and their families, will not have to close as was threatened.

Of the amount received, R630 000 accrues to the JCWS. The society's director, Dr Adelle Thomas, said in a statement: "The public assistance received has

enabled us to maintain and extend further our fundraising plans for the forthcoming year.

"However, the fact remains that welfare organisations, including ourselves, are always heavily dependent on public financial support. We receive 60 percent of our yearly income from the Johannesburg public to provide vital and necessary services to the children here.

"Our society seeks, in partnership with the community as a whole, to find ways in which essential child and family welfare services can be placed on a reliable financial footing without reducing services.

"On behalf of the staff and Board of Management of the Society, I would like to express our extreme appreciation and thanks to the caring and generous people of Johannesburg who have appreciated the value of and supported the critical work we do with the less fortunate children in our city."



DR ADELLE THOMAS





**RUDDEN**

A woman police officer reacted bitterly outside the Krugersdorp Regional Court yesterday after a white farmer was acquitted on charges of having had sexual intercourse with four little girls.

The magistrate, Mr P J du Plessis, acquitted Mr Bernard Rudden, of Valley Farm, Hartbees-

# Sex charge farmer freed

Sowetan 24/1/91

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fontein, on the basis that the allegations made by one of the witnesses were not corroborated. He said the court had to exercise extra caution in such a matter.

Rudden had been charged for having had sexual intercourse with four little girls, all under the age of 16.

He was also charged with one count of rape.

Two of the girls were children of one of about 50 people working on

Rudden's farm.

The policewoman works in the Child Protection Unit and had interviewed the four girls.

Du Plessis said it was always dangerous to accept the evidence of one witness.

One of the girls earlier told the court that Rudden had slept with her on a weekly basis for about two-and-a-half months during 1989 and again in January last year.

Rudden denied having

made advances to the girl and told the court that he had paid for the girl's medical treatment when she contracted a sexually transmitted disease from her boyfriend.

He said the girl had worked for him at one of his business enterprises, Black Love, a cosmetics company which manufactured products for blacks.

Rudden was represented by an advocate, Mrs KI Foulkes-Jones.

# Childcare 'first' <sup>298</sup>

CHILDREN'S affairs are being taken care of by a fully-fledged government body — the Ministry of Community Development, Women's Affairs and Children — for the first time since Tanzania became independent in 1961.

Tanzania is among the nations that have signed the universal Convention on the Right of Children.

Mwinyi created the ministry after attending the World Summit on Children at the UN in New York last September, where he also signed the Convention on the Rights of Children. South 24/11-20/11/91

Poverty and the lack of knowledge on maternal and nutrition issues remain problems that cause 200 000 deaths of children under the age of five each year.

## Ambitious

Judging from the performance of the vaccination campaign in the 1980s against the main children killer diseases, during which 80 percent of under-fives have been immunised, Tanzania stands a better chance to further the new campaign of the development of child welfare.

The World Summit on Children, attended by 71 presidents and prime ministers, adopted ambitious new goals for children's welfare to be achieved by the year 2000.

"It is time for implementation and not speech-making at various forums," says Anna Makinda, Minister of the newly-formed ministry. — *INTER PRESS SERVICE*



# Cops to 'look into' Bethal assaults

cl/ae 20/11/91

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INJURED members of the ANC youth league in Bethal are to lay charges of police assault.

They allege they were part of a group of 11 people detained and assaulted after swoops on their homes in the eMzinoni and Mandela Squatter camps near Bethal on Wednesday by white and black policemen, who demanded they produce "their AK-47s"

No weapons were recovered and the youths denied to *City Press* they had knowledge of any weapons

The youths were examined by a private doctor and have made statements to a lawyer. It is expected charges will be laid early next week.

A spokesman for the Eastern Transvaal public relations directorate of the SAP said on the information supplied by *City Press*, the SAP had registered the case for investigation.

The spokesman said on completion the docket would be forwarded to the Attorney-General.

According to statements made to *City Press*,

By **DESMOND BLOW**

at least eight young men and three young girls were detained.

*City Press* interviewed five of the youths and a 15-year-old schoolgirl hours after their release.

A Bethal doctor who examined them said all of them suffered injuries



**Vusi Zulu ... claims police assault.**

consistent with assault.

According to the doctor, the worst injured was a 17-year-old youth who

was coughing blood and appeared to have internal injuries.

In terms of the Childrens Act the names of two minor boys cannot be disclosed. Nor can that of the 15-year-old schoolgirl.

The others are Donty Skhosana, 23, and December Mtsweni, 21, of Mandela Squatter Camp; and Vusi Zulu, 23, of Seventh Avenue, eMzinoni.

These said five of the other detainees included a youth unknown to them, another youth also called December, his brother Eric, and two young girls.

The 11 were detained by a group of around six black and white policemen led by Detective Constable Tom Vilakazi of the Bethal CID. The group later learnt that some of the cops were attached to the Security Branch of another town.

The 17-year-old youth said three black and two white cops rushed into his eMzinoni home around 11pm, assaulting him and demanding he tell them where he kept "the guns".

He alleged that once outside a black policeman told him: "Why don't you run away so I can shoot you."

At the Bethal police station he was put in leg-irons.

Donty Skhosana and December Mtsweni said they were awakened at the Mandela Squatter camp by six policemen.

The two were kicked in

the stomach and hit on their bodies with a rifle butt. Donty was punched in the eye.

The police then picked up an unknown youth whom they also assaulted

Later they picked up and assaulted the other December, his brother Eric and two female friends of theirs.

At the Bethal Police Station they were taken to the parking area and told to lie on their stomachs on the cement with their hands clasped behind their backs and to close their eyes.

"If we opened our eyes we were kicked. Cold water was poured on us."

They said December Mtsweni was then placed against a wall where he was hit with a rifle butt.

After some time they were taken into the charge office where they saw the 17-year-old youth squatting in leg-irons.

A Constable Botha and Constable Thembe Hlongwa were in the charge office and appeared to be on duty. There was also a man in a track suit who was addressed as "captain".

After a while Vusi Zulu, the 15-year-old youth and the 15-year-old schoolgirl were brought in. The schoolgirl said Vilakazi had strangled her, demanding to know where Zulu "kept his guns".

She claimed she was sexually harassed.

# Child Welfare warns of a lean year

THE Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) has again thanked the public for the generous donations received in response to the organisation's recent financial plight, but has also again urged continued support to avoid a similar situation during the financial year ahead.

Dr Adele Thomas, executive director of the JCWS, said the success of recent fund-raising efforts meant the society would break even at the end of the current financial year.

"We had anticipated a R600 000 deficit," she said, "but the public responded warmly and generously to our need and their donations

have ensured that much needed services to children and their families will not have to be closed."

The financial year ahead, however, could prove to be a problem if public and corporate generosity did not continue.

"We cannot escape the fact that welfare organisations are heavily dependent on public funds," Dr Thomas said.

She said the society's existing services presently cost approximately R8 million to operate each year, and only 40 percent of this amount would come from Govern-

ment.

"We are trying to lobby Government for a larger percentage, but there seems to be little chance of an increase. This means we must effectively collect about R5 million from the public during the year ahead."

Dr Thomas urged the community to continue supporting child welfare services, pointing out that the JCWS could only deliver the services which the public was willing to support.

"I want to remind the community, the very people who we serve, that the JCWS exists simply because many of our children are neglected and abused."

Star 19/1/91 SUE OLSWANG (298)



# Adoption race bar to be scrapped

By Peter Fabricius  
Political Correspondent

Adopting a child of a different race group is to be legalised by a new Bill published in Parliament.

And racially discriminatory measures in other Acts are also to be repealed.

These include discrimination in admission to national cultural institutions and in prospecting rights and occupation of mining land.

The Child Care Amendment Bill will make it legal for people to adopt children of a different race from themselves.

It repeals the clause of the Child Care Act which

requires that a child's race classification be the same as that of its adoptive parents.

According to a memorandum accompanying the Bill, this requirement has led to "practical problems".

## Welcomed

Democratic Party welfare spokesman Carole Charlewood welcomed the move and said the most important thing was for a child to have a good home.

The Mining Rights Amendment Bill repeals restrictions in the Mining Rights Act "which discriminate on the grounds of race against the ac-

quisition of prospecting and mining rights", according to a memorandum accompanying the Bill.

It also repeals the "obsolete restriction on residence of certain race groups on proclaimed mining land".

The Cultural Institutions Amendment Bill repeals a clause in the Cultural Institutions Act which could allow racial restrictions on visiting national cultural institutions such as libraries and museums.

The new Bills are all being discussed by parliamentary committees before being debated by Parliament when it reconvenes on February 1.

## Fund raising drive saves welfare body

16/11/91

POLLY JONES

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A HUGE fund raising drive late last year has saved the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society from having to close down essential services.

In a statement in Johannesburg yesterday society director Dr Adele Thomas said the poor state of the economy last year resulted in many societies, including Johannesburg Child Welfare, experiencing a severe fall-off in donations.

"In November and December, the society alerted its public to an anticipated deficit of R600 000 if additional funding was not immediately raised. This would have meant that vital services to abused, abandoned and neglected children in Johannesburg and Soweto would have been curtailed or stopped altogether."

Thomas said a radiothon arranged by Radio 702 in December had resulted in R750 000 being raised, of which, R630 000 would go to the society.

"The public assistance received has enabled us to maintain and to extend further our fund-raising plans for the forthcoming year. In addition, strategic decisions have been made in respect of the consolidation of services," Thomas said.

The society's existing services cost about R8m a year to operate, without allowing for expansion, she added.



# Youths at problem home protest against 'eviction'

By SHARON SOROUR, Staff Reporter

ARGUS 16/11/91 298  
CONTROVERSY surrounding the closure of St John's Hostel continues after the remaining boys held a picket in the city centre to protest their "eviction".

The 10 remaining boys have been given until Saturday to leave the 10-hectare premises in Upper Kloof Street, Gardens, which are to close for about three months for repairs.

According to the protesters, all facilities have been closed or suspended.

## 'Nowhere to go'

"The kitchen has been closed and the phones are not working, but we have refused to leave and now we want public support to keep the hostel open because we have nowhere to go," said a boy who did not wish to be named.

The property has been surrounded by controversy since allegations that trustees and management committee members want to sell the land — valued at R6 million — and move the home.

According to ex-staff member Mr Terence Grant the hostel has been plagued with problems for years.

But while management committee chairman Mr Robert Dixon admitted that the property was in a state of "chaos and disrepair", it was "definitely not going to be sold".

"At our last annual meeting, in November, a decision was taken unanimously to amend the constitution so that the property or the hostel could be sold or closed only if 75 percent of the trustees, 75 percent of the management committee and 75 percent of the association members agreed," Mr Dixon said.

"There are no plans to develop any of the land but the hostel will close temporarily for renovation and we are going to bend over backwards to re-open by the end of March," Mr Dixon said.

But according to Mr Grant, expelled from the management committee, the decision to close the hostel with immediate effect was taken by five of the 14 committee members.

## 'All funds cut off'

"All funds have been cut off and this will leave the boys homeless with nowhere to go," he said.

Staff and boys were served eviction notices at the end of December, giving them two weeks leave, Mr Grant said.

It was impossible to house 10 boys at the premises at a cost of R18 000 a month, Mr Dixon said.

Mr Dixon said a Department of Health and Welfare decision to revoke the institution's licence was extended until the end of June.

● St John's was founded in 1917 as a home for destitute and semi-destitute boys and the premises, formerly the home of the Smuts family, were bought in 1921.



Picture ROY WIGLEY, The Argus

**PROTEST:** St John's Hostel youths protest against "eviction" after those remaining were given until Saturday to leave.

R630 000 <sup>(298)</sup>  
<sup>start 16/11/1</sup>  
boost for

## Child Welfare

By Shirley Woodgate

The Radio 702 Radiothon in December raised R750 000, of which R630 000 has been paid to the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

This highly successful fund-raising effort has saved the organisation at the 11th hour from cutting back on services to the underprivileged.

Director Dr Adele Thomas said massive public assistance had also enabled the JCWS to maintain and extend fund-raising plans for 1991 and strategic decisions had been made for consolidating services.

Praising public generosity, Dr Thomas said she hoped the people of Johannesburg would substantially increase this year's contributions to the society.

Late last year the society, which relies on donations for 60 percent of its R8 million running costs, alerted the public to an anticipated deficit of R600 000, warning that help to abused and neglected children would have to be curtailed or stopped unless this money was donated.

Man gets 3



# Sowetan reunites missing child with father

## 'Slave boy'

Sowetan  
15/12/91



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## Not for

BY THEMBA MOLEFE

**AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD boy who was allegedly kidnapped by a farmer five years ago was reunited with his father this week.**

The Boksburg farmer may face charges that include kidnapping, child stealing, attempted murder, child abuse and assault,

police said yesterday.  
The boy may also not be identified for his protection.  
Police child protection unit investigators said not only the farmer but also members of his family may be charged following the boy's disappearance from his eastern Transvaal home

● To Page 2



The farmer ripped photographer Moffat Zungu's film from his camera and threatened to assault him if "my wife is in the pictures".  
Sowetan, traced the boy's father to the eastern Transvaal.  
Suppressing tears when he met his son for the first time in five years, he said: "I last saw my wife in 1985 when she left to look for my son."  
"In fact, I am still looking for another son who disappeared after working on the same farm."

### Stretchers

"You'll all leave this place on stretchers, I'm warning you," he told the police officers.  
"You will all s... and I don't care whether you are here to protect Mandela or not," he told the six white and one black armed police officers.  
The farmer ripped photographer Moffat Zungu's film from his camera and threatened to assault him if "my wife is in the pictures".  
Sowetan, traced the boy's father to the eastern Transvaal.

### Whip

Recounting his experiences at the farmer's plot, the boy said he was made to herd sheep and cattle. "I ate bread, milk and tea once a day. The farmer, his daughter and the black man who worked for him beat me up with a whip."  
When Sowetan visited the farm on Tuesday the farmer threatened and insulted reporters and seven members of the East Rand and Soweto child protection unit who went to investigate the matter at his plot.

The boy spoke to Sowetan after he escaped from the plot three weeks ago.  
"The farmer said I stole one of his sheep. He put me in his car and drove for some time. "He stopped and threw me into a big hole. It was so dark, but I got out and hid in a shop nearby," he said.  
Sowetan was told about the boy by workers in the store.  
"His hair was like that of a deranged person and he looked like an animal," said one of his rescuers.

● From Page 1

his is the boy who was allegedly abducted by a Boksburg farmer and kept as a slave. The boy has been masked to protect his identity. He is seen with his father who was reunited with him in Soweto this week. Picture: MOFFAT ZUNGU

## Homes wanted for two boys (298)

*Sowetan 18/2/91*  
THE Johannesburg Child Welfare Society is looking for adoptive parents for two little boys.

The first one is a bright seven-year-old with above average marks at school. His adoptive mother recently died and he is now in need of new loving parents and a home.

The second is an abandoned newborn baby who is suspected to have long term medical problems. He desperately needs a loving family to help him overcome his disadvantaged start to life.

Further information regarding the adoption of these children can be obtained from Sherena Ward at 331-0171.



# 12-year-olds may be allowed to work

Star 16/2/91

CHILDREN from 12 to 15 years old may be legally employed on South African farms if recommendations submitted by the National Manpower Commission are enacted, Philip Masia of the South African Farmworkers Education Project said.

A draft Bill on basic conditions for farmworkers, drawn up by a sub-committee comprising representatives from Cosatu, Nactu, the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) and the National Manpower Commission among others had been submitted for discussion at this parliamentary sitting.

## **Pocket money**

SAAU had argued at the sub-committee hearings that child labour should be permitted so that children could work for pocket money, and claimed that "such labour is positive for the child's development and financial well being".

Cosatu and Nactu had vehemently objected to this. "Chil-

SHAREEN SINGH

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dren have the right to play and learn and do their homework after normal school hours. Why should SA's farm children be treated differently?" Mr Masia said. He pointed out that children as young as 10-years-old were being "slave-driven" on SA farms.

Labour legislation applying to other sectors currently prohibited the employment of children under the age of 15, he said.

A reference to toxic substances was also very vague in the recommendations submitted to Parliament.

It stated, for instance, that children should not be asked to work with toxic substances or carry the weight of more than a quarter of the child's body mass.

But SA uses deadly pesticides and other agricultural chemicals, banned in most first world countries. He also asked how a child would determine he was carrying the correct weight.

# New law will halt labour abuse of young children

*Sowetan 20/2/91* *298*

LEGISLATION will be passed this year which will prevent the use of children under the age of 15 as labour.

In terms of a Bill tabled by the Minister of National Health, Dr Rina Venter, the earlier child-care laws regulated child labour only in so far as it was necessary to combat begging.

For this, and a host of other reasons, it has become necessary to include provisions in the Child Care Act of 1983.

"Time has shown, however, that child labour has to be controlled to prevent exploitation and harm to children.

"Clause 19 proposes to impose a prohibition on the employment of children under the age of 15 years, but

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN  
Political Correspondent

also provides that the Minister may grant exemptions in this regard," the Bill reads.

The Child Care Amendment Bill proposes further protection for children, especially destitute children, in terms of child care and the courts.

"The objects of the Bill are to amend the Child Care Act of 1983 (Act 47 of 1983), so as to rectify certain omissions in the Act, to remove legal uncertainty and to provide for changing circumstances," the Bill explains.



# Education lectures on teenagers

By Montshiwa Moroke

"Child Development" is the first theme chosen for a series of non-formal education lectures organised by the Council for Black Education and Research.

They are to be held at the Funda Centre in Johannesburg each Saturday from 10 am.

This week's topic is 11 - 16 years: Entering the teens. Outdated notions or myths about the teenager. What can we counsel parents in the bringing up of the teenager? The teenager in conditions of political conflicts".

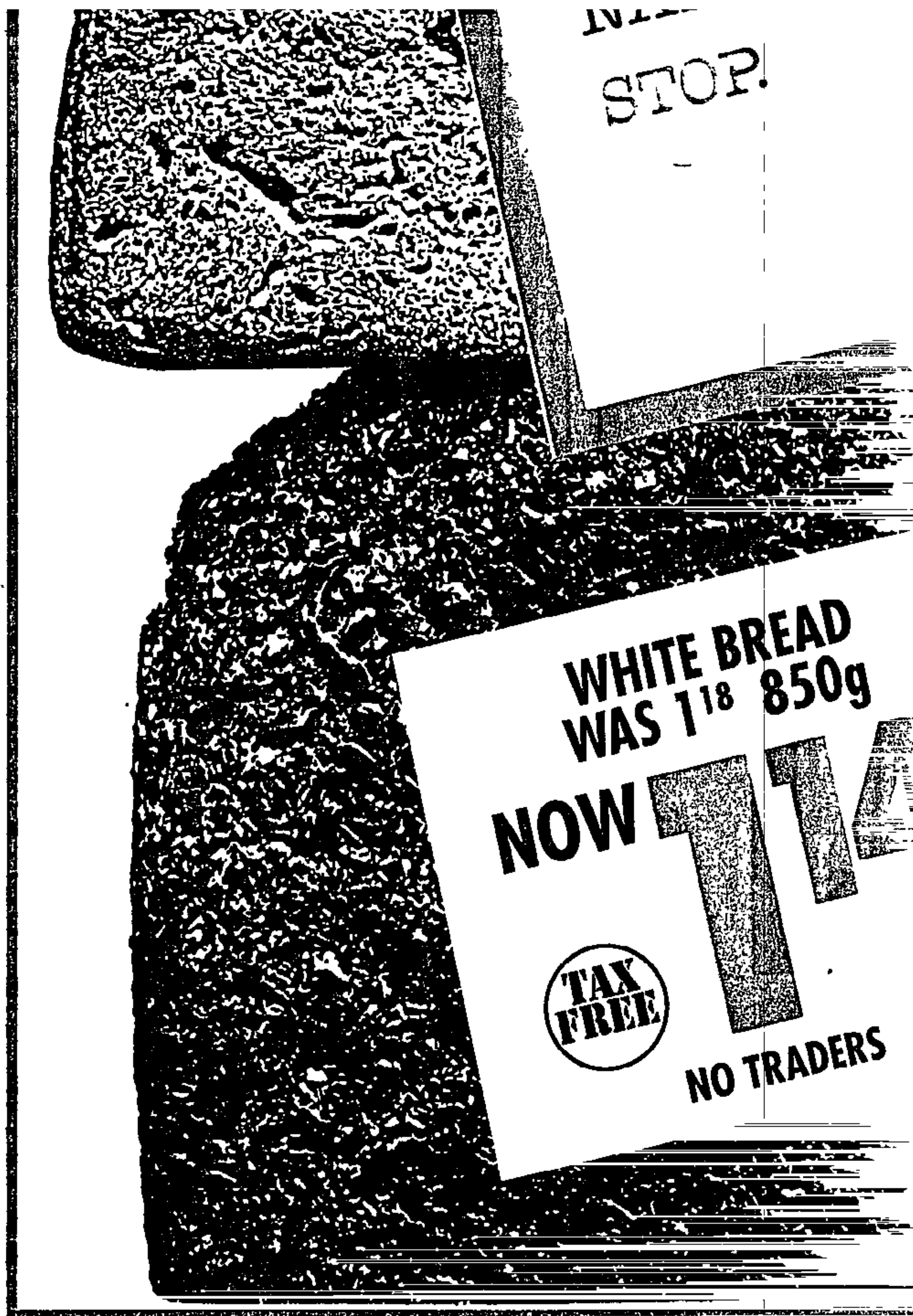
Carol Mbatha, Public Relations Officer at Vista University's Mamelodi campus, will be the main speaker.

Matshidiso Napo, coordinator of the programme, said parents play a vital role in their children's development.

"Normal development includes learning to communicate ... and to act intelligently and responsibly."

Registration costs R3 for the series. Students pay R2.

Further information can be obtained from Mrs Napo at (011) 938-1485 or 938-1770/1/2/3.



Soweto 28/2-63/91

# Judge rejects plea on detainees

A SUPREME court judge this week dismissed with costs an application by the parents of two Section 29 detainees to have the reports by the visiting magistrate and district surgeon released to them.

Mr Justice JF Ludorf also referred the application for an interdict preventing police from further assaulting a 15 year old and Kwanele Mszl aged 20, to oral evidence.

The two were part of a group of 16 people detained under the Internal Security Act for their alleged involvement in fatal attacks on policemen in the city last year.

In terms of the application, the parents were seeking that medical reports by the district surgeon "arising out of any examination or visit under Section 29(9) of the Internal Security Act No. 74 of 1982," as well as the magistrate's reports arising out of similar visits,

In affidavits submitted to the court, Mrs Nomsa Nkayi, alleged that her daughter had been assaulted by police during her detention.

## Handgun

Meliszwe Mszl, in an affidavit made after his release from detention, said he had witnessed an assault on Nkayi's daughter by six policemen, while they were being held at the quarters of the Struandale riot unit.

Another released detainee, Nomandlithini Mszl said she saw Nkayi's daughter being punched and kicked as well as being hit with the butt of a handgun.

In a second application, Mr Jim Mszl, father of detainee Kwanele Mszl, said another son Meliszwe, had claimed in an affidavit that Kwanele had been suffocated and assaulted.

Meliszwe said he managed to speak to his brother while they were in separate police vans parked next to each other at the quarters of the Struandale riot unit.

Meliszwe said that Kwanele told him that "he had a suffocating mask put over him and he could not see or breath."

This was done to him several times and the police would only remove it once he raised his hand indicating that he was prepared to answer a question.

In replying papers before the court, the regional head of the security branch in the Eastern Cape, Brigadier Christoffel Lodewikus Smith, said the release of the documents could prejudice the state's case.

## Records

He and other policemen denied in affidavits submitted to the court that police had assaulted the detainees.

In his summation, Justice Ludorf said the applicants were seeking an order for the release of records and reports obtained "pursuant to the provisions of Section 29(9) of the Internal Security Act".

"Clearly those records and reports might well contain material which is prohibited in terms of sec. 29(7) of the Act and should the court grant the order sought, it might accordingly well order the release of information hit by the prohibition."

Justice Ludorf said information contained in either the magistrate's or the district surgeon's report might deal with information about someone the police might be seeking.

If this information were to be made public knowledge, that person would now be aware of the fact that the police were seeking such a person and subsequently "being forewarned may flee the country" and so put themselves beyond the reach of the police, he said. — PEN



# Taking adoption into the colour-blind era

THE infant gurgling in a hospital crib is called Baby X. Found abandoned on a railway station, she is nameless and parentless.

Like hundreds of children around the country, Baby X needs a loving family and a home. But her choice of prospective parents is presently limited by race classification.

The law at present says adoptive parents must belong to the same race group as the child — specially difficult in the case of children like Baby X whose origins are unknown.

However, proposed changes to the Childcare Act currently before parliament open the way for what social workers term "trans-racial adoption".

This would bring the law governing adoptions in line with the recent scrapping of the Population Registration Act. It would also mean social workers could choose from a wider range of prospective adoptive parents.

"The proposed changes will give us greater flexibility in placing children," says Ms Sally Notcutt, a social worker at the Durban Child and Family Welfare Society.

## Benefit

Ultimately, it is the children who will benefit from the change, as Mrs Eileen Jordaan, director of the Adoption Centre in Cape Town, points out.

"The consequence of the proposed changes is that agencies can place children with those adoptive or foster parents best suited for the children," she says.

While social workers have no problem placing white children, the inverse is the case for black children. There is an acute shortage of adoptive parents for black children.

In Cape Town, Jordaan says, there is a "crying need" for adoptive parents for "coloured" children.

The shortage — the result largely of economic constraints — means that children are sometimes placed with "less than ideal" families.

The strains placed on African family life means that the old extended family "safety net" is increasingly disintegrating. As a result, a growing number of African children are in need of homes.

But is trans-racial adoption the answer?

Social workers caution that a new Childcare Act does not mean there will be a flood of trans-racial adoptions, nor do they think this is the answer to the problem.

## Mixed couples

A new Act is likely to still contain a clause stipulating that "due consideration be given in terms of cultural and religious background".

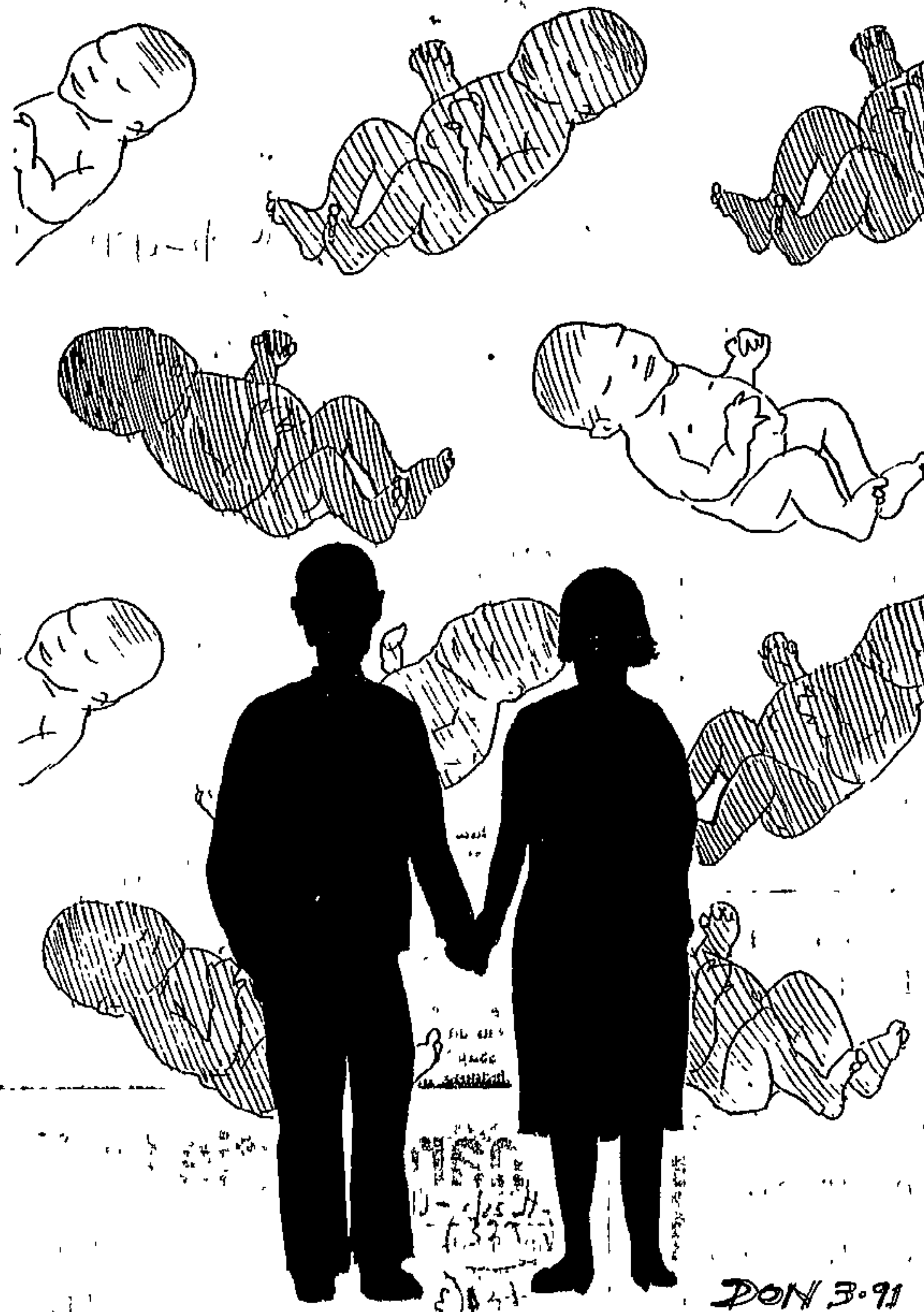
Notcutt points out that the interpretation of the Act will be largely up to the individual commissioners of Child Welfare who have the final say in adoptions.

Obvious beneficiaries will be mixed couples who will now be eligible to adopt.

Children like Baby X, whose backgrounds are unknown and who are therefore more difficult to place, will also benefit.

Professor Noel Zaall, who has served on the Children of Nowhere Committee in Durban, believes the proposed changes will remove a major stumbling block for placing abandoned children

Proposed changes to the Childcare Act — currently under discussion as SA moves towards a nonracial society — could usher in an era of trans-racial adoption. But will it solve the problem of scores of homeless children? Chiara Carter investigates:



As such, it could only be a move in the right direction.

An immediate flood of black babies into white homes is unlikely, however.

One of the criteria used by social workers when assessing adoptions is that as far as possible, children should be placed in a background in which they feel comfortable.

Even within race groups, social workers try to match adoptive and natural parents in terms of looks, educational background and the like.

Not only does this make it easy for the child and parents to relate as a family, but it is also easier for adopted children who later wish to find their natural parents.

"Children need to know their origins and identify with those origins. It is an extra psychological burden if a child is

mismatched by being placed in a totally different environment," says Jordaan.

Jordaan points to the case of an English-speaking woman who had been raised in a Jewish home. She traced her natural mother only to discover her mother was a rural Afrikaner with whom she had little in common.

## Cultural crisis

In Europe, where scores of couples have adopted Rumanian children, psychologists have cautioned that the children might suffer a cultural crisis when they grow up.

This viewpoint is borne out by experience in the United States and Britain, where the 70s saw a wave of adoptions by white parents of black and Asian children. Subsequently, many of these children experienced an "identity" crisis. This has

motivated a swing away from trans-racial adoption.

Jordaan says a similar situation exists with fostering, where what is already an extremely traumatic experience is accentuated if the child is catapulted into a totally different environment.

Notcutt agrees that roots are important. "The child needs self-esteem and this is what a good adoption placement would ensure."

She says South Africa differs from the United States and United Kingdom in that it is making the transition to a non-racial society and adoption should follow suit.

Obviously, much depends on the situation of the adoptive parents.

There is a world of difference between couples who already live in a nonracial

environment and those who have limited contact with people from other groups.

Notcutt says social workers will have to carefully explore the attitudes of not only the parents, but their immediate family and the community as a whole before giving the go-ahead for adoption across the colour-line.

A pilot research project is currently underway in Durban to investigate "trans-racial adoption".

The experience of a white family which has "informally" fostered a "coloured" child for the past two years illustrates some of the problems which can arise.

Debbie (her name and that of her foster mother have been changed to protect their identity) entered the family's life two years ago after her own family found they were unable to keep her.

## Inseparable

According to her foster mother, Kate, she and Kate's own daughter have become inseparable.

The children share a room, attend the same school and have a mutual wardrobe.

The family's environment has helped Debbie fit in.

They live in a "grey" suburb and their immediate circle includes people from across the colour-line.

Newly-opened schools mean the two girls can attend the same neighbourhood state school, and after hours the children play happily with neighbourhood kids.

Debbie is obviously happy in her foster home and hugs her foster mother readily.

Nevertheless, the family has experienced problems, not least because Debbie's own parents come from a very different background — an impoverished township in a small Boland town.

"Debbie has become used to a different standard of living and doesn't want to go home."

"Her feelings are very confused. She misses her parents but finds it difficult to relate to them now."

"The longer she stays, the more she is part of the family."

"It is becoming increasingly difficult for me to accept that one day she will have to return to her parents," said Kate.

Kate's husband acknowledges that he constantly has to grapple with his own conditioning.

"It's fine when we are at home but when you move to other areas, let alone outside the city, people turn to stare. You are constantly made aware of colour differences," he said.

## Cautious

If such difficulties are likely to make social workers cautious about trans-racial adoptions, many desperate childless couples are likely to disregard such cautions and try to secure children through private adoption.

Social workers say such adoptions are inadvisable because screening processes and counselling are excluded to the detriment of the child.

"The best interests of the child must come first, while there are exceptions, it is usually best if the child can be placed in the environment it comes from," says Jordaan.

She feels that if the state subsidised adoption, there would be more prospective black parents to choose from.

While the removal of race barriers to adoption brings adoption into line with social reality in South Africa and will mean new hope for children and couples, it is in itself not the answer to the crying need of South Africa's homeless children.

Star 28/2/77

# Welfare groups, agents condemn tax proposals

By Shirley Woodgate

Representatives from the book industry to the horse racing fraternity, from welfare organisations to estate agents, have condemned the levying of Value Added Tax (VAT) on their specific activities.

Reacting to Government plans to impose VAT of between 10 and 13,5 percent from September 30, spokesmen warned the effect would be to compound the financial problems already being experienced.

All homeowners and tenants would be hard hit by increases of up to 25 percent this year if VAT was imposed on rates and taxes, said councillor and estate agent Clive Gilbert.

Landlords would pass increases on to tenants at a time when rented accommodation

was virtually unobtainable.

Johannesburg Child Welfare Society director Dr Adele Thomas was shocked that food and clothing, representing a massive slice of the organisation's R8 million annual expenditure and which is currently untaxed, would be included at a time when Government help to welfare organisations was dwindling.

"There is talk that welfare organisations will be assisted by a system of State refunds but the infrastructure which will have to be created to work out the details will be a nightmare and require more staff."

"Any tax on knowledge is unacceptable," said Exclusive Books spokesman Stephen Johnson, commenting on the proposed tax on books, magazines and newspapers.



# Wits centre for gifted children under threat

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Spur 27/2/91

By Shirley Woodgate

The Schmerenbeck Educational Centre at the University of the Witwatersrand, a leading internationally recognised institution for gifted school children, is threatened with closure in June due to lack of funds.

This is the message conveyed by the university this week to parents of almost 300 children who attended a special meeting called by staff members attached to the centre's Parktown headquarters.

Established in 1976 with the help of a

R100 000 bequest from Kurt and Ami Schmerenbeck, of Namibia, this donation was considered at that time to be extremely generous.

But 15 years later, the centre is running at a loss despite being heavily subsidised by the university recently.

According to director Eva Biebuyck: "About R50 000 would keep us afloat until the end of the year and R100 000 would ensure our future".

## Variety

Originally some 800 gifted children (those displaying a combination of ability, creativity, motivation) benefitted annually from a variety of

advanced courses ranging from poetry, physics, war games, computer workshops, study enrichment, problem research, ceramics, and self-understanding to photography, calligraphy and study skills.

But numbers have dropped to 300, said Mrs Biebuyck.

"The aims of the centre are to stimulate and accelerate certain areas and fulfil needs which are not met during daily school times," she said.

Parents have formed a crisis committee to save the South African pioneer centre among gifted schools which has provided extra-mural classes for thousands of children, she said.

# Does this discipline smack of barbarism?

Stev 25/2/91 298

Princess Diana does it, but many South African mothers wouldn't dream of doing it. Modern mums say smacking children is not only a barbaric act but they fear it could teach their young ones the "bully boy" approach to life.

More and more parents these days are opting for the "soft approach" to disciplining naughty children, because they say it improves family relations and promotes self-discipline in a young child.

Inflicting physical pain on children violates their rights and turn them into rebellious teenagers and later aggressive adults, who may use violence on their children says a Petervale mother-of-two, Janet Cade.

"If I smack my daughter I shouldn't be surprised if she in turn hits her brother. Children always copy what their parents do," she says.

Mrs Cade runs a Parents Effectiveness Training programme and teaches parents inter-personal skills that enables them to have a mutually beneficial relationship with their children without using punishment.

She says the pressure to be better parents is weighing heavily on people today, and it is even greater on a grow-



Setting an example . . . Princess Diana admits to smacking her children but experts advise against it.

ing child. But, she says, parents who have a good relationship with their children will have a better influence on them than those who don't.

"We need to help our children understand and respect us as parents. Then we could reduce problems at home and take the pressure off ourselves and our families," she says.

Bee Joffin, a social worker at the Family Life Centre, says the average enlightened parent does not advocate spanking.

Hitting children is also an exercise in futility, Mrs Joffin says, as children seldom really understand why they are being punished.

But a smack given in a life-and-death situation does get the message across fast, says Joyce McMillan, a director of the Johannesburg Parents and Child Counselling Centre, especially if used to prevent a young child from inflicting serious injuries of herself or himself.

But she warns parents that smacking has a negative component to it, as it may lead to child bashing by parents who don't have control over their emotions.

"In this country that is one thing that nobody needs to learn," she adds.

She suggests that young ones should be given a firm "no", followed by a short clear reason and at the same time always try to offer a constructive alternative.

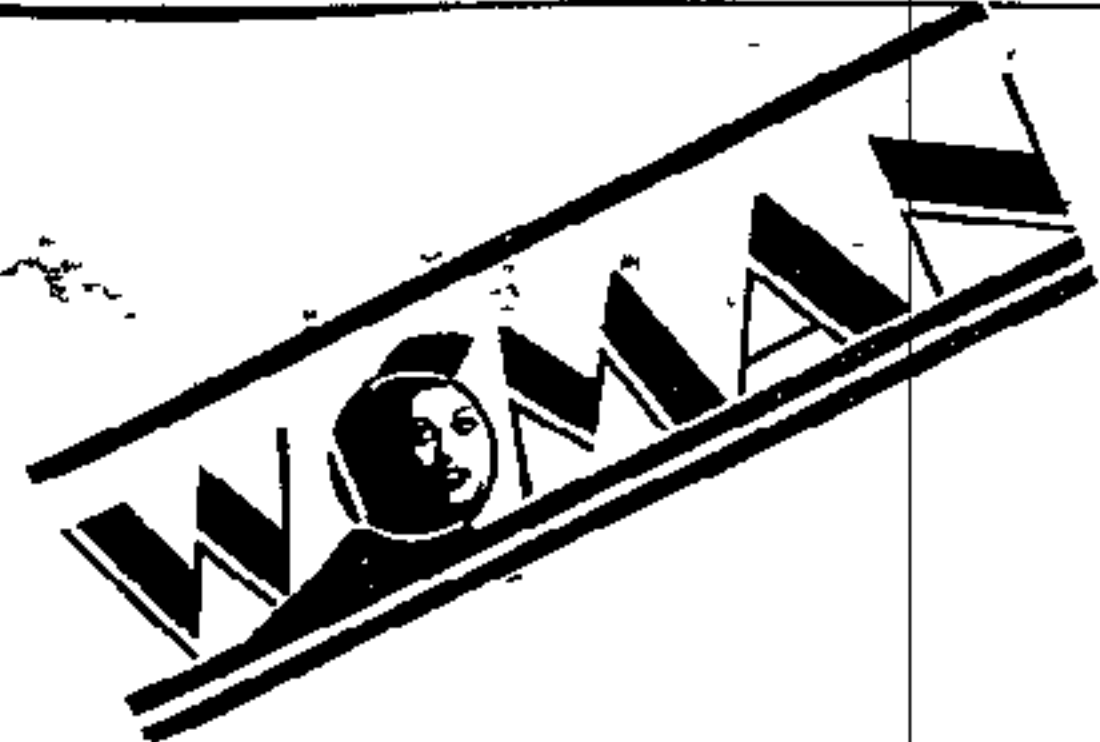
"Otherwise they will hang in there, and the minute your back is turned, will resort to their mischief again," she says.

"As the children grow older your explanations can be more involved and longer because they understand more. And parents must remember that they set an example by their behaviour, and they must be consistent with their no's," adds Mrs McMillan.

ZINGISA MKHUMA



# This is a home away from home



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Soweto 21/2/91

**THREE** Pimville, Soweto, women have introduced a new idea to child-minding - looking after infants as young as three months.

The women, Mrs Estorina Motwai, Mrs Theresa Mawela and Mrs Margaret Maretlela - all unemployed - say the idea will not only help them earn a living, but also solve the problem of working mothers who do not know who to leave their toddlers with when they have got to go back to work.

The home-based nursery, which presently has seven infants and toddlers all from the neighbour-

By **SIZAKELE KOOMA**

hood, is run by Motwai and Mawela who both have experience in child-care after having worked in council creches for several years.

Motwai also used to run a child-minding scheme from her home, where the nursery is still temporarily being operated.

"Our first rule of admission is that children must have clinic cards which show proof of immunisation," Mawela said.

The cards, she said, were also a must in case the children fell ill during the day.



**Mrs Motwai and Mrs Mawela with some of the toddlers.**

A normal day starts around 7am when the children arrive from their homes. They are given breakfast, usually a bowl of soft porridge before being allowed to play in the yard.

This is followed by an afternoon nap. The children leave for their homes after a snack at 4pm.

The women intend expanding their services and moving to a bigger place. At the moment they are

working at equipping themselves with skills needed to run a child-minding scheme.

Mothers who want day-care for their children can contact Mawela at (011) 938-5541.

# Court told of inherent white racism

Own Correspondent

**EAST LONDON —** White South African households are crucibles of racism, the Supreme Court in Grahamstown was told yesterday.

This, in turn, was an important underlying aspect of the case involving the killing of an elderly vagrant by four former schoolboys of Dale College in King William's Town, a psychologist said.

Richard Bester (19) and three minors were found guilty of culpable homicide arising from the death of the 70-year-old Tom Ruiters on February 28 last year.

He was beaten with a hockey stick, truncheon, cricket wicket and knuckle duster when the boys, members of the Frank Joubert Kaffir Bashing Society, bunked out of their hostel late at night looking for vagrants.

## Research

Christopher Giles, a clinical and community psychologist from Cape Town called by the State, said the development of racist attitudes by the boys was underscored by the name of the society, statements made by Bester regarding his hatred of blacks and a remark by another member of the group that he would not have beaten the man if he was white.

In white households, personal contact with blacks was relegated to the situation where blacks were always the domestic servants.

Black people were expected to take great responsibility for the well-being of white children without the concomitant authority or right to establish a relationship with the child.

There was no basis of mutual obligation. The development of empathy or the capacity to see others as separate individuals with their own legitimate feelings, needs or wants was based on these early re-

lationships.

The child's sense of care and compassion for his elders was not developed where employees were not allowed to assert their right to be treated with respect or enter into reciprocal relationships.

This did tremendous damage to a developing child.

He said all four suffered from a socialised conduct disorder of varying degrees.

They suffered from frustration, perceived rejection and inconsistent parenting. This often emerged as aggression in stronger boys and truancy in the young ones.

They were also inclined to lie, steal, swear, abuse alcohol and drugs and were destructive.

"Their future is saturated with hazards and violence and they anticipate violence and defeat," he said.

Earlier yesterday director of the National Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Rehabilitation of Offenders Elizabeth Richter, under cross examination by Attorney-General of the eastern Cape Dr J D'Oliviera, suggested that the four boys be sentenced to community service as opposed to jail.

Mrs Richter suggested that Bester be given a suspended sentence and serve 1 000 hours spread over a 30-month period doing community service at a coloured old-aged home in East London.

She suggested two of the other boys also be given suspended sentences and do community service of 1 000 hours at the SPCA.

The fourth boy, it was recommended, would work at a hospital at Stutterheim where he was a border.

Mr D'Oliviera asked Mrs Richter whether Nicro thought it was fitting reparation to the black community that the youth should be seen saving animals.

Mrs Richter said there were not many places in East London where they could work.

The trial continues.



A small number of forward-thinking companies in South Africa is providing creches to alleviate the skills crisis by drawing skilled women with children back to the workplace.

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# Creches oil business wheels

**N**ow the high-flying business-minded mother can breast-feed her baby in between making boardroom decisions, thanks to the latest movement towards in-house creches

A small number of forward-thinking companies in South Africa is providing creches to alleviate the skills crisis by drawing skilled women with children back to the office

Rivonia child care consultant and creche manager Dillys de Leirburne says the child-care facility is an important perk for a working mother, who can still be actively involved in her child's rearing.

"Breastfeeding in between working schedules keeps the bond between mother and child intact"

There is a chronic shortage of quality creches and the Government has largely left child-care in the hands of individuals who find it increasingly hard to fund adequate care, she says.

"The move to company creches is partly fuelled by hard facts of life. About 40 percent of the total labour force in South Africa is female and an increasing proportion of them are single mothers."

According to 1985 national census figures, 56 percent of all women between 15 and 64 were economically inactive, a large proportion with skills and academic qualifications

Against this scenario are predictions that by the end of the century there will be a shortfall of more than 100 000 managers and 440 000 highly skilled employees

Commerce and industry desperately needs the working mother, and companies are finally waking up to this, says Mrs de Leirburne

"However, to get mothers back to work by providing a creche requires considerable planning and superior facilities. Companies also need to provide quality care which needs a high child/staff ratio

"Many mothers feel guilty at having to work and leave their children in a creche. Our aim is to allay that guilt by giving them the very best quality child-care. The mother must have confidence in the fact that her child is in the right hands.

"The quality of the child-minder is very important. I look for the mother figure, someone with hu-



Care that counts . . . Dillys de Leirburne says in-houses creches will lure skilled women back to the workplace

mour, warmth and patience in dealing with small children and someone who is capable of moulding their future," she says

The legal requirements for running a creche are a ratio of one staff member for every eight children for under-twos and one in 15 for the over-twos

However, for the best care in the younger category Mrs de Leirburne suggests the company creche provide one qualified member of staff who is either a nursing sister or a teacher for every eight children, assisted by

one nanny for every five children.

"It is particularly important to have a qualified nurse who is trained to look for symptoms of illness and to provide medical care. In all cases, a medical practitioner should be available on call," she says

Detailed reporting procedures are also important in charting the health, development and general well-being of the child and in providing the mother with the feedback she needs

ZINGISA MKHUMA

## ON MONDAY

When you ask one of the world's leading jazz musicians to talk about his favourite subject, you're not going to hear about jazz.



# Many kids wait to be adopted

Soweto

1/2/91  
By SIZA KOOMA

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THE greatest need for adoptive parents is in the black community where, in Soweto only, three children are abandoned every week.

The tendency for childless couples in extended black families to adopt children of relatives is the main reason why outside adoption is often never considered, according to Mrs Marionka Manias of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

Manias also cited poverty and lack of information on adoption as some of the reasons why fewer black people adopted. She said increased public education and State subsidies to families who had adopted children could help.

"We do not have a waiting list of people who want to adopt but we have children coming in all the time. Our work is always an emergency. We have to find homes for the children quickly as we do not like to keep them in institutions," Manias said.

The Society, she said, placed about 50 children a year. There was often no time to give the adoptive parents the required training and to do the

six-monthly follow-up visits to the homes because of the other urgent demands of the job, she said.

The adoptive couple should be between 25 and 45 years of age and should have been married for three years. Older couples, those over 45, are considered only if they had already parented. Single people are not preferred but are considered only because there is a great need for adoptive parents.

The couples' health is also a determining factor in adoption. Prospective adoptors are screened for terminal illness and other serious diseases.

"Often, in the black community, the child would have been abandoned. There is therefore little chance of the biological parents reclaiming it. But we prefer the parents to tell the child that it is adopted.

She said the Society preferred adoptive parents to come from Soweto and Alexandra, although it did consider people from other areas. For more information Manias can be contacted at the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society at (011) 331-0171.

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ATLANTIS BUYERS CO-OPERATIVE



## EARLY TIMES

# Victim of the violence

Star 2/2/91.  
There are few South Africans who are not concerned about the slaughter of people in our townships. However frightening and horrific the statistics, the reality of the situation hits home only when it begins to affect people one knows. An Early Times journalist, whom we will call Gezane for his own protection, came into the peace of our Norwood office with this disturbing story. We wish it were an isolated incident of intimidation, but it seems many young people are finding themselves the victims of unscrupulous political parties.

GEZANE is one of many young South Africans who wish for nothing more than a lasting peace to build a secure future. "I hate all the killings. I can't take it any more," says Gezane, a matric pupil from Soweto.

Gezane has remained as removed from the violence as possible, but although he refuses to participate in acts of violence, he cannot help witnessing the killings.

He had hoped for a calmer year in 1991 because he will be writing mathematics for the second time. Last year his studies were severely interrupted by bouts of fighting. But it seems his wish is not to be fulfilled.

## Youth league

Now he faces a far more pressing problem than his supplementary maths examination. His life is in danger because people his own age are trying to force him into a life of endless violence like their own.

Members of a youth league in his area say Gezane must join their movement and become part of a "disciplinary committee" which aims to eradicate local gangsters.

If he doesn't join them, he faces a beating, because they will immediately assume that he is a gangster. The treatment of gangsters is harsh and without the protocol of a trial.

Explains Gezane: "They just grab people they don't like and take the law into their own hands. I have seen a young boy hacked to death with a panga because he stole a car."

"I think they like the killing. For them it's exciting, they can do what they like. They feel superior in their power."

Gezane has no desire to belong to any political organisation. His priority is to study, and to benefit future generations of South Africans with his knowledge.

"Most of these guys are school drop-outs, so they don't understand that it's important to be educated. They say those of us

who are studying must find time to do patrols at night and to attend meetings.

"I don't have time to attend meetings, and I certainly don't want to be outside at night wandering around the streets."

"Many of these guys are wanted by the police, and if I join them I, too, will be a hunted man," says Gezane. "I don't want to spend the rest of my life running from the law."

Gezane's intimidation has been taken one step further than personal threats. Members of the league are so determined to get him to join their violent crew that they have threatened to involve his parents.

Gezane says. "They have told

me that they will force my parents to sign a form stating how many sons they have in the house. I have told my father that if he complies I will leave home. I can't feel threatened by my family as well as by these comrades."

## Others

Gezane is not alone in his plight. Three other scholars in his street face the same predicament. They are not prepared to become part of the killings, yet fear for their lives if they refuse to become disciplinary committee members.

The four boys have decided to

speak to the league to explain that they have no political affiliations and are more interested in completing their schooling.

We asked Gezane if they would listen to reason.

"I don't know," he replied, "but we must at least try talking. I want to try to resolve this peacefully. No one has the right to force you to join an organisation. I am scared of being sjambokked, but I am more scared of killing people."

It is time more South Africans adopted Gezane's position and refused to allow themselves to be dictated to by violent men. No one has ever achieved lasting peace through war and violence.





Every year around this time, thousands of brightly-dressed children trot off to daycare centres for the start of a new year. But for millions of other children around South Africa — particularly farm and domestic workers' children — adequate childcare facilities are only a dream. Waghied Misbach reports

# Taking care of new generations

THE Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) has taken the issue of childcare to heart with its "National Childcare Campaign", launched last year.

Cosatu is demanding workplace creches, special paid leave for working parents and state support for the children of unemployed workers

But it has been the Cosatu affiliate the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), that has led the charge

Saccawu, which represents 65 000 women workers, recently negotiated with the Foschini group (which includes American Swiss, Pages and Markhams) for six months' paid parental leave (including the husband if they worked together) and childcare allowances for a further three months

The Durban-based Game went further last year when they announced that their workers would receive 10 months' maternity leave, with eight months at half of their salary. Fathers would get eight days' paid leave over the period of the birth and unlimited unpaid leave

## Negotiated

But Saccawu had already set the ball rolling in 1987 when they negotiated with the giant retail company Pick 'n Pay for nine months' paid parental leave for both parents (if they worked together)

At the time the agreements were widely seen as setting an important precedent that would pave the way for agreements in other industries

But it has not been coincidence that landmark decisions on parental rights have involved the giant retail companies

Unionists argue that these companies have multimillion rand turnovers and are able to absorb the costs. Other sectors may have to retrench thousands of workers if such wide-ranging agreements are negotiated.



**MODEL CRECHE:** Children at play at a modern child care centre provided by a Cape Town company for the children of its workers  
PICS: YUNUS MOHAMED

The South African Clothing and Textile Workers Union (Sactwu) believes that they cannot hope to match the kind of agreements reached at Game without major repercussions in the form of mass retrenchments

Last year Sactwu signed an agreement in their clothing sector (representing 55 000 women workers) that ensured six months' leave, with the first three months at 25 percent of workers' monthly wages and the second three months as unpaid.

Women would then have to draw unemployment benefits, but at least they would be guaranteed their jobs back, which was not the case a few years ago.

Sactwu has yet to negotiate similar agreements for their other 60 000 members.

The Cosatu National Childcare cam-

paign is expected to feature strongly on the Sactwu agenda in 1991.

However, Saccawu gains have also come in the form of a change in attitude of employers.

"Companies realise now that they have to pay for parental benefits, it's now just a question of how much," says Ms Fiona Dove, Saccawu research officer.

Of course, the real difficulties are often "just how much"

The union takes into account the affordability of the industry when they push for agreements. But the agreements usually come in the form of packages which include other aspects such as UIF, sick leave etc, so the package demands in the end have to be realistic.

Mr Malcolm Park of the Foschini group, which was involved in negotiations last year with Saccawu, believes that not even the major retail companies can afford Cosatu's proposals.

Park maintains that the Swedish model, which Cosatu uses as its standard, is unrealistic in South Africa. Swedish employers allow 14 months, 10 months of which are paid, that may be taken at any time after a woman becomes pregnant and can be shared if both parents work for the same company

Park says it is impossible for the Foschini group to hold jobs for 14 months until the workers return as they have only three to four workers in some stores.

"A major problem in this country is productivity. We have to find a compromise between productivity and providing important childcare.

"Sweden has a negative birthrate and they are trying to increase it. In South Africa the case is the opposite."

## Creches

Providing workplace creches is the tricky question, both employers and unionists agree

Dove says that union members don't want work-based creches, but prefer facilities in the areas where they live.

Saccawu has not formulated concrete proposals around the issue, but it is likely that the government and employers may have to play a role in establishing these centres

Dove says Cosatu is currently investigating the possibility of home-based

creches.

Warner-Lambert in Cape Town have been providing pre-school and daycare facilities for employees' children for several years.

Mr Freddie Daniels, Warner-Lambert's training officer, says the company recognised 10 years ago that there was a need for companies to provide adequate daycare and pre-school facilities, with qualified teachers

There is still an enormous amount to be done in other sectors which have no protection under the law

Farm and domestic workers have no protection under the Labour Relations Amendment Act (LRAA). The LRAA has been the target of numerous Cosatu campaigns because of its inconsistencies.

## Domestic

Domestic workers are usually only able to visit their children once or twice a year if they work far from their homes. Even if her workplace is close to her home, a domestic worker may only be able to see her children once a month as she is often required to work Sunday to Sunday.

The South African Domestic Workers Union (Sadwu) is committed to pushing for legislation that will give domestic workers the protection of a five-day working week, with school holidays off.

Ms Clare Slingers, case officer for Sadwu and a former domestic worker, says there is an enormous need to provide protection for domestic workers' children. Of the estimated 100 000 domestic workers in South Africa, the majority are single parents with, on average, two children

The National Manpower Commission (NMC) is currently investigating possible amendments to the LRAA to protect farm and domestic workers. While Cosatu and Sadwu have welcomed the investigations, they remain dissatisfied with several key areas

Cosatu, which participated in the NMC sub-committee, maintains that the NMC's proposal to have additional legislation for farm and domestic workers only, is an attempt to "water down the extension of labour legislation to domestic and farmworkers"

In the rural areas, too, farmworkers

have little recourse to cheap and adequate childcare facilities for their children.

The community-based Rural Foundation has Educare centres in 700 areas nationwide, with an estimated 230 fulltime workers caring for 9 000 children under the age of six

The Foundation's aims are twofold. To provide for the physical welfare of the child, and — considering South Africa's high illiteracy rate — to teach the child to read and write in preparation for school

Foundation spokesperson Mr Hammond Bailey says there is still a "lot of scope" to increase facilities around the country as the areas covered by his organisation amount to only 10 to 12 percent of the entire farming area in South Africa

Of South Africa's 200 farming units, 55 are still on the waiting list for services. Bailey says this covers 50 percent of the farmworkers' children

## Facilities

The Foundation is not subsidised but receives money from the community and the farmers to provide facilities for the Educare centres

Bailey admits, however, that the facilities do not fulfill the standards and criteria that would qualify them as registered Educare centres, but the Foundation does not push for these criteria to be met.

"We try to make it liveable; one must remember that we are living in a third world country," says Bailey

To establish a centre, the Foundation provides 75 percent of the cost, with the community providing 25 percent for a fulltime development officer

At present the Foundation is trying to upgrade the centres for them to qualify for state subsidies

In Stellenbosch, the Foundation has already registered most centres with the state and is consequently in the process of receiving state subsidies

But the reality of South Africa is that there are more pressing problems facing the country. It is likely that considering the deep crisis in education and housing, childcare may just be shifted to the backburner



**NO CARE:** Two children while away the time in a backyard in Khayelitsha where few childcare facilities exist



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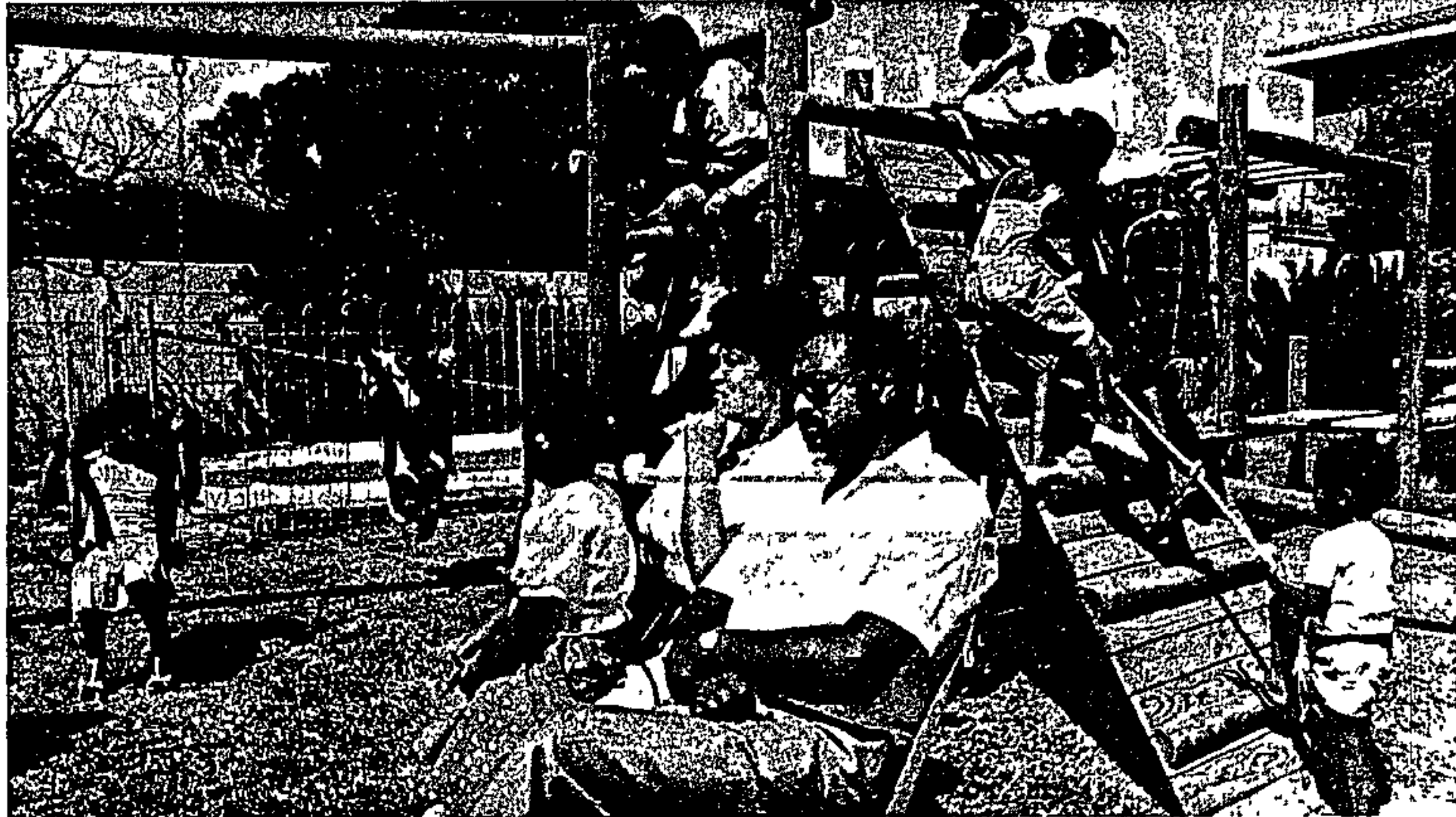
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MODEL CRECHE: Children at play at a modern child care centre provided by a Cape Town company for the children of its workers

PICS: YUNUS MOHAMED

The South African Clothing and Textile Workers Union (Sactwu) believes that they cannot hope to match the kind of agreements reached at Game without major repercussions in the form of mass retrenchments

Last year Sactwu signed an agreement in their clothing sector (representing 55 000 women workers) that ensured six months' leave, with the first three months at 25 percent of workers' monthly wages and the second three months as unpaid

Women would then have to draw unemployment benefits, but at least they would be guaranteed their jobs back, which was not the case a few years ago.

Sactwu has yet to negotiate similar agreements for their other 60 000 members.

The Cosatu National Childcare cam-

paign is expected to feature strongly on the Sactwu agenda in 1991

However, Saccawu gains have also come in the form of a change in attitude of employers

"Companies realise now that they have to pay for parental benefits; it's now just a question of how much," says Ms Fiona Dove, Saccawu research officer

Of course, the real difficulties are often "just how much".

The union takes into account the affordability of the industry when they push for agreements. But the agreements usually come in the form of packages which include other aspects such as UIF, sick leave etc, so the package demands in the end have to be realistic.

Mr Malcolm Park of the Foschini group, which was involved in negotiations last year with Saccawu, believes that not even the major retail companies can afford Cosatu's proposals.

Park maintains that the Swedish model, which Cosatu uses as its standard, is unrealistic in South Africa. Swedish employers allow 14 months, 10 months of which are paid, that may be taken at any time after a woman becomes pregnant and can be shared if both parents work for the same company.

Park says it is impossible for the Foschini group to hold jobs for 14 months until the workers return as they have only three to four workers in some stores

"A major problem in this country is productivity. We have to find a compromise between productivity and providing important childcare

"Sweden has a negative birthrate and they are trying to increase it. In South Africa the case is the opposite."

## Creches

Providing workplace creches is the tricky question, both employers and unionists agree.

Dove says that union members don't want work-based creches, but prefer facilities in the areas where they live

Saccawu has not formulated concrete proposals around the issue, but it is likely that the government and employers may have to play a role in establishing these centres.

Dove says Cosatu is currently investigating the possibility of home-based

creches

Warner-Lambert in Cape Town have been providing pre-school and daycare facilities for employees' children for several years.

Mr Freddie Daniels, Warner-Lambert's training officer, says the company recognised 10 years ago that there was a need for companies to provide adequate daycare and pre-school facilities, with qualified teachers.

There is still an enormous amount to be done in other sectors which have no protection under the law

Farm and domestic workers have no protection under the Labour Relations Amendment Act (LRAA). The LRAA has been the target of numerous Cosatu campaigns because of its inconsistencies.

## Domestic

Domestic workers are usually only able to visit their children once or twice a year if they work far from their homes. Even if her workplace is close to her home, a domestic worker may only be able to see her children once a month as she is often required to work Sunday to Sunday.

The South African Domestic Workers Union (Sadwu) is committed to pushing for legislation that will give domestic workers the protection of a five-day working week, with school holidays off

Ms Clare Slingers, case officer for Sadwu and a former domestic worker, says there is an enormous need to provide protection for domestic workers' children. Of the estimated 100 000 domestic workers in South Africa, the majority are single parents with, on average, two children

The National Manpower Commission (NMC) is currently investigating possible amendments to the LRAA to protect farm and domestic workers. While Cosatu and Sadwu have welcomed the investigations, they remain dissatisfied with several key areas.

Cosatu, which participated in the NMC sub-committee, maintains that the NMC's proposal to have additional legislation for farm and domestic workers only, is an attempt to "water down the extension of labour legislation to domestic and farmworkers".

In the rural areas, too, farmworkers

have little recourse to cheap and adequate childcare facilities for their children

The community-based Rural Foundation has Educare centres in 700 areas nationwide, with an estimated 230 fulltime workers caring for 9 000 children under the age of six

The Foundation's aims are twofold. To provide for the physical welfare of the child, and — considering South Africa's high illiteracy rate — to teach the child to read and write in preparation for school

Foundation spokesperson, Mr Hammond Bailey says there is still a "lot of scope" to increase facilities around the country as the areas covered by his organisation amount to only 10 to 12 percent of the entire farming area in South Africa

Of South Africa's 200 farming units, 55 are still on the waiting list for services. Bailey says this covers 50 percent of the farmworkers' children

## Facilities

The Foundation is not subsidised but receives money from the community and the farmers to provide facilities for the Educare centres

Bailey admits, however, that the facilities do not fulfill the standards and criteria that would qualify them as registered Educare centres, but the Foundation does not push for these criteria to be met.

"We try to make it liveable, one must remember that we are living in a third world country," says Bailey

To establish a centre, the Foundation provides 75 percent of the cost, with the community providing 25 percent for a fulltime development officer

At present the Foundation is trying to upgrade the centres for them to qualify for state subsidies

In Stellenbosch, the Foundation has already registered most centres with the state and is consequently in the process of receiving state subsidies

But the reality of South Africa is that there are more pressing problems facing the country. It is likely that considering the deep crisis in education and housing, childcare may just be shifted to the backburner



NO CARE: Two children while away the time in a backyard in Khayelitsha where few childcare facilities exist



# US officials plan to meet only ANC

Sowetan 4/1/91

298

**NEW YORK** - A pending visit to South Africa by two Bush Administration officials got off to a controversial start with the disclosure that the two do not plan to meet black groups besides the African National Congress.

The delegation, comprised of Secretary of Health Mr Louis Sullivan and Mr Ronald Roskens, head of US Agency for International Development, will visit South Africa and seven other African countries on a mission to combat children's health problems.

Bush has given it top government priority.

The officials will administer an

## Sowetan Foreign Service

estimated R32 million for child survival and health-related activities in Africa, including Aids and its devastating effect on mothers and children, plus an estimated R32 million for family planning activities.

It is the kind of US assistance from which South Africa has in the past been excluded.

But some observers say the visit is clouded by the plans for the group to hold official talks with ANC leaders including Mr Nelson Mandela, without also seeing members of other black, coloured or Indian communities.

"It is a pity that what is a humanitarian mission should be tarnished in this way," said a diplomatic spokesman.

"There is no reason why the ANC should be exclusively selected in this way."

US spokesmen brushed aside these criticisms. Mr John Gibbons, a spokesman at Sullivan's Washington office, said: "There just isn't enough time for Mr Sullivan and Dr Roskens to see everyone."

He pointed out that the mission, which will be in Johannesburg and Pretoria on January 13 and 14 and in Cape Town on January 14-15, will be visiting health institutions and clinics, besides holding talks with government officials.



HERMAN COHEN



# Ngwenya puts focus on kids' detention

Playwright and director Peter Ngwenya will take his latest production, *Where Is My Son*, to Botswana in April.

He will also stage the drama at the Standard Bank National Arts Festival in Grahamstown in July.

The Botswana performances were prompted by an invitation from the Maitisong Cultural Centre, a leading cultural institution in Botswana.

It is a thought-provoking four-hander performed by members of

young activist by people posing as policemen.

Ngwenya, who has studied Theatre in Education at the Yale University in United States, has written two radio plays *Ukungazi* and *Hamba Juba Bokuchutha Phambi* and popular stage productions such as *Qinisele*, *Telephone*, *Happy Christinas*, *Deserted Child*, *Whose Guilty* and *Save The Children*, which was performed at a children's theatre festival in Canada last year.

Ngwenya has established himself as a great achiever both as a playwright/director and children's theatre tutor with SYDS which he formed 12 years ago.

He currently holds

drama classes in White City Jabavu.

These take place at an open air facility in Jabavu on weekday mornings and at a school, also in Jabavu in the afternoon.

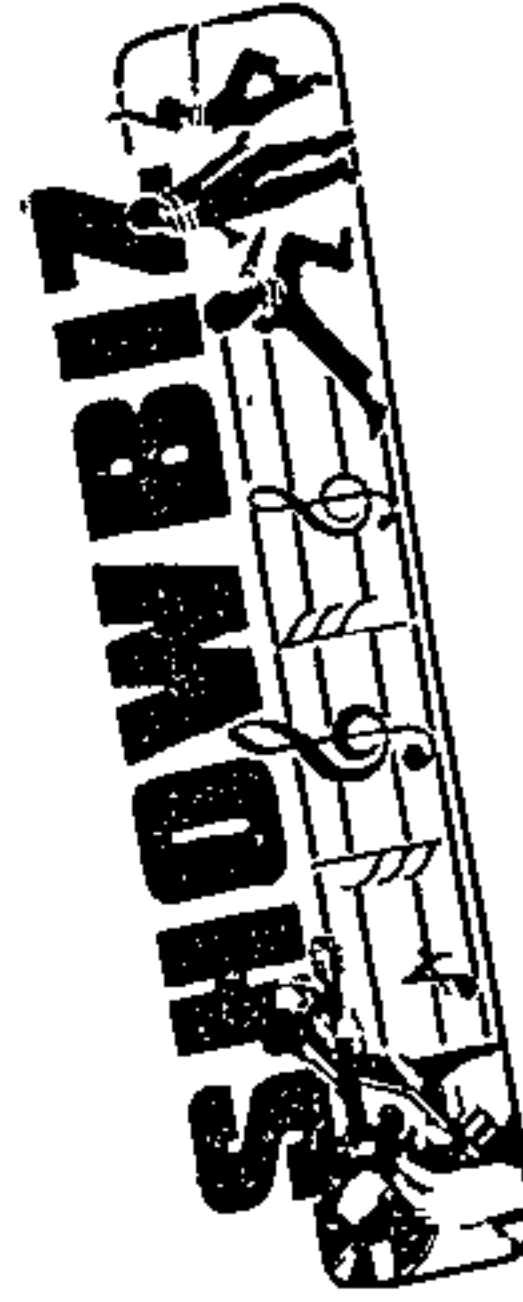
He says working with over 50 eager children was fulfilling and a great cultural contribution.

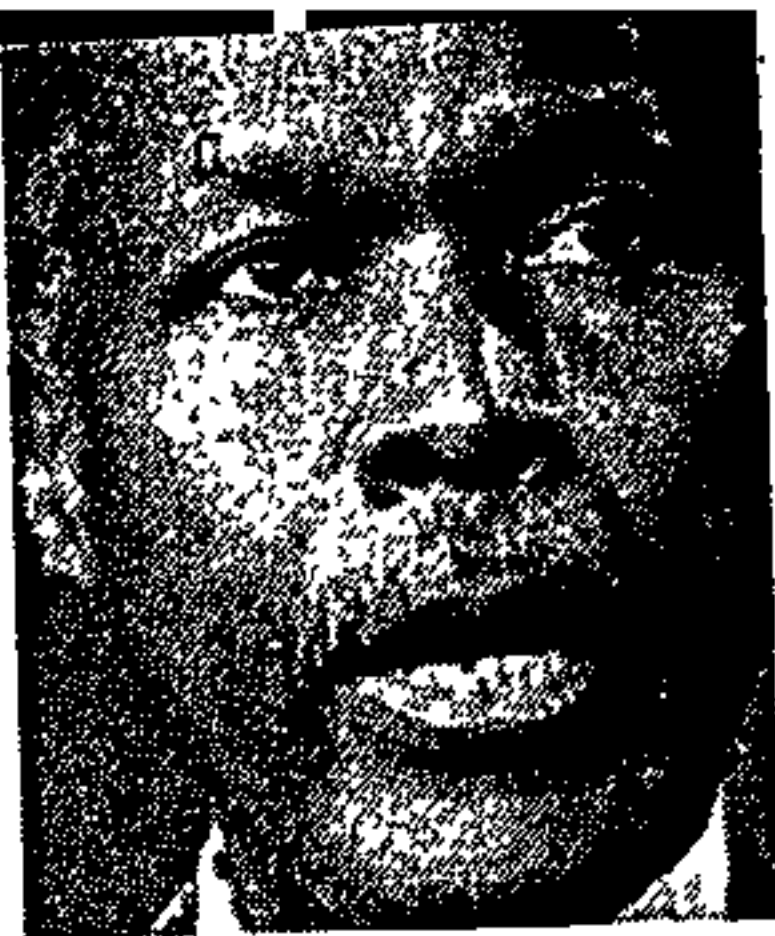
"I know that I am not wasting my time working with township youth. They are our life-blood and here at SYDS, they learn to communicate from the gut the sap of human experience.

Through the application of role-playing they develop psychologically and shed the inhibitions that tend to plague a deprived people," said Ngwenya.



Playwright Peter Ngwenya.





Dr Louis Sullivan

## Senior US officials<sup>298</sup> in Soweto *Apr 13/11/92* for tour

TOP US officials have arrived in Johannesburg with instructions from President George Bush to assess the child-welfare situation and the impact of Aids in Africa.

US secretary of Health and Human Services Dr Louis Sullivan and administrator of the US Agency for International Development Dr Ronald Roskens will attend a service at the Regina Mundi church in Rockville at 9.30am today.

A visit to Baragwanath Hospital is next on the schedule, after which they will move to the Ipelegeng Centre for a 2.30pm meeting where Sullivan will deliver a Martin Luther King Day speech.

Dr Roskens will then sign a US aid grant for the Township Aids Programme to help fund Aids-prevention training in Soweto.

They will hold talks with ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

They will also meet with State President FW de Klerk, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and Health Minister Dr Rina Venter.

■ The two doctors will hold a press conference in Cape Town on Tuesday.

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# A child's first big step in life

**SCHOOL GOING** marks a child's first big step in life towards the road to adulthood.

The step often sparks a range of emotions for both the child and the parents, who suddenly lose absolute control over their child.

Children need enormous support to be able to adjust to a schooling system.

Parents should watch their reactions, especially during the first days at school. They should look out for odd behavior.

A child being bullied at school, for example, could wake up in a fright at night, develop a stutter or start bed-wetting.

Immunisation is a preventative health measure that parents must take seriously. It is one of the ways we protect our young ones, and ourselves, from killer diseases.

## Disease

School, because of the many children there, is a place where your child could catch a disease.

Colds as well as infectious diseases like measles, typhoid, tetanus and tuberculosis could easily spread among pupils.

Babies receive two immunisations at birth and a third at three months.

Parents should ensure that their children have had all three before going to school. Immunisation builds up antibodies that act like soldiers in the body, protecting it against disease.

On the subject of nutrition, we come to lunch boxes and tuck shops. An ideal lunch is easy to make but difficult to keep interesting. A sandwich is the most convenient lunch.

THE first day at school is often met with mixed feelings of excitement, fear and anxiety. The leap into formal schooling is a giant step for a pre-school child whose experience has been limited to the home. Adjustment into this new environment needs cooperation and support from parents and older siblings. Today Brenda Robson, of the Friends of Baragwananth, advises parents taking their children to school for the first time.



A variety of protein-enriched fillings, like cheese and peanut butter, can be put into whole-wheat bread, which provides fibre and roughage.

The other components of an ideal lunch box are fruit and vegetables. The vitamins they contain are very important in a child's diet. They give him or her protection against illness.

## Nutritious

The food must be simple as well as nutritious. It should be easy to eat - no spoons - so as not to take up unnecessary play time and deter a child from finishing the meal.

Lunch boxes are in strong competition with

tuck shops, which can be a real problem resulting from peer pressure exerted on a child.

If other children at school buy from the tuck shop, your child will also want to have money rather than a lunch box.

The owners of tuck shops are not as worried as you are about your child's health. The food they serve is not always as clean or as well-prepared as yours.

They are there to make a living and consequently try to make the food as economical as possible. But cutting costs also cuts on nutritional value.

Breakfast is one of the most difficult but impor-

An ideal lunch is easy to make but difficult to keep interesting. A sandwich is the most convenient lunch.

tant nutritional habits to teach children. It is the meal of the day, which allows the body to get going again after a night of rest.

Children need breakfast for two reasons: growth, to form new cells and lengthen muscles; and energy, to use for study and play.

Children learn better if they are well fed.

Cereals, either cooked or instant, give the best start to the day. They provide fibre. Milk is also important and sour does just as much good as fresh, which can give children cramps.

Clean fruit and vegetables are also wonderful at breakfast.



# Day care mum project **WOMAN**

Southern 13/2/91

298

## is a success

AN effort by a small group of Pretoria women to train mothers and day care workers from the surrounding townships as pre-school educators, paid off last week when the first full-time class graduated.

This project was started last year by Mrs Grace Meyer, a former college lecturer, with the help of another ex-teacher, Mrs Flora Oas.

They ran courses for local women at weekends at the Anglican Church in Silverton, but the demand for more classes grew so much that Meyer decided to quit her job and run the course on a full-time basis.

"We are now a staff of two teachers and a part-time arts, music and crafts instructor.

"We have an additional interpreter who helps us with the language and a field adviser who follows up our students by visiting their play groups once they have completed the course.

"We also have a caterer who provides us with food," explained Meyer.

By PEARL MAJOLA

plete the course they can either work as day mothers in their own homes or work in pre-schools.

"If they choose to open their own play groups, we stress that they have a maximum of 15 children in a group so that they are able to give the children individual attention," she continued.

But what was the reason for this qualified teacher to leave her secure job and go into such a project?

"I enjoyed teaching very much, but I never had the fulfilment I have found through this project. These ladies are

very keen to learn and I hope that this course will benefit many children out there who otherwise would have no pre-school education," she said.

"Many women are working and their children are left without proper care unless they can afford to take them to expensive day-care centres.

"It also seemed sensible to have this course for mothers who are unemployed. Both they and their children benefit," she concluded.

The smiles of success. Grace Meyer (right) with staff and students after the graduation ceremony.



"During the one-month course we train our students to teach rhymes, exercise games, hygiene, sounds, alphabets and numbers and basically prepare children for school. They are required to pay a R10 registration fee.

"When they com-



# Social Security

→ Child Care

1991

4/7/91

26/8/91

# TPA to probe 'baby trade'

298

So welan

26/8/91

PEOPLE who have adopted children from the Natalspruit Hospital have been asked to contact the Transvaal Provincial Administration's health services branch to help investigate the alleged selling of babies.

TPA media liaison officer, Mr Rikus Delport, said the welfare of babies discharged from TPA hospitals was important and everything possible was being done to establish the whereabouts of all the babies.

"When the babies allegedly involved are traced, they will not be removed from their present homes unless it is in their own interest and should the circumstances allow it.

"However, a proper investigation will be done regarding the procedures that were followed during the placement of the babies."

The TPA said if necessary, steps would be taken against any staff member found to have been involved in the illegal sale of babies.

"In the interest of all parties involved and especially the babies, people who have adopted children from the Natalspruit Hospital are requested to either contact Mrs GA Rifter of the TPA's health services branch at (012) 201-2632 or Mrs Alta Mynhardt at (012) 201-2033," he said. - Sapa



# More youths flee Koster

Sowetan 26/6/91

298

By KENOSI MODISANE

scores injured since violence broke out in the township last week.

Tony Mokoena (11) was shot dead at the height of the uprising last Tuesday. He will be buried at the weekend.

## Fatal shot

Police say he was fatally shot when a mob attacked a police vehicle. But residents claim he died when a councillor's son opened fire at a group of youths in the street.

The 2 000-odd inhabitants of the tiny township, who all claim to be relatives, say they have never known conflict until recently when a teacher and

● To Page 2

THE exodus from the western Transvaal township of Reagile in Koster continued at the weekend as more youths fled the area following the arrest of six residents in a predawn raid by police.

Western Transvaal police spokesman Colonel Herman Pretorius however confirmed only four arrests yesterday.

"The four have been arrested for malicious damage to property."

But residents and youths claim the arrest of the six men is part of an operation by police and the four councillors in the area to harass ANC members.

One person has so far been reported dead and

● From Page 1

ANC organiser was expelled from a local high school. The incident apparently contributed to the disruption of classes at the local high school.

Student leaders who came from their hideout to speak to Sowetan said the expulsion of Mr Eric Modisane from Mphe Bana High school was "masterminded" by the mayoress, Mrs Matrike Rabotho.

They have also accused Rabotho of setting up the residents against Inkatha. "She brought a group of Inkatha members to launch the party on a day the ANC was supposed to hold a meeting - paving way for conflict between the two parties," a student leader said.

The students also allege that Rabotho and the principal of the school had accused Modisane of recruiting for the ANC in the school.

Modisane was, however, reinstated by a parents' meeting in July. He was arrested again on Friday and will appear in court today.

Modisane has been out on R200 bail after he, together with seven other student leaders, was arrested last month.

A Sowetan team on a visit to the township at the weekend was lucky to trace youth leaders to their hideout in the township. Some, who are among refugees, were traced to a Lutheran Church Mission house about 50km away in Tlhabane, Rustenburg.

Student leader Johnny Seabelo (21), who is also out on R200 bail, said: "We are being harassed by the system for belonging to the ANC. The mayoress and the police have set us up against Inkatha. And this has brought schooling in the area to an almost total collapse."

Seabelo, who survived a kidnap attempt at the height of the violence last week, added: "We do not think schooling and life in general will come back to normal as long people are being harassed and fleeing the township."



Some refugees at the Lutheran church mission house in Tlhabane, Rustenburg.

A N I A A I S T V A I D S A D E F E D V A I T I I A

# Outlaw child labour say callers



*Sowetan 26/8/91*  
CHILD labour must be declared a criminal offence if the practice is to end, callers to the Sowetan/Radio Metro talkback show said on Friday.

Most callers also blamed the Government for allowing white farm-

By KENOSI MODISANE

ers to employ their labourers' children.

Others attributed the problem to the sociopolitical imbalances in the country.

Mr Charles Manzini of Soshanguve said: "The sociopolitical life and the

*298*  
general setup in South Africa is to blame. This has often forced children to fend for themselves at a very early age."

## Blacks

Royal said: "Child labourers are mostly blacks who come from single-parent families."

Most grow up without knowing their fathers.

"This is possibly a curse from God. And it is about time blacks helped each other to bring the practice to an end. The rich should also help poor and deprived families."

William of Mohlakeng said: "The practice must be stopped once and for all. And this can only be achieved if the Government ensures that children are not exploited."



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# Uphill battle in helping child abuse victims

By Shirley Woodgate (298)

Nearly 25 000 calls — more than 700 a day — were recorded on Childline's national toll-free telephone number in June, according to Minister of National Health and Health Services Dr Rina Venter.

But while calls (mostly from children) flood the 0800-123-321

telephone number, experts are seriously questioning whether the co-ordination of the medical, welfare, psychological, legal and police back-up is available to handle the huge child abuse problem uncovered by the Round Table television advertising campaign.

In contrast to the number of callers to the toll-free number is that only 560 calls a month — 15 to 20 a day — are being received by the Johannesburg

Childline office, according to local co-ordinator Elize Morgenrood.

Discussion with child abuse experts and volunteer Childline counsellors reveal the organisation is ill-equipped to help the abused on the huge scale now being uncovered.

Childline volunteer telephone counsellor Louella Levin said a serious concern was that many callers to the toll-free number never made the second call

after being asked to telephone their local Childline office.

Mrs Morgenrood said the Round Table ad campaign had been extremely effective in promoting the toll-free number. Response to the controversial television advertisement had clearly uncovered a desperate need for resources to manage child abuse.

However, publicising that number alone was not a solution to child abuse.

Forced to rely on minimal financial backing by the Government, it was clear long before the advertisement was fledgling that local child abuse resources were ill-equipped to handle a flood of complaints.

Mrs Morgenrood claimed virtually no research had been done on the problem in South Africa and Government support for Childline was almost nil.

Launched in 1988 by the South African Society for Child Abuse

and Neglect (Sascope), the Childline "telephone-in" service was part of the ripple effect of publicity attracted by the SAP's Child Protection Unit, according to Child Abuse Clinic medical officer Dr Sandy Wise.

Since 1986, Childline has been established in Durban, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg. But until recently, when 39 trained volunteers completed the intensive course in Johannesburg, a pool of 10

volunteers headed by a paid co-ordinator comprised the total counsellor workforce.

Dr Wise claimed fund-raising had been blocked by the National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

But there were other problems. For example, the direct Childline telephone number in Johannesburg, (011) 484-3044, was still not listed in the directory and would only be in the 1991/2 edition.

MEMORANDUM  
TO: THE SECRETARY OF DEFENCE  
FROM: THE SECRETARY OF DEFENCE  
SUBJECT: THE SECRETARY OF DEFENCE  
DATE: 1991/2/2

# SA doctors call for urgent attention to Aids orphans

Star 26/8/91

By Shirley Woodgate

South Africa's first Aids orphan was put up for adoption in Johannesburg last week — less than four years after the virus was identified at Baragwanath Hospital in 1987.

Leading doctors have reacted by calling for urgent attention to the problem of uninfected children of couples who will die from the disease by the turn of the century.

Dr Keith Heimann, a member of the executive of the National Council of Child and Family Welfare, called for increased Aids education at school level and in-depth investigation and education about fostering, coupled with improved Government subsidies for fostering and continued subsidies for foster parents who adopt Aids orphans.

"The figure could be up to 50 000 in SA, yet at this stage we are unable to deal with 8 000

street children," he said

Institutionalisation was not the answer as all children should ideally be placed in private homes. If there was nobody available of the same race, trans-racial fostering would be the second best option which, although legal, was opposed by certain sectors.

While Professor Ruben Sher of the SA Institute for Medical Research has estimated there will be 10 million Aids orphans in sub-Saharan Africa in the near future, no such figures are available in SA, said Professor Keith Klugman, head of the medical microbiology department at the University of the Witwatersrand.

He said a survey at Baragwanath Hospital revealed one in every 100 women now attending the ante-natal clinic is HIV-positive. In 10 years, half these women will be dead and for every woman's death there will probably also be a male death.

"It is reasonable to extrapolate that up to 50 percent of babies born to these women will

be infected and that half will die

"The problem of Aids orphans (non-infected children of parents who die from the disease) will be the need for parenting, housing and education on a scale never seen before in SA"

One year ago, four out of 1 000 women attending the Baragwanath ante-natal clinic were diagnosed HIV-positive

Today it is 10 out of every 1 000, doubling every eight to nine months, Professor Klugman warned

The number of infected babies from infected women varies from a low of 12 percent in Europe to 50 percent in Africa. Exact SA figures are not known

Since 1987, when the first HIV-positive cases were identified in Johannesburg, the incidence has increased to the stage where in June this year, eight expectant mothers at the Baragwanath ante-natal clinic were identified as infected

In July a total of 76 adults and 11 children were identified

as HIV-positive at the Soweto hospital.

"After starting in Central Africa where up to 30 percent of pregnant women are already infected with Aids, the figure in SA is 1 percent. But it is clear this country is already on the verge of an epidemic."

Reasons for the rapid spread included the break-up of families, migrant labour, the number of wives attached to some men and the status of certain women which made it impossible for them to keep a partner from having multiple partners.

Poor education is a major factor. So is the lack of Aids and condom education in schools, specifically in Standards 4 and 5 since it is difficult to change sexual habits once individuals become sexually active

The doctors stressed there was no hint of a cure at present, merely an expensive method of slowing down the progress of the disease by a year or two, which made urgent action imperative.



# Keeping Ratanda's kids busy

Sowetan 24/8/91

298

By PHANGISILE  
MTSHALI

**THREE** times a week Ratanda Township outside Heidelberg comes to life with deep cowhide drumbeats and melodious music as 35 of its youngsters sing their way to a better life.

They are members of the Woza Africa Cultural Group, started and directed by a young teacher, Mr Manqoba Ntombela (26), in 1989 with only 18 pupils who met at his school three times a week "to get away from temptations".

"Through Woza I get a chance to indulge in my love for music and dance but I also get to fulfil my duty by teaching the members good behavioural values and norms."



MANQOBA

Ntombela was barely out of college when he got children together from under-privileged homes and motivated them to become the pride of the township.

Between singing, dancing and drama Ntombela takes time off to teach his members about society values and norms, warn

them about alcohol and drug abuse, encourage neatness, self-respect and responsibility.

He makes time to get on with his private studies towards a BA degree.

"I do not hesitate to tackle problems like child and sexual abuse and I warn the youngsters about these continually," he said.

"Idle hands are the devil's workshop and I work hard to keep the children busy."

The group collects old clothes and utensils from township residents for destitute families. They also visit the elderly and disabled and organise parties to clean the neighbourhood.

NATION BUILDING

The power is in your hands

# Our child-care workers need to upgrade skills



MABEL RANTLA

*Soweto*  
28/8/91  
CHILD-care workers need to be trained in management, administration and planning skills to run effective child-care projects.

This is the message of an address by Mrs Mabel Rantla, South African Breweries' community projects manager, at the annual general meeting of the Greater Soweto Early Childhood Educare held at Funda Centre at the weekend.

"Child-care projects should almost always be able to raise funds be-

(298)  
By PEARL MAJOLA

cause of their focus.

"However, it is essential that they (child-care workers) demonstrate project development and planning abilities, management and administration skills and self-sustenance intentions," she said.

The Greater Soweto Association was formed seven years ago and is affiliated to the South African Association for Early Childhood Educare.



# Poor controls could hit Child Care Act

298  
Somehow  
28/8/91

INEFFECTIVE practical control measures could render the latest Child Care Amendment Act, signed on June 6 this year, powerless, says the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

The amendment to the Act theoretically makes it illegal for children under the age of 15 to be employed or for anyone to employ such a child.

According to documentation handed to Sapa this week the JCWS said the same problems would occur, despite the new provisions, as with the previous Children's Act.

It said these problems - no effective measures to deal with contraventions - at present also seem to be relevant to the child labour provisions of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

## Exploit

But, JCWS further charged that the provisions of section 52A of the new Act could become even less effective if exclusions and exemptions, provided for in the Act, are granted too easily.

"Exemptions should specifically not be granted

for the employment of children on farms or in domestic service, as these areas are notoriously difficult to control and particularly heavily implicated in the poverty cycle in this country," a JCWS statement said.

Adult unemployment is also aggravated with employers often preferring to engage the services of children at lower rates. It was also easier to exploit these children.

It was the opinion of JCWS that legislation alone could not solve the problem of child labour. - Sapa

# Shadow of Marcus Garvey

A GROUP of 20 children are attending a seminar on child and women abuse. Their ages range from 10 to 15.

As discussion dwells on beauty, a dark skinned girl tells the gathering that she considers herself ugly because she is not fair skinned.

One of the boys answers that "she has to look like a tourist" - which simply means white.

The manifestations of inferiority complexes in this real life matter would lead many of us to think this happened in South Africa.

But no, it happened in the West Indies and Caribbean island that gave the world such proponents of Black beauty and Black Consciousness as Marcus Garvey.

Joint Trade Unions Research Development Centre (JTURDC) worker Michelle Golding, who ran the seminar, said the reaction of the children was symbolic of the inferiority complex that still abounds in Jamaica.

"Ten out of ten people, if asked where they would like to go to, would choose the US. Our entire information system and media is dominated by the US."

## beegins to fade

It is a sad state of affairs and lament that these sentiments should be expressed in Garvey's homeland.

### Tireless

For it was his tireless work for the upliftment of black people the world over that gave birth to Pan Africanism and the world wide Black Consciousness Movement.

Marcus Moshiah Garvey, born on August 17 1887, is honoured highly in Jamaica, where a statue has been erected in his honour.

He was Jamaica's first national hero, and his head appears on the 50 cent coin.

As the 104th anniversary of his birth approached a week ago, the *Boulevard News* of Kingston summed up the situation about both the honour bestowed and neglect that Garvey suffers on the island.

The editorial comment read: "Come August 17, Jamaica as a nation should hang its head in shame. On that date 104 years ago national hero Marcus Moshiah Garvey was born in St Ann and grew up to establish himself as one of the foremost thinkers, phi-

losophers and strugglers for truth and rights of all times.

"Yet, here in his homeland, though he was installed as the first national hero, the level of disrespect dished out by successive governments to this international giant is unbelievable.

"Despite many beautiful speeches, tributes and promises over the years, the fact is that the recognition given to Marcus Garvey by Jamaica is nothing near what it should be.

"Bear in mind that Garvey is to Jamaica what Marti is to Cuba or Lincoln to the United States of America or Lenin is to the Soviet Union and compare the treatment!

"An outstanding monument of this disrespect is the dilapidated Liberty Hall in downtown Kingston. Once the headquarters of this great man, it has been left languishing in the hands of the Na-

tional Trust Commission for years.

"Lack of funds can be no excuse by the authorities.

"We are now finding funds to build a cultural centre, yet the comparatively small amount needed to knock Liberty Hall into shape is not forthcoming. It is nothing less than disrespect", the newspaper argued.

But who was Marcus Garvey? Last born in a family of 11 children,

Garvey's parents were peasants at St Ann's Bay.

At 14 years he left school due to lack of funds and started working. He, however, continued his studies privately.

While working as a printer in Kingston, he became actively involved in politics, cultural organisations, trade union development and journalism.

His foray into journalism was to lead him to start several newspapers

in his life, including *The Watchman*, "*La Nacionale*" in Costa Rica and "*La Prensa*" in Panama, among many others.

After travelling through several South American states, Garvey, moved by the poverty of the people there, formed worker organisations in those areas and wrote several newspaper articles about the matter.

He later travelled to England where he met an Egyptian national Duse

Mohammed Ali, who was editing the *African Times and Orient Review*.

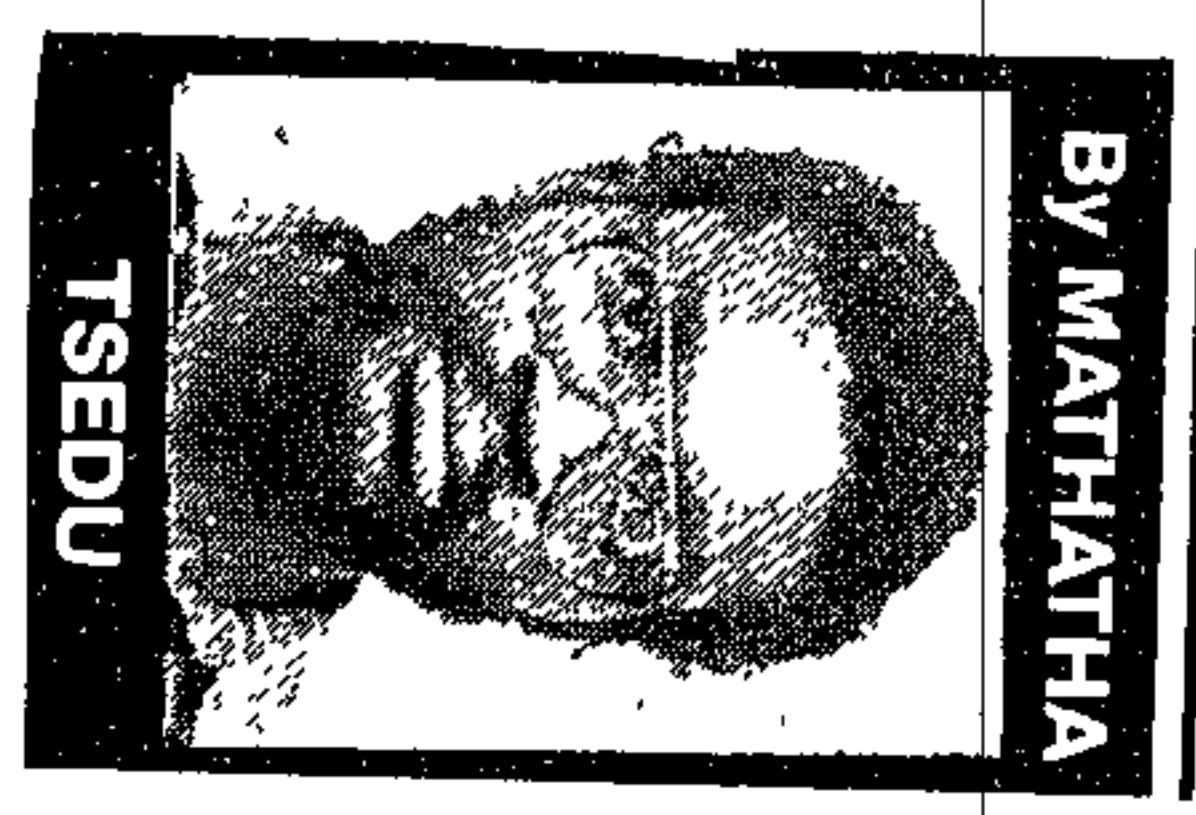
It was Ali who greatly influenced Garvey's thinking and understanding of Africa.

When he returned to Jamaica in 1914, he started the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) and the African Communities League (AACL).

The aims of the organisations were stated as "the establishment of a universal fraternity among the race, the development of independent Negro nations and communities, the establishment of a central nation for the race, and the setting up of educational institutions."

UNIA was to grow out of Jamaica when Garvey settled in New York, spreading the word of international black unity and brotherhood.

It was this message, preached at UNIA meetings, that found root in people such as Malcolm X, the fiery black American who was later assassinated.





# Vaccine to help kids in homeland

28/8/91  
homeland  
A LEADING pharmaceutical company has donated a Hepatitis B vaccine, Engerix B, to Tintswalo Hospital in Gazankulu to benefit 600 children in the area.

The donation is part of an awareness drive by SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals because of their concern over the lack of knowledge about the infectious disease among the general public.

The donation has been made to Tintswalo Hospital on recommendation of the University of the Witwatersrand's Department of Community Health.

"The donation of the vaccines is a move in the right direction towards achieving the ideal (of providing protection from Hepatitis B) at the grassroots level," said the head of Tintswalo's Community Health Department, Dr Alan Pugh.

"It now needs to be taken further by making it a routine infant immunisation programme."

Hepatitis B is a highly contagious disease accounting for some 15 000 deaths a year in South Africa.

It is responsible for more deaths than measles and mumps during pre-immunisation days.

According to Professor Barry Schoub, head of Virology at Wits University, the best way to combat the disease is the incorporation of Engerix B into routine infant immunisation programmes in line with recommendations of the World Health Organisation.

Smithkline Beecham's awareness campaign is to include pamphlets, posters and editorial about the dangers of the disease.

# Child labour widespread <sup>(298)</sup> study

*By Day 23/8/91.*  
**THE** International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimates there are more than 60 000 black children working on SA farms.

Yet awareness of child labour is so scant that not a single study of the problem can be found at universities, human service organisations or government departments, says Johannesburg Child Welfare Society director Adele Thomas.

She told a news briefing in Johannesburg yesterday that the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) recently completed a study of 246 black and coloured children, aged eight to 15, who worked as vegetable sellers, domestics, collectors of scrap iron, delivery boys and farm labourers in and around the city.

Wages ranged from no pay to R150 a month for a seven-day working week of about 200 hours a month.

Child labour was the most prevalent

**TANIA LEVY**

form of child abuse and it impaired physical, educational and emotional growth. It robbed children of their childhood and captured them in cycles of poverty, illiteracy and despair, she said.

Training and employment opportunities had to be expanded in the rural and urban areas and had to be directed at people on the bottom of the economic ladder.

Thomas said free education should be compulsory for all SA children up to the age of 16 and the Manpower Department should enforce child labour legislation more strenuously.

JCWS social work consultant Jackie Loffell said there was a real danger that recent amendments to the Child Care Act could prove to be toothless if no effective machinery was put into place to deal with contraventions.

**Red Cross to**



## No data on child labour

(298)

Own Correspondent CT 23/8/91

JOHANNESBURG. — The International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimates more than 60 000 black children work on farms in South Africa, but awareness of child labour was so scant that not a single study of the problem can be found in universities, human service organisations or government departments, Ms Adele Thomas, director of Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, said yesterday.

A study by the society of 246 black and coloured children, aged eight to 15, working in and around Johannesburg, revealed they earned from nothing to R150 a month for a seven-day week, she said.

# Over 60 000 children are farmworkers

**MORE** than 60 000 black children, many aged between eight and 14 years, are working as farm labourers in South Africa.

The figure could be more than double, according to Dr Adele Thomas, director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

She was addressing a

By IKE  
MOTSAPI

Press conference yesterday on child labour.

Although less publicised than the so-called conventional forms of child abuse and neglect, historically the most prevalent form of child abuse is child labour.

"Estimates drawn up by the International

Labour Organisation indicate that there are about 50 to 55 million children under the age of 15 who are currently employed as child labourers worldwide.

"Figures cited in various places go as high as 145 million and are seen as more realistic by experts.

"South Africa is one of the most notorious countries where child labour is at its worst. It is, however, important to distinguish between 'child work' and 'child labour.'

"Child work refers to work that helps the child's socialisation, maturation, educational, cultural and skill development.

"However, child labour is synonymous with child exploitation and leads to the impairment of the child's physical, emotional, educational and cultural development," Thomas said.

## rs blacks

of hypocrisy - cars were a necessity.

The managing director of OK Bazaars, Mr Gordon Hood, expressed concern that the fuel increase would lead to higher transport and distribution costs.

"We appeal to suppliers to absorb these additional costs which are inflationary and, if placed on the consumer, could negate the positive impact of the reduction of VAT."

Pick 'n Pay's chief executive, Mr Raymond Ackerman, said the majority of service stations owned by his company would remain open until midnight so consumers could fill up.



# Helping the street kids



*Sowetan*

23/8/91

298

LIKE hobos, street children have been regarded as outcasts, sneered at or simply ignored. But the problem they pose to society now or later cannot be overlooked forever.

As their numbers increase with problems like

By PEARL MAJOLA

violence facing families and society at large, some efforts are being made to rehabilitate these children, give them education, food and shelter.

One such effort is that of Street-Wise, an independent non-profit-making organisation

providing education, child-care and vocation preparation to street children.

"In Johannesburg the project started as a 'pavement school' for street children. Later we moved to somebody's garden and to a garage at a Catholic cathedral before the Rotary Club gave us the

building in Betrams, explained National Coordinator Lillian Isaacs.

"We realised that a shelter was needed for the children and the Anglican Church gave us an old disused church building in Pageview. It is falling about our ears, but it is ours."

Now Street-Wise in Johannesburg has a

remedial school and two homes for the children, one a commune for 20 older boys and the other a dormitory type of shelter which accommodates 40 younger boys.

The boys living at the shelters are aged between six and 20 years.

"An outreach worker, who is a volunteer from overseas, goes out to the

streets and tells the kids about us. They are not forced to come to the school or to the shelter. But we insist that if they come to the shelter they must attend school and they must give up drugs," Isaacs said.

"At the beginning of our contact with the boys our main thrust is teaching

them the ability to learn which prepares them for mainstream education," explained the principal, Mr Mark van Niekerk.

"Each boy is assessed for three weeks before it is decided which class he should attend. Street-wise then pays for all his education costs including transport, uniform and school fees," he added.

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By Thabo Leshilo  
and Zingisa Mkhama

# Pushers flood schools with

# free drugs

Mandrax dealers in Soweto supply hundreds of the habit-forming tranquilisers free to pupils in a bizarre advertising campaign aimed at creating a market for their illicit products, The Star has learnt.

"Once the children have tasted it and get hooked on the drug, they are prepared to buy it — regardless of the cost. They then know where to get it," said Elliot Tshabalala of the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Sanca).

The pushers, mostly young boys, are paid commission, encouraging them to compete for sales among "school junkies". In some schools, at least 40 percent of the pupils are ad-

dicted to "white pipes", a combination of dagga and Mandrax.

"The white pipe has hit our schools at such an alarming rate that it is not uncommon to find pupils puffing it openly during school breaks," said a worried teacher at a high school in Diepkloof.

Two cases of extreme addiction at the school have been referred to Sanca in two years.

"A 16-year-old boy became totally disorientated in class and couldn't concentrate. I would teach the class something, write it on the board and erase it a few minutes later. The boy would say something

totally different when asked to explain what was on the board barely a minute before," the teacher said.

The boy gave up treatment at Sanca, his condition worsened and he eventually dropped out of school. In the other case, a girl also gave up her schooling.

The youngest Mandrax addict being treated at the Sanca centre is only 14. The oldest is 19.

"We had to refer a 17-year-old boy in a critical state to our Boksburg centre because he was in an advanced stage of addiction."

Thithi Poole, a social worker with the National Institute for Crime and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro), has researched the drug problem at schools.

Quoting from court records, she said from January to July 1990 alone, 244 people, mostly youngsters, were convicted of drug-related offences at Protea Magistrate's Court and 421 at Klipfontein, Orlando and Meadowlands courts. She said the drugs involved were only dagga and Mandrax.

Miss Poole said offenders did not benefit from imprisonment and suggested alternative sentencing. Magistrates, Nicro and

Sanca should encourage sending first offenders for rehabilitation, coupled with suspended sentences.

At Nicro the offenders attend lessons focusing on negative effects of drugs, links between the sub-cultures of crime and drugs as well as skills training.

A common feeling among "involuntary clients" was that as they had harmed no one but themselves they saw no reason why they should be prosecuted.

Nicro developer for Soweto, Shimane Khumalo, said one of the consequences of the drug's wide availability in Soweto in the past three to five years was

that Sowetans were becoming increasingly dependent on Mandrax as a source of income.

Mr Khumalo emphasised the need to educate people about the negative physical, emotional and legal consequences of drugs to prevent abuse.

"We should act now while the problem is still in its early stages. We shouldn't wait until it reaches overseas proportions — where even children as young as 13 use and sell cocaine, heroin and crack."

Parents should encourage children to play sport and have hobbies to keep them busy. Addicted children should be given

support, not ridicule.

"The rehabilitation programme involves the whole family. We deal with changing attitudes. Parents need to stop treating addicts as black sheep of the family," said Sanca's Mr Tshabalala.

He said instability in the home and parents who misunderstood their children made youngsters feel insecure and unwanted. "Such a child is a sitting duck for bad peer group influence," he said.

Mr Tshabalala stated Soweto school authorities for hiding the drug problem at their schools until it was too late.

"We are often called into schools to give talks to pupils only once there has been a crisis. We would rather talk to children who have not yet touched drugs than addicts who won't even hear what we are saying."

Mr Khumalo said extensive training programmes involving social workers, community organisations and drug abusers were necessary.

Soweto police spokesman Captain Ngobeni said the SAP was worried by increasing number of people arrested in possession of Mandrax in the township.

Also worrying was the police's inability to crush drug syndicates. "The users respect and fear the godfathers and would rather go to jail than betray them," he said.



# Cops hold 50 kids at demo

From Page 1

All I know is that there was a gathering there," he said. *Soweto 21/8/91*

"Cosas declares that unless the Government creates conducive conditions in our schools, we are unflinchingly going to take the burden of this crisis to the doorsteps of the Government and all its institutions through mass action," the organisation's deputy president, Mr Tsietsi Setola, said.

Tsietsi said the activities were not aimed at a total disruption of classes, but would take place after most of the teaching had been done. However, many Soweto schools were deserted early yesterday.

Sapa reports that about 50 chanting, dancing and placard-carrying members of Cosas staged a peaceful demonstration in central Johannesburg yesterday.

The leader of the protest, who asked not to be named, said the one-hour demonstration formed part of the organisation's mass action campaign on the black education crisis.

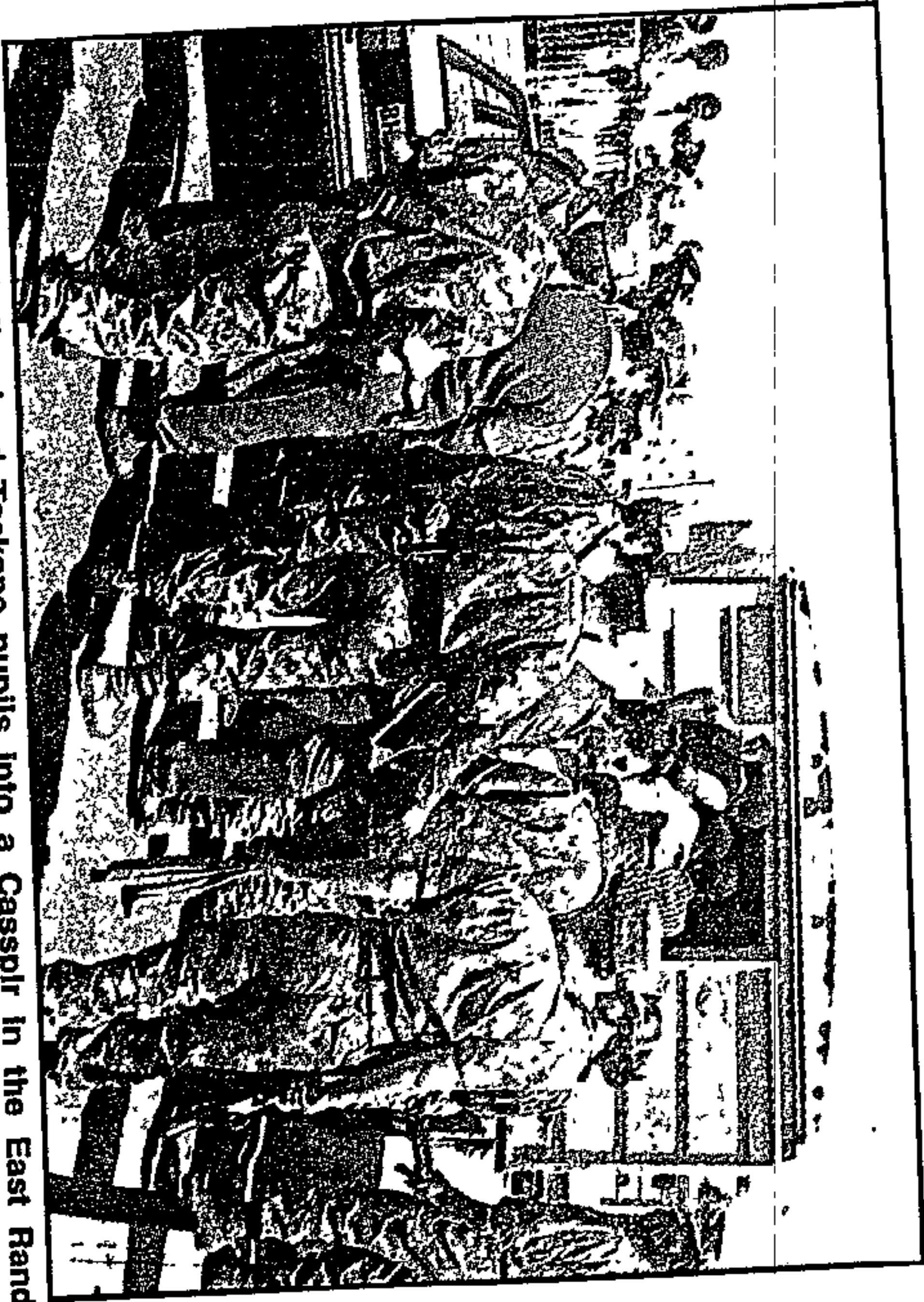
Placards read: "Open the door of learning and culture"; "We blame the DET for the crisis" and "We demand an interim government and a constituent assembly".

Shoppers and tourists gazed as the youngsters stamped their feet, swung ANC flags and chanted liberation songs in front of the flashy glass exterior of the Carlton shopping centre.

Two riot policemen kept a low profile while another videoed the demonstrators from a police van.

OFF TO JAIL: Police herd Tsakane pupils into a Casspir in the East Rand township yesterday after breaking up their protest.

Pic: MBUZENI ZULU



# 50 student demos held in Brakpan

BY PHANGISILE MTHALI

Police kept a high profile throughout the township.

A handful of Alexandra pupils picketed along Louis Botha Avenue.

Cosas' campaign is aimed at "pressurising the Government into creating conducive learning conditions".

The highlight of the week will be the occupation of three empty white schools. This is planned for today.

## Teargas fired

On Monday afternoon police fired teargas at pupils at Soweto's Orlando West High School, a resident told Sapa.

The woman, who asked not to be named, said a large police contingent was on the scene.

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Jac de Vries could not immediately confirm the alleged police action, adding he was on his way to the school and would provide more information later.

To Page 2

# How to help children <sup>298</sup>

Sowetan 20/8/91

By MZIMASI NGUDLE

The Ikemeleng Remedial Education Centre will hold a seminar as part of its community awareness programme aimed at eliciting positive co-operation from the community.

IREC's director Mr Sanku Molaoli told *Sowetan* that the community's lack of response to the needs of children with learning problems limited the hard work carried out by the centre.

"This also puts a severe strain on our scarce resources. So far our main source of funding is the Kellogg Foundation with a grant of about R900 000 over the past four years," he said.

"Hard to teach children" are normal in every respect. However, they have difficulty in listening attentively, intelligible reading as well as legible writing.

The community awareness programme is aimed at removing the stigma attached to their predicament and to give them acceptability among their peers.

The seminar will address helping these children develop self-confidence. Particular emphasis will be on the duty of community members in helping them, Molaoli said.



# Festival will aid street kids project

*Sowetan*  
A MARDI Gras will be held in Rokeby Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg, this Saturday to launch a fund-raising project for street children.

The festivities are being organised by the Rokeby Street Traders Association and Street-Wise.

There will be music, dance and loads of entertainment for all. A variety of goods, including food, will also be available at the stalls.

The fund-raising project is the first of its kind to be taken up by traders for such a cause.

21/8/91

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By PEARL MAJOLA

Funds collected will enable Street-Wise to extend its outreach programme, through which they get children off the streets, to the Yeoville area.

All the traders will have collection boxes in their stores.

Street-Wise is a national education, child-care and vocation preparation project for street children.

\*\*\*\*\*

# 60 000 child labourers in SA, says ILO

By Montshiwa Moroke

There are more than 60 000 black child farm labourers under the age of 15 in South Africa, according to an International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimate.

Executive director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) Dr Adele Thomas yesterday said the ILO conservatively estimated there were between 50 million and 55 million children under 15 working worldwide.

But it was difficult to compile accurate figures and many experts considered 145 million to be a more realistic estimate.

It was, however, important to distinguish between "child work" and "child labour". Child work referred to work that helped the child's socialisation, maturation, education, and cultural and skill developments.

At the same time, impoverished families supported child labour as a means to their own survival.

According to the Anti-Slavery Society in London, child labour went back as far as the early history of South Africa.

It was little more than "disguised slavery" and was not even questioned on farms until the second half of the 20th century.

The ILO has recently estimated that there are more than 60 000 black child farm labourers in South Africa," said Dr Thomas.

Jackie-Loffell, social work

consultant with the JCWS, said President de Klerk had signed the Child Amendment Act, which added section 52a to the Child Care Act of 1983.

This could prove to be a turning point for South African children by providing universal protection against a widespread and dangerous form of exploitation. On the other hand, it could also make little difference.

A researcher with Co-operative for Research and Education, Dichaba Mashinini, said one of the most saddening aspects of child labour was that it affected only those with a low standard of living because it was linked to discriminatory legislation.

Mr Mashinini said the attitude of employers of various capitalist enterprises was responsible for much of child labour and their "culpability" was in many folds.

"Child labour is an impediment for the development of families, yet on the other hand it generates high percentages of income for the employers.

"Many employers, especially farmers, encourage child labour in order to enhance their profits, regardless of the fact that in the South African context the current rate of unemployment is so high. If there are unemployed adults, why should children be given jobs?"

Mr Mashinini said: "When children perform stultifying and precarious duties from an early age, their chances of acquiring real qualification for skilled work are practically nil."



# Exciting day ahead for Daveyton youth

THE Pick 'n Pay-sponsored Nation Building seminar in Daveyton tomorrow should produce exciting results.

This was said by Mrs Anne Masetle, a clinical psychologist and organiser of the event.

"All of the participating groups are looking forward to using the occasion as a forum to solve the social problems and we anticipate productive interaction between the youth, parents, teachers and the clergy."

There will be a mix of professional presentations in conjunction with an analyses of local problems interpreted by community representatives.

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NATION BUILDING



The power is in your hands

One of the local residents who has put thought, research and emotion into his address is youth representative, David Nkone (19).

The matric pupil says that education is the biggest problem facing the youth of Daveyton.

## Problems

Someone who recognises the problems identified by Nkone is the teachers' representative, Mrs Thembi Ntunzi.

"The parents do not play a big enough part in the socialisation process

of their children. They leave much of the responsibility to teachers and expect the youth to sort out their own problems.

"We cannot identify or work out the problems in isolation from the parents. When the youths are in a state of conflict they don't attend school and alienate themselves even further from the little support that can be offered."

The seminar will be at Isidingo Technical College and starts at 10am. Admission is free.

For further information telephone Dr Sutherland at (011) 886-7153.



NOT CHILD'S PLAY ... But it happens all over.

Pic: MIKE MZILENI

## All in a day's work!

By LULAMA LUTI

CARRYING a 75 kg bag of coal is no child's play, but it's as easy as ABC for two young boys from Soweto.

Both Madoda Khoza, 15, and Sipho Nkosi, 16, work for a coal merchant in Zola for a meagre R60 a week each.

At first they were reluctant to speak to the City Press team.

Later, Khoza, the less filthy of the two boys, who left school at Std 6, told us: "I have been working here since last year. On an average day we go out with a minimum of eight bags and our earnings depend largely on how many bags we manage to sell each week.

"When we go to deliver one of us carries the bag while the other remains in the horse cart."

Nkosi told City Press they started work at 8 am, had a break between 11 am and 2 pm, and knocked off at five.

From the coalyards, a City Press team visited the Indian township of Lenasia where we came across two

young boys sitting wearily next to a few bags of potatoes.

John Mabuya, 16, from Sebokeng, told us that he and his friend Jimmy Mbele sold potatoes for an Indian boss.

"During the week I take the 5 am train because we have to be at the market at about 7 am. After getting the day's vegetables we set out for the different selling points," he said.

He earns R75 a week, but plans to return to school next year.

According to the director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS), Dr Adele Thomas, child labour in South Africa is rife.

Social work consultant Jackie Loffel said legislation prohibited the employment of children under 15, but said while the JCWS was not opposed to weekend and holiday work, they believed the law should be uncompromising when it came to situations where children assumed adult responsibilities at the expense of their education, and physical and emotional health.





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■ Pic: MIKE MZILENI

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# **'Too poor', so mother abandoned new baby**

Star 319191  
By Philip Zoio

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A young mother pleaded guilty in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday to attempting to murder her three-day-old baby by abandoning him on an empty plot because she could not afford to keep him and three others she was supporting on R150 a month.

Johanna Jonkers (21), who worked as a domestic servant in Westdene, Johannesburg, gave birth in the J G Strijdom Hospital to her second son on July 10.

She left the hospital two days later, and on the way home left the baby in the neatly cropped grass of an empty plot between two Westdene houses.

The child, wearing a nappy and a shirt, and wrapped in cloth provided by the hospital, was later found on the plot.

After leaving the baby, Jonkers returned to her

room at her employer's home.

On Monday July 15 a sister from a nearby clinic visited her and asked her where her baby was. Jonkers said he was with his grandmother at Upington in the northern Cape.

She admitted her crime after the sister refused to believe her.

Jonkers told the court she had abandoned her child because she earned only R150 a month and already had an older son and two younger brothers to look after.

She left her baby in a place where someone who could afford to bring him up would hear him cry, pick him up and take him home.

Jonkers said she was too scared to tell the hospital staff that she could not afford to support her new-born child.

The case has been postponed to October 29 for a probation officer's report and sentencing.



# Trouble for 'AWB' nine

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S. M. M. M.  
6/9/91

THE Attorney-General of the Transvaal has decided to charge nine men, believed to be AWB members, in Louis Trichardt who allegedly assaulted Sunday School children last November.

Regional prosecutor for Pietersburg Mr JH Viljoen said yesterday the men, against whom charges were dropped two months ago, now, would be charged with public violence.

By MATHATHA  
TSEDU

Viljoen said the men were presently being sought so they may be recharged. No date for a court appearance had been decided yet, he said.

The men are: Mr Lucas Beyer (31), Mr Bernard Jordaan (24), Mr Jeffrey Sculliard (38), Mr William Schaap (31), Mr Christoffel Wolvaard (45), Mr Jerhadus van der

Linde (25), Mr Bernard Terreblanche (48), Mr Stefanus Jacobs (40) and Mr Jan Beyers.

They allegedly assaulted children aged six to 15 on November 24 last year, using sjamboks, dogs, fenbelts and sticks. The men found the children resting at a park in the town.

Charges against them were provisionally withdrawn after several court appearances.

# Stillborn baby inquest to continue – magistrate

By Gien Elsas  
West Rand Bureau

28/8/91

Legal precedence may have been created in the Roodepoort Magistrate's Court yesterday when a magistrate ruled that an inquest should continue even though the baby concerned had been born dead.

Maureen Gonen, accompanied by her husband Meir, went to the Flora Clinic in Roodepoort in April 1988 when she went into labour.

The foetal heartbeat was monitored during labour but she gave birth to a stillborn baby girl.

A formal inquest was held to determine whether the baby's death was caused by negligence on anyone's part.

The legal question was then put to the court to determine whether the baby was alive at the time of birth.

Legally, a stillborn baby is not considered to be a person.

The matter was taken to the Supreme Court where a judge ruled that it be referred back to the Roodepoort inquest court where further evidence be led to determine whether the baby had lived or not.

Inquests are not usually held for stillborn babies as, legally, they are not considered to have been alive in the first place and, therefore, nobody could be responsible for their death.

Several people, including the gynaecologist who attended the birth, Dr Patricia Faith Hawke, testified in court on Monday.

Dr Hawke was adamant the baby was dead when born as the umbilical cord did not throb, the baby was blue and the pupils were dilated. Both she and a paediatrician tried in vain to resuscitate the baby.

Yesterday morning Mr J J Joubert ruled that the baby had, in fact, been born dead.

Peter Soller, appearing on behalf of Mr and Mrs Gonen, then argued that the inquest should be continued.

He said the cause of death had initially been given as stillborn and that it had still been found necessary to hold an inquest to determine whether anyone was responsible for the death of the baby.

"A potentially viable foetus was born dead. We must be able to probe into the matter to see what happened," Mr Soller said.

Mr Joubert postponed the case provisionally until November 12.



# Child abuse problem is highlighted

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Sowetan 29/8/91

By PEARL MAJOLA

The growing problem of child abuse brought nurses and other professionals together at a symposium to discuss their role as a team in relation to the issue.

The symposium, held at Baragwanath Hospital during the weekend, was organised by the Progressive Professional Society of Community Nurses of the Witsvaal Triangle.

"We felt we should come together as the various professionals working with child-abuse victims and their families so that our work can be more effective," explained the society's chairman, Mrs Xoliswa Ndimande.

"Child abuse is getting worse because of social problems like unemployment and squatting, which are also escalating.

"We now have the Soweto Child Abuse Committee, which meets monthly to communicate with local clinics and hos-

pitals and give reports on case studies.

"We are planning more symposiums with the aim of making every community member aware of the seriousness of the problem. We will also share ideas with the multi-disciplinary team on how to deal with it."

Miss Thandeka Mgoduso, a clinical psychologist and one of the speakers at the seminar, cited the patriarchal society and the socialisation process that defines the roles of boys and girls as dominant and submissive respectively, as contributors to the scourge.

"Parents should teach children that their bodies are their right.

"We should all promote non-sexist education for our children so that they know they are important, irrespective of whether

they are girls or boys," she said.

"Women should also be empowered so that they are able to take a stand. We should encourage them to break the silence about child abuse and all forms of violence perpetrated against women and children."



# CHILD LABOUR

## WHAT is child labour?

This question which was under intense debate during a Press seminar in Johannesburg recently

Various speakers and specialists in the field of child labour presented their arguments and points in a bid to clarify what is child labour

Perhaps the more acceptable explanation on the matter seemed to be the one advanced by Mr Dichaba Mashimuni of the Community Research and Education Centre

He argued "Child labour is a phenomenon that has very serious negative implications towards the normal growth of a child

"It has existed across centuries without legislation or humanitarian implementations to curb it. This practice has been visible in First World countries, though much of it has been going on in Third World countries

### Saddening

"One of the most saddening aspects of child labour is that it affects only those of a low standard of living

"In South Africa it is linked to levels of legislative discrimination where colour plays a major role in determining the destiny of people

"Child labour is an impediment to the development of families yet on the other hand it generates high percentages of income for the employers"

Another speaker who gave an apt example of child labour was Dr Adele Thomas of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society

She said although this

aspect has been "somewhat less publicised than the so-called conventional forms of child abuse, neglect, internationally and historically and currently the most prevalent" form of child abuse was child labour

She said "It is important to distinguish between child work and child labour

"Child work refers to work that helps the child's socialisation, maturation, educational, cultural and skill development

"However, child labour is synonymous with child exploitation and leads to the impairment of a child's physical, emotional, educational and cultural development," she added.

She argued that children may be employed in factories, farms, often in hazardous activities such

of child labour is rural and urban poverty," she added

Another speaker summed child labour up as the premature employment of children under the ages of 16 years

The International Labour Organisation recently reported that there were in excess of 60 000 black child farm labourers in South Africa, many in the eight to 14-year-old age bracket

### Slavery

According to the Anti-Slavery Society of London, child labour goes back as far as the early history of South Africa whereby child labour was disguised as slavery

It was not even questioned on farms until the second half of the 20th century

According to a report of the International Confed-

vative

Figures cited in various places worldwide go as high as 145 million and are seen as "more realistic" by most specialists

Thomas said one of the causes of child labour was "for economic interests often supported with or without bribes by governmental authorities"

She said "At the same time children, and their impoverished families, support child labour as a means to their own survival

"It is this alliance which helps explain societal tolerance for this form of child abuse," she added

Mashimuni blamed "the attitudes of employers of various capitalist enterprises" as being responsible for child labour

He said many emp-

**'Estimates drawn up by' the ILO indicate, however, that there are about 50 to 55 million children under the 15 years of age currently working throughout the world.'**

as domestics, sold into child prostitution or economic bondage, typically underpaid, overworked and without any of the health and employment protection enjoyed by adults

"The employment of children not only adds more uneducated and unskilled adults to the manpower pool, but often reduces the employment and wages of adults

"The underlying cause

eration of Free Trade Unions accurate figures on the number of children at work "are extremely difficult to compile - largely because employers parents - and in some cases, even children - are reluctant to supply information which could be used to suppress the illegal employment of children

But, even ILO experts recognise that these estimates may be conser-

lovers, especially farmers, encourage and demand child labour in order to enhance their profits, regardless of the fact that, in South African context, the current rate of unemployment is so high

He said if unemployment was so high among adults, why should children be given jobs? If education is a right, why should the doors of learning be closed to child workers?



By IKE MOTSAPI

"So the whole system generates high profits for employers because child labour when they are hardly legal protections and compensations," he said

He said people often were forced to succumb to child labour when they either wanted to augment or secure accommodation for their families

"Lack of financial resources, facilities, unemployment, poor education in our communities are factors that contribute highly to levels of child labour," he added

It was also agreed by the seminar that children perform hard and dangerous duties from an early age, their chances of acquiring real qualifications for skilled work are practically nil

### Results

This can be a severe handicap that can prevent a child from social advancement or development

Because of suffering from fatigue over-exertion, lack of hygiene and working under excessive heat and dust they have physical problems that they carry to adulthood

Their vulnerability is increased by malnutrition and under-nourishment, hence their permanent and mental deformities which causes them to end up being disease-prone adults

The premature employment cannot be measured quantitatively, but is nevertheless a serious menace to child welfare.

Society suffers because the individuals subjected to child labour cannot realise the full potential of their powers

### Handicap

A loss results and ends up on the bottom of the social ladder - to uplift himself otherwise

Many of the effects of child labour are demoralising and cause the child, when or she grows, to have negative attitudes to life

A call was made to organisations, people, church leaders, academics, trade unions, the Government, women organisations and politicians to join hands in fighting child labour

Thomas concluded "Today's exploited child worker, in the words Neera Bama of India, is tomorrow's subservient unskilled labourer.

"Child labour robs children of their childhood and captures them and in due course their own children, in cycles of poverty, illiteracy and despair," she added.



Child labour robs children of the childhood and they end up poor, illiterate and desperate.



# His father gave him money to play machines and left

THAMI (he won't give his surname) is 12. He is friendly, uncommonly good looking and has a good grasp of English. He is unafraid of adults and is the gang leader of five street children.

This is how he ended up on the streets. "I come from Soweto. But my mother left me and my father and she went to Transkei. My father left me with my mother's sister, but she

did not want me. "My father married another woman, who had his child. She would not feed me and she would beat me. My father took me to Jo'burg and we came to Hillbrow.

"He gave me money to play on the machines and then said that I must stay at the Twilight because the other wife did not like me." He tells his tale with out emotion. Stopping

now and then to tug at the laces of his once-white takkies. At the end of his story he looks at us squarely and says: "One day, when I have R50, I will go to Soweto to see him."

## Organisations which are

### combating the problem

- Organisations which are combating the problem of streetchildren are:
- The Twilight Centre, Phone: (011) 333-4750.
  - Streetwise, Phone: (011) 614-7863.
  - Process, Phone: (011) 725-2210.
  - Jane Morrison, Phone: (011) 54-7970.



In poverty on the edge of plenty, they live by their wits

# In the Twilight zone

Star 31/8/91

(298)

A DIRTY, blanketed body lies against a wall in Claim Street, Hillbrow, the bright, brash suburb of Johannesburg where the hip parade and the homeless exist.

Just before sunset, the air chills and the blanket moves a fraction. A broken tackie emerges slowly. The blanket unfolds around an unwanted child, a Twilight Child, living in barely self-sufficient poverty on the edge of plenty.

Street children have become part of South African cities and towns. Worldwide there are more than 10 million street children.

Scared of township violence, cast aside by broken families, forced by poverty to leave home, runaways from abuse — the street children are refugees in their own country.

They can make up to R20 a day, but most are lucky to pick up more than R10. Many adults, unwilling to feed obvious glue habits, refuse to give them money. Others, driven by guilt, hand out R2 coins. Some will only buy them food and milk.

Ill-fed, they are undersized and can easily pass for half their age. Their approach is shy and ami-

able; they are always on the lookout for a soft touch.

Trusting nobody, their friendships are transitory alliances of convenience. One moment they are comrades in arms, the next they are fighting over a R10 note.

The Twilight Centre is

one of the institutions struggling to help and, perhaps, reform these children. A faded banner hangs across the doorway, and the interior of the former hospital is almost bare.

It is poor, but it is a home for many. One room is filled with donated clothes. Donated groceries pack the kitchen. The stairs are steep and rickety and the rooms plain. But the beds are made and the floors scrubbed clean.

The manager of the centre, Sabera Bobat, explained Twilight's policy. "The ultimate aim is to reunite these children with their families or, alternatively, to school them and give them a substitute home environment, until they are able to find a job."

"We give any street child a meal at the end of the day and a chance to shower and take a change of clothing. If they become regulars we invite them into the home, but on the basis that they must adhere to our rules."

"We try to educate them, give them sports

**STORY:**  
Trish Beaver  
**PHOTOGRAPHS:**  
Tom Edley

and cultural interests and provide a stable environment. At all stages they are expected to help out with various chores.

"As they progress they are allowed more privileges. They learn that they must work in order to gain something. In our final stages we prepare the boys with working skills and the necessary social skills. But it is no easy job."

After school the children come pouring through the doors, books in hand, laughing and hungry for lunch. They eat ravenously: cabbage and meat stew and bread.

The Twilight Centre is one of three institutions in the Hillbrow area that handles up to 120 street children a night. Streetwise and Process are also dedicated to street children. But there are still children who resist change. They are beyond

reform or too stubborn to try.

Ignored, tolerated and hated by shopkeepers in the area, the children are always on the move. At Terry's Deli, a man who did not want to be named said "They should all be taken to jail. People feel sorry for them because they are small and 'cute', but I have seen with my own eyes them stealing, and they stab each other in the back with knives. I don't mind giving to charity but these children are criminals."

Police liaison officer for the Witwatersrand Captain Eugene Opperman said "We are largely helpless. We cannot lock them up in a cell with hardened criminals."

"It is a socio-economic problem. We can herd them in the van and take them to a children's court. Their cases are investigated and if their families are unfit to look after them, they are sent to places of safety. They are mostly involved in petty theft, and steal because they are hungry."

Benoni, jewel of the

them on my front lawn but soon there were more than 20. I am 53 years old and cannot cope.

"Last year I had complaints from the neighbours. The police have bugged my phone and were investigating me for contravention of the Group Areas Act."

"Only now, a year later, people are actually responding. It's not easy, they are like wild animals. But they trust me and they call me Mama."

Glue sniffing and cases of homosexuality are the major problems faced by welfare workers. Glue is the major evil. Drug expert Dr Sylvain de Miranda said "Glue sniffing is a consequence of dire poverty. It works more quickly than alcohol, causing euphoria and hallucinations, and can cause aggression. It can last for 20 minutes or longer. It is popular because it rids the addict of hunger pangs and cold."

Glue causes short-term infections of the respiratory organs, but in the long term it works on the central nervous system, causing brain damage and partial paralysis.

Dependent on glue to block out reality, scared of the police and unable to trust others, street children, vulnerable and unloved, are tomorrow's thieves, beggars and misfits.



**DEAD TO THE WORLD:** Asleep until the hunger gets unbearable, then he finds his next fix.



**SHELTER:** Bunk beds and buddies.



**LOST BOY:** Where to now?



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## Fluent lies part of the life

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are mostly excuses they give to the public to make them feel sorry for them. Who wouldn't feel sorry for them?

"The children often furnish this reply to gullible passers-by. The first question people ask them is why they are in the streets instead of in an establishment like Twilight. There are three centres in Hillbrow that try to get them off the streets.

"We have had cases in the past when boys have said: 'At Twilight we were beaten by Thomas, an older boy.' We investigate and find that Thomas left our shelter more than six months before. Of course, we investigate all claims, but they

"Boys fight, it is natural. But at the centre we keep the small ones separated from the big ones. If there is fighting, they are punished. Street children are fluent liars. It is part and parcel of their survival. They never trust, value their independence and are terrified of leaving the environment they know best. Which is begging, stealing and sniffing glue."

DIRTY bedraggled, and lying in a heap, street children spend their days on cold, cracked pavements begging and sniffing glue.

When people ask them why they live in these circumstances, they lie sweetly innocent, and claim that they were beaten up at the various institutions which try to get them into a home.

The Twilight Centre was one of the institutions in Hillbrow mentioned by a group of the street urchins this week. The manager, Mrs Sabera Bobat, responded:



THE HORROR: Huff, puff, and away we go



# Breaking the silence of child sex abuse

South (Southside) 12/9 - 18/9/91

(298)

Group sessions for women who suffered sex abuse as children will be launched this month in a project that aims to have participants helping each other come to terms with their past trauma  
**REHANA ROSSOUW reports:**

**S**ELF HELP is the goal of the Incest Survivors' Project, initiated by the South African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Saspcan). Organisers aim eventually to have survivors of abuse run support groups in a self-help, peer support programme. The project was launched after a survey by 10 local welfare organisations gave a resounding "yes" to a proposal for a resource centre for adult survivors.

"We aim to assist the survivors of child sexual abuse to break the long silence which may surround their early abusive experiences, in an atmosphere of safety, support and reassurance through individual counselling and group work," said Melanie Silove, a social worker and co-ordinator of the Saspcan project.

Child sexual abuse is rife in South African society and crosses racial, cultural, religious and class lines. It commonly begins at the age of five or six and continues for several years.

The abuse ranges from an intrusive presence while the child is dressing or bathing to full genital intercourse.

"Child sexual abuse is a major betrayal of a child's trust and a real abuse of responsibility and power on the part of the adult perpetrator," said Silove.

The perpetrators generally occupy a position of authority over the child and in most cases are their fathers or stepfathers. However, relatives and close friends also abuse children.

They often use threats of physical violence, persuasion or gifts to ensure the child's silence.

Children may be told that if they tell anyone the family unit will break up, that the abuse is a "special secret" or that they are being taught to be adult women.

Often, when the children tell adults about their experiences, they are met with disbelief, sometimes by their own mothers.

"This is a common experience. There may be many reasons why the mother may be reluctant to believe the child.

"She could be financially dependent on her husband, genuinely does not believe the child, or worried about the shameful consequences of disclosing the issue to a public agency.



"Often, mothers are angry with their daughters for bringing the issue to the fore," Silove said. The long-term consequences of child abuse can be severe and permanent, without intervention by a caring adult.

Survivors often suffer low self-esteem and feel dirty or contaminated. Some can become promiscuous while others suffer frigidity.

They often feel responsible for what has happened to them, believing that they could have avoided the abuse.

Many commit "emotional suicide" at an early age — suppressing emotions and dissociating themselves from anger or even pain.

Said one survivor: "You could do anything to

me and I wouldn't feel it."

Tragically, many survivors have difficulty in trusting people — both male and female — and struggle with intimate relationships.

Survivors who become parents often have difficulty in touching their children or being touched as it evokes flashback memories of their own abuse. A pilot support project, conducted in 1989 with six women, proved immensely successful.

"The women met for 10 sessions in which they established a sense of bonding with each other. Each told the group the story of their childhood sexual abuse and found a sense of acceptance, support and understanding from the others.

"The group helped each member see her ex-

periences in a different way as the other women identified with her feeling that, as children, they could not resist the adult males on whom they were totally dependent.

"The responsibility for the deeds should rest entirely on the adult's shoulders," said Silove.

Women interested in joining a support group can contact Lizzie O'Hanlon between 9am and 2pm at 689-8312. All calls will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Bursaries are available for women who may find it financially difficult to attend the group sessions.

The group will be run by Silove and a clinical psychologist. □



# Teenager gets 12 years for murder of black man

A 19-YEAR-OLD Germiston man wept in the arms of his mother and his 16-year-old co-accused yesterday after he was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for murdering a black man.

Ettiene Ferreira and the 16-year-old fatally assaulted the man after finding him asleep on a piece of veld close to the house they shared on the night of November 12 last year.

The Rand Supreme Court sentenced the 16-year-old, who was 15 at the time of the murder, to be held at a reformatory.

A third accused, Deon Meyer, 25, was acquitted yesterday after the court found the State had not proved he was involved in the man's death.

In terms of the law the youth may, at the discretion of the relevant authorities, be held there until he is 21 years old.

The court found the teenagers had set out armed with a bed leg and karate sticks intent on finding a victim to assault.

Their victim, whose body was found on the spot the following day,

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SUSAN RUSSELL

has still not been identified

According to the evidence Ferreira assaulted the victim with the karate sticks after his companion attacked the man with the bed leg and struck him on the head.

Mr Justice Stegmann, sitting with two assessors, accepted that the pair had not formed the direct intention to kill their victim.

However, the court held that they should have foreseen that the man would die from their attack.

The court accepted in mitigation the age of the pair at the time of the murder and at present.

This was the most important mitigating factor, the judge said.

The judge said in their particular case their consumption of strong liquor before the assault constituted a mitigating circumstance.

He said the court accepted that both had already to some extent been under the influence of strong liquor when they decided to seek a victim.

However, he held as an aggravat-

ing factor the fact that both, acting together, had deliberately gone out with weapons in search of a victim and attacked a helpless, sleeping man and killed him.

The judge accepted the State's submission that cases involving attacks on black passersby by whites had increased within the area of the court's jurisdiction.

It was the court's duty to put a stop to it, the judge said, adding it was important that the sentences he imposed in this case should serve as a deterrent to others.

He accepted both teenagers had shown genuine remorse for what they had done.

Earlier Ferreira told the court he "bitterly regretted" what had happened.

He had nothing against black people, he said, adding that but for the alcohol consumed that night he would not have done what he did.

His mother, Helena Ferreira, also told the court her son had expressed remorse to her and told her "I cannot believe I killed someone".

Police...

...return would be

TIM COHEN

# Govt fund to build creches for squatters

By Helen Grange  
Pretoria Bureau

Some 64 creches are to be built in squatter areas throughout the country with the R2 240 000 allocated by the Government to the South African National Council for Child and Family Care.

Announcing the major health and welfare projects to be embarked on as a result of the Government's recent R1 billion donation to the poor, Minister of Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprises Dr Dawie de Villiers said the pre-school child would benefit greatly from the allocation.

An amount of R84 million of the R1 billion fund had been ploughed into health and welfare by the Government.

The money would also be used to build 141 clinics in the country and the self-governing territories.

## Participation

The Department of National Health and Population Development would act as co-ordinator of these projects, while ground-level health authorities would be responsible for the buildings.

Moves were afoot to establish a community committee for each project in order to ensure the active participation of the particular community.

The building of clinics would ensure that the lack of infrastructure caused by urbanisation and population increases would be partially overcome, Dr de Villiers said.

At the same time, it would create employment by using unemployed skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

A training programme for workers would also be undertaken.

Apart from creating employment, other upliftment could take place by means of community involvement.



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**Soweto puts  
out the call:  
catch rapist**

By Stan Hlophe

6/9/91

Soweto community leaders and social workers yesterday urged people to help catch the rapist who has abducted and assaulted three young schoolgirls in the past few weeks.

Experts, who believe the man is a sociopath and a menace to society, fear he might strike again.

Police have offered a R10 000 reward for the man's capture and conviction.

The three young victims will help police compile an identikit picture of the attacker, and a rape awareness programme will be conducted at schools.

The rapist abducts girls after calling them on the pretext of wanting them to go to a shop for, or with, him.

He then takes them to a secluded area and rapes them.

Soweto social worker Sonti Kungoane said parents should warn their children not to talk to strangers, and to teach them how to defend themselves and escape if they are accosted.

Ms Kungoane advised girls not to walk the streets alone, but rather to stay in groups.

She urged the community to co-operate with the police and help to apprehend the culprit before a tragedy occurred.

Johannesburg Child Welfare Society assistant director Lyn Perry emphasised that it was important that anyone in the community who knew the rapist advised the police and Child Protection Unit.

Ms Perry added that the rapist should be removed from society to receive proper treatment. He should be detained and charged, and the question of sentence left to the courts.

Sexual Abuse Centre manager Celia Theart described the rapist's deeds as very aggressive, and also called for his removal from the community.

Ms Theart said it was doubtful whether he would voluntarily undergo treatment as most rapists were not easily rehabilitated.

# The CHILDREN of VIOLENCE

S/Times 22/9/91 (298)

**It was another week of violence in Phola Park, the squatter camp south-east of Johannesburg: police patrols under fire, sniping, assassinations and plain murder. CHARLENE SMITH went in search of the children**

IN the soft apricot glow of a sunset a band of Inkatha warriors, their headbands an assortment of torn plastic and rags, stalk down a rutted path, their fighting sticks at the ready, cardboard shields protecting their chests.

Suddenly, in a jumble of war cries and the tuk-tuk-tuk of AK-47 fire, ANC "sojas" leap from an alley between two shacks and after a dusty, confused battle put the "Inkathas" to flight with much yelling and laughter. The most serious injuries are a few grazes. A thick layer of red dust and mud cakes little bodies

The children of Phola Park are at play. The game is only partly in jest. They dust their clothes and swat away flies hovering around runny noses. They compare weapons, made of wood or iron bars. Some are carrying "AK-47s", others debate whether a Makarov or a Scorpion is the better weapon.

## Dire

Some are trading bullets — some are spent and have been picked up from the streets, some are live and have been taken from other places. In white suburbs it is marbles, here it is bullets. They differ in size and condition, but more important is the sort of cartridge — R-1s are scorned, AKs popular, and those from machine pistols have a certain cachet

After 15 years of township violence there are still no adequate studies of the effect of violence on children. Every now and then, when violence escalates, a human rights group or psychologists

issue a study that warns of the brutalisation of these children and the dire consequences for the future. But no programmes are helping people in such communities deal with post-traumatic stress or understand why children's eyes grow expressionless.

In the cities, where armed gangsters shoot people for their cars or beat them up for their watches, where houses are ringed with razor wire and adorned with signs from armed-response security companies, the reports, and their warnings, have been forgotten. We're living the consequences of thinking the forgotten children would stay in the townships and hopefully disappear.

They've come to the cities armed with knowledge of weapons and immune to the horror of death.

At some stage fear disappears too. In Phola Park, a mainly Xhosa squatter area of some 30 000 people close to Alrode in Alberton, when the "Inkathas" come — usually hostel-dwellers from the nearby Thokoza hostel — children either flee across the main road to Alrode and hide in the Catholic church in the coloured area of Eden Park, or cower in shacks, under beds with their mothers.

They lie low because bullets zinging through corrugated-iron walls have killed neighbours. Now many in Phola Park are building houses of concrete blocks from an adjacent brick factory. Bullets can't penetrate these. Instead of windows, there are narrow slits that keep out the cold, and are just wide enough for the barrel of a rifle to fit through.

When the whistles of sentries streak across the night air warning of an attack, fathers and elder

brothers leave with fighting sticks in their left hands and blankets draped over their right shoulders — often concealing guns clasped to their chests.

If fighting is serious, as it was last year in August and December — or as it was last week — returning children lift the blankets covering corpses in the streets to see if their fathers or mothers are among the dead. The children's games become a prelude to the day when they will go out at night with blankets over their shoulders.

Sister Ethne, a Dominican nun at the local mornings-only free clinic, says depression is acute among residents of Phola Park. "Education is almost nil, there are children who can barely articulate. There is a whole generation of lost people here with no education. They are squatters. They can't get into schools, they have no opportunities."

## Empty

The clinic, funded by the Alberton Industries Association, treats an average of 80 people a morning. In August it saw 1 523 cases. The most common illnesses are gastro-intestinal, or sores linked to malnutrition. The load on the clinic has increased since Natal-spruit Hospital — about three kilometres away — began charging patients R10 a visit. In a community with at least 80 percent unemployment, R10 is wealth.

Phola Park is a close-knit community, with a strong commitment to self-help. The community uses three prefabricated huts for literacy classes for children and adults. The "school" is often locked and empty, reliant as it is on a few educated volunteers.

There are three creches run by residents. Dirty babies crawl on swept sand floors; others lie on blankets. The few plastic toys are mostly ignored. All those books about pre-school stimulation and Johannesburg City Health regulations about so many toilets for so many toddlers seem like guidelines from another planet. The creches are corrugated iron and hot.

One creche closed this week after its founder, Mrs Christina Thibidi, died. Mrs Thibidi was a legend in Phola Park. She organised women into self-help groups, begged food and old clothes from churches and gave hope where some believed it had no place. The shack in which she ran her creche was close to the open field separating the area from Thokoza, where hostel-dwellers and shack residents often fight. She was terrified she or her 16-year-old son would one day be killed in an attack; instead she died peacefully in her sleep.

Miss Lucy Boniswa, 30, is a neighbour. She looks 10 years older than her years, she cries frequently, her hands tremble. She is a woman on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Her 20-month-old son, Peter, kneels next to her, imitating her handwashing clothes in a plastic basin.

She, her boyfriend and their two children do not sleep in their home at night. "The children can't sleep in the house. We sleep under the bridge — we are frightened of fighting." The bridge is about 500m away in scrubby veld next to the main road to Alrode.

Miss Boniswa describes what happens when residents flee an attack. As she talks, her face freezes in terror, her eyes become wild, her hands tremble.



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Picture: JUHAN KUUS

**ALL TOO REAL . . . a young 'ANC soldier' brandishes a home-made toy AK-47 as an 'Inkatha' foe plays dead**

uncontrollably and the quiet cloudy weekday afternoon disappears as she relives an attack. It is terrifying to watch her.

"The children hold their heads, they cry. Mama, mama! People take things and run." She reaches down and grabs little Peter, throwing him on to her back, her eyes wide, sweat on her brow. "I pick up my baby," she runs a metre, turns and comes back to whip a blanket off the line and throw it over the child. "I take the blanket, I take my child, we run."

### Suffering

She runs part-way down the road, in the crazed, erratic style of the terrified. She suddenly seems to become aware of her surroundings again, and bursts into tears, her face bewildered. Her children are quiet next to her.

"All the time I cry because I don't know where I'm going. I came here to look for a job because I don't have a mother or father. My boyfriend is not working and I'm not working. We are

still suffering. Three years not working.

"That mother that died," she points to Mrs Thibidi's shack, "she gave me food. I don't know what we will do now. The baby has not eaten all day today. I can't go to Transkei, I will suffer."

At the taps down the road, about 30 people crowd together, waiting to fill drums from one of the eight taps Alberton industrialists installed in the area, and which serve 30 000 people. Huge powerlines stalk across this western perimeter of Phola Park, arrogant in their inaccessibility.

The wait at the taps can be as long as four hours. Across from the taps is an extensive, never-ending pile of garbage, which, along with the torn razor wire — with plastic bags hanging off it, making it look like a bizarre washing line — forms the continuous outer perimeter of Phola Park. Children are playing on the garbage, some seeking cast-off scraps of food. Two girls have pulled down their panties and are defecating. There is not a single

toilet in the settlement.

For a time in 1988 there were chemical toilets — one for every 28 families — but after residents refused to pay a R50 levy they were removed. Everyone now uses the surrounding veld. The last garbage removal was also in 1988.

Poverty depresses these people less than the violence they have experienced in the past year. Mr David Mbele says his seven children don't sleep well. "They don't like it when they hear gunshots in the night. They cry and are restless. On Tuesday a neighbour was shot by the security forces outside our shack. Now we are all very frightened."

### Insult

Mrs Dora Moshoeshe, 42, says her five children don't like the violence because "the shooting makes too much noise and they can't study. They also don't sleep nicely at night, they pray and pray"

As we leave Phola Park, three children aged about six don't hear the car driving slowly behind

them. They suddenly become aware of it. A small boy notes the white driver and his face contorts with fury and fear. He raises the fighting sticks he is carrying, adopts a combat position and yells an insult.

On the outskirts, a group of women and children with supermarket trolleys are searching the veld for wood. Suddenly a truck comes by loaded with scrap wood. A woman yells to others, and women and children race from their shacks. Dust eddies as in the frenzy of poverty women and children pull out the best pieces of wood. One triumphantly leans on a piece good enough for a roof support.

All is not despair in Phola Park, however. The Independent Development Trust has promised to subsidise the creation and servicing of 2 000 sites, at a total cost of R15-million, if residents can find and develop suitable land, for which they are now negotiating with the TPA and Thokoza town council.

All is not despair, but here the children also show no joy



# New look across US at (298) Aug 20/91 'sneaky, quiet' deaths

MILWAUKEE. — A man spikes his baby's formula with a lethal dose of methadone. A woman kills her boyfriend's grandson with a prescription drug. Another woman shuts off the feeding tube to her severely disabled son.

The three killings in Milwaukee were disguised and authorities originally ruled them natural deaths. But the cases were recently reopened and the crimes discovered.

Across the nation, police and medical examiners say they are finding cases of children killed or abused by parents who then try to make the deaths appear natural.

"I liken these cases to incest," said Miss Kathryn Hanon, a police detective in Orlando, Florida, who specializes in disguised child abuse. "They're the kind of cases that are sneaky and quiet."

In Florida, two women have been accused of injecting their daughters with vomit-inducing drugs or a mixture of faeces and urine. The children survived and have been placed in foster care.

Prosecutors allege those women are suffering from "Munchausen's Syndrome by proxy," a condition in which they make their children ill and then seek medical help in an effort to gain attention for themselves.

In Lubbock, Texas, a woman killed six of her children and the daughter of a cousin because she enjoyed the condolences she received, authorities allege.

Improved technology and medical examiners' scepticism

are uncovering abuse deaths that earlier would have been ruled natural or due to sudden infant death syndrome, an unexplained condition that causes infants to die in their sleep.

"People are surprised that often the most dangerous place for children is their home," said Mr Jay Howell, a former prosecutor in Florida who now represents child-abuse victims.

The Chicago-based National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse said the number of child-abuse deaths had risen by 38 percent since 1985, reaching a record 1 211 last year.

On Monday, a Milwaukee woman was charged with second-degree homicide in the death of her 11-year-old son. Authorities had believed the boy died from natural causes associated with cerebral palsy. But the woman admitted in July she starved him to death after watching a television programme on mercy killings and becoming tired of giving him special care.

Another Milwaukee woman was arrested last weekend on charges she gave her boyfriend's 18-month-old grandson a lethal dose of a prescription anti-depressant drug. She told police she wanted to curb the boy's crying. Charges are pending.

Two months ago, a man was ordered to stand trial on charges he spiked his six-month-old son's formula with a lethal dose of methadone, used to wean addicts from heroin.

The criminal complaint said the father told police he killed his son to relieve the stress of having four children and a low-paying job. — Sapa-AP.



By ISAAC  
MOLEDI

**CHILDREN** born in Soweto risk developing respiratory illness because of high levels of sulphur dioxide and particles from burnt coal, wood and oil.

A new study of air pollution levels in Soweto reveals that the area is three times more polluted with sulphur dioxide and other particles than suburbs and areas near big power stations.

The study, believed

# Soweto air puts children at risk

to be the first of its kind, was conducted by the Soweto branch of the National Association for Clean Air and the University of the Witwatersrand's Research Centre during August and September 1990.

The associate professor

at the Wits Research Centre and secretary of NACA's Soweto branch Mr Harold Annegan said women and children were most affected.

He suggested alternative energy sources be found to curb the trend.

"Fuel burning and dust are the major source of air pollution in Soweto.

"Although more than 90 percent of Soweto houses are electrified, people still use coal."

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## W Rand couple plead not guilty to child abuse

West Rand Bureau (298)

A young Roodepoort couple pleaded not guilty to a charge of child abuse and one of child neglect when they appeared in the Roodepoort Magistrate's Court yesterday.

It is alleged they abused their child between June and November last year and also failed to provide him with adequate food, clothing and medical attention.

The father explained that he was playing with his son in November last year. He threw him several times into the air and suddenly the child slipped and fell to the carpet.

His wife testified she had seen the incident. The little boy allegedly fell on his face.

General practitioner Walter Johannes de Wet said the parents brought the baby to him on June 1 last year as they were worried about his health. The baby was about six weeks old.

Dr de Wet said he was so concerned when he saw the child that he rushed him to theatre as he was scared he would stop breathing. The child was having difficulty because his mouth and tongue were swollen and several wounds in the mouth were septic.

In November last year Dr de Wet was once again called to treat the baby who had been brought to the casualty department at Discoverer's Hospital.

The little boy was in a semi-coma and did not react to stimuli. He was dehydrated and had severe bruising on his face and arms. There were also injuries inside the little boy's mouth. He referred the child to a paediatrician.

The hearing was postponed to October 30.



# Youngsters lured into sordid sex acts at squatter camp

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## The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — Young boys and girls, some only seven, have been lured into sordid sexual activity in the Malakazi squatter settlement near Isipingo on the Natal South Coast that has shocked residents and hardened police investigators.

The existence of "sex dens", where young children are allegedly forced to perform sexual acts with adults, in some cases involving three and four in a bed, were exposed by the South African Police Child Protection Unit and the Durban Indian Child and Family Welfare Society.

The head of the police unit, Captain Lynette Prinsloo, said the number of sexual acts involving children in the shanty town was "alarming".

She said indecent acts involving men and young boys and girls, and cases of children being sexually molested had been reported.

She said several months ago a charge of sodomy had been

laid, but subsequently withdrawn. The child allegedly involved in the incident was referred to a child welfare society for counselling.

Captain Prinsloo said a "sex den" was usually two or three children involved in sex acts with an adult.

She said the police unit found it difficult to bring charges as the activities were seen as part of the area's "social problems".

"Even after we charge offenders, they return to the community and continue the acts," she said.

The president of the Durban Indian Child and Family Welfare Society, Dr Khorshed Ginwala, said the society became aware of children engaging in "sexually inappropriate behaviour" in the area at the beginning of the year.

She said the society did not want to spell out the exact nature of its findings as it was a "sensitive matter".

"Our concern is the risk the

children are being exposed to in terms of sexually transmitted diseases and the psychological effects the behaviour will have on the child, the child's family, and the community," she said.

Dr Ginwala said the society had asked the Child Protection Unit to help with the investigation into the problems at Malakazi in January.

Dr Ginwala said social workers provided counselling services to individual children and their families during their investigation.

She said parents were shocked to learn that their children were involved and some indicated a willingness to help implement an awareness programme in the community to warn people about the dangers of "sexual transgressions".

She said the programme would be carried out at the end of the month after medical experts, the Child Protection Unit, and the local police were consulted.

## Youth is charged

A 15-YEAR-OLD youth who was welded and set alight by a farmer and later convicted of a theft charge will appear in the Louis Trichardt Magistrate's Court today for sentencing. *Sowetan 30/9/91*

The State alleges that the youth, who cannot be named because of his age, broke into a house on a farm in the Tshipise district and stole a TV set.

The youth, who pleaded not guilty to the charge, has already been found guilty.

The farmer who set the boy alight, Johannes van der Westhuizen, was sentenced in the same court last Monday to two years' imprisonment (or R5 000) and a further five years, wholly suspended on condition he pays the youth R40 000.

Van der Westhuizen settled out of court with the youth's lawyers so that he should not go to jail.



## Inter-racial adoption 'set to increase' <sup>298</sup> CT13/9/91

Staff Reporter

ADOPTION across the colour-line will increase as South Africa emerges from apartheid, senior social worker at the Child Welfare adoption centre Ms Irene Berman said yesterday.

Adoption across the colour-line in South Africa was legalised after the Child Care Act was amended in June.

Manager of the centre Ms Eileen Jordaan yesterday left for Scotland to attend an international conference on "inter-racial adoption". It was hoped this would improve the centre's ability to cope with problems.

# Red Cross helps soften the blow

By LULAMA LUTI

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around the hospital and help nurses."

AT 6.30 on Thursday morning Odney Matji woke to the ringing of the telephone.

On picking it up, he learned that "the forces of evil" had struck again. This time an unknown gunman had opened fire on bus passengers in Vosloorus.

As usual, he rushed to the scene.

"Without even giving it a thought, I set out for the scene. Rushing to bloody scenes in and around the townships has become a part of my life," said Matji.

For the past 18 months, the 17-year-old Liverpool Secondary School student from Vosloorus, has been a Red Cross volunteer.

As a quartermaster of the Vosloorus Red Cross Youth Movement, he coordinates the work of other volunteers.

The ongoing violence that has plagued East Rand townships spurred Matji and a group of his peers to help out at the Natalspruit Hospital.

"I think last year's violence was the worst. We had to work around the clock, often leaving the hospital very late," Matji said.

"We don't have set hours of work. We are always on standby and, when there are no serious incidents, we hang

According to Matji, the Red Cross trains volunteers to prepare them for relief work. He had completed a six-month course in First Aid and Advanced General Health Care. This enabled him to administer treatment before a patient is taken to hospital.

Matji said he had always wanted to help the community and working as a Red Cross volunteer had fulfilled that dream.

"I have always wanted to be a paramedic and, when I finish my matric, I am going to further my studies with the Red Cross Society," he said.

Matji believes there is a high level of youth involvement in violence. Encouraging them to do voluntary work by tending to the injured will help bring them to their senses, he said.

Meanwhile, while visiting victims of the bus shootings at the Natalspruit Hospital this week, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said that, if the violence did not stop, only cripples, orphans and widows would see the much-talked-about new South Africa.

"I would like to appeal to all the people to please, please choose peace and not violence; to choose humanity and not destruction," Tutu said.





## Janet Wilhelm

**O**F all the comments I've heard about the trial of the four Edenvale youths who beat a black man to death, the weirdest was "but blacks do it all the time". *Sunday Times 15/9/91*

By some inexorable logic the young man who said this to me had worked out in his mangled mind that because blacks kill one another it did not matter that some whites killed another black man. With logic like this you could argue that the man who invented television is to blame for excessive TV violence.

But the young man trotting out this bewildering perception had no shame. Naïve yes. In a way even a victim.

The kind burdened with parents who tell him not to step on bugs because he could hurt them — but never to run his fingers along the escalator railing because blacks may have touched it.

I doubt he would, but if he ever killed anyone, would his childhood be the reason? No doubt someone would trot it out as the sensible explanation. So he can bash an eight-year-old never seen before on the head with a brick. Or wipe out the wife. Or grab the Magnum and take pot-shots at strangers in the street. And some expert will be dredged up to argue that it's the fault of a lousy childhood and that this in turn made him seek refuge in drink and drugs.

Such defences are usually not enough to get people acquitted. But they do sometimes count as extenuating circumstances, and hauling out some psychologist to defend the position is the norm.

The current case is no exception. And from the psychologist's report we learn that 20-year-old Craig Lambton-Carr is a man who used to go around beating up blacks until he stopped doing so two years ago.

**S**EMINAL events in his childhood include the death of his grandmother, after which his behaviour changed, his schoolwork deteriorated, and he became withdrawn and needed to sleep with his bedroom light on. When he was 16 years old his 14-year-old cousin committed suicide. When he was 17 he was waiting for a lift home from school when he was set upon by a gang of seven youths and was unable to defend himself as he was recovering from a foot operation.

These are only highlights from the report, but enough to show the drift and, quite frankly, if little life blows like this can turn people into mindless killers, there is no hope.

## Twisted logic of our sick society

It's woolly psychology. It does the discipline a disservice and would be better left to trivial chat shows about deviant social behaviour.

Where's individual blame? Many suffer extreme childhood trauma without becoming killers, and most of us have a liking for a little bit of alcohol without feeling the desperate need to go out and commit murder.

Or are we going to allow ourselves to slip into the modern American way of life where individuals are no longer culpable and are driven to find someone to blame — and hopefully sue — when tragedy strikes. If you get sick it's because you smoked or because of something you ate, too much fibre, or too little fibre. And what about that extraordinary story of the woman who got off killing her mother on the technicality that she had been affected by a sleeping drug she'd been taking — and is now suing the drug company.

In convicting Craig and his accomplices the court turned its back on the psychological evidence. Here, at least, a supposedly horrid childhood was not enough to excuse murder. So another four have joined that seemingly endless parade of young white men willing to kill a complete stranger merely because he is black.





**SAFE FROM THE STREETS ...** Boystown residents relax in a dormitory at their Hillbrow home. **■ PICS: SIPHIWE MHLAMBI**

## Oasis in the heart of town

CP News 15/9/91. (298)

**By ERIC NAKI**

IN the bosom of Hillbrow lies an institution which helps shape the future of street kids. It is called Boystown.

The building in Esselen Street could be mistaken for a creche, but Boystown is home to 25 former street kids, ranging from 8 to 17 years old.

The home was started 32 years ago by Catholic Bishop (then father) Reginald Ormond. Contributions came from companies and individuals.

In 1989 South African Breweries donated a 16-seater minibus to ferry the boys to school. Recently Johannesburg Consolidated Industries bought a new site in Kagiso where Boystown will be relocated to.

Since last year the bulk of donations have come from business personality Phil Khumalo, the "godfather" of Boystown.



**GODFATHER ... Phil Khumalo.**

In a ceremony held last week, in which the work done by staff at the centre was reappraised, Khumalo pledged to double his support.

He also intends using his influence and worldwide business contacts to get more contributions. An overseas group has already promised to donate

clothing.

Khumalo called on big and small companies alike to involve themselves in the welfare of the street children.

Khumalo believes a project like Boystown helps change the attitudes of the public and street kids themselves.

He is also deeply involved with church projects, which he believes supplement the work done at Boystown with a spiritual dimension.

The public relations officer of Boystown, Maria Maoba, said the boys were like any other boys in the community. "These are fine kids and they have been truly rehabilitated," she said.

The boys attend school in Soweto. One is in Std 9 and is doing Mathematics and Physical Science.

The centre has two qualified teachers who specialise in remedial teaching.



# Violence drives kids from schools

By RYAN CRESSWELL

THE fighting between ANC and Inkatha supporters has spilled over into the classroom.

In Natal young children who can barely spell the words "violence" or "politics" attend their own Inkatha emergency schools — safe, they say, from ANC comrades.

The initiator of the Inkatha project, Mr Walter Nsele of the Inkatha Institute's community development department, said nearly 2 000 primary school pupils now attended emergency schools in Mshayazafe in Inanda, Siyanda near KwaMashu and Molweni near Hillcrest.

He said a new school for about 800 pupils would be opened near troubled Richmond early next year.

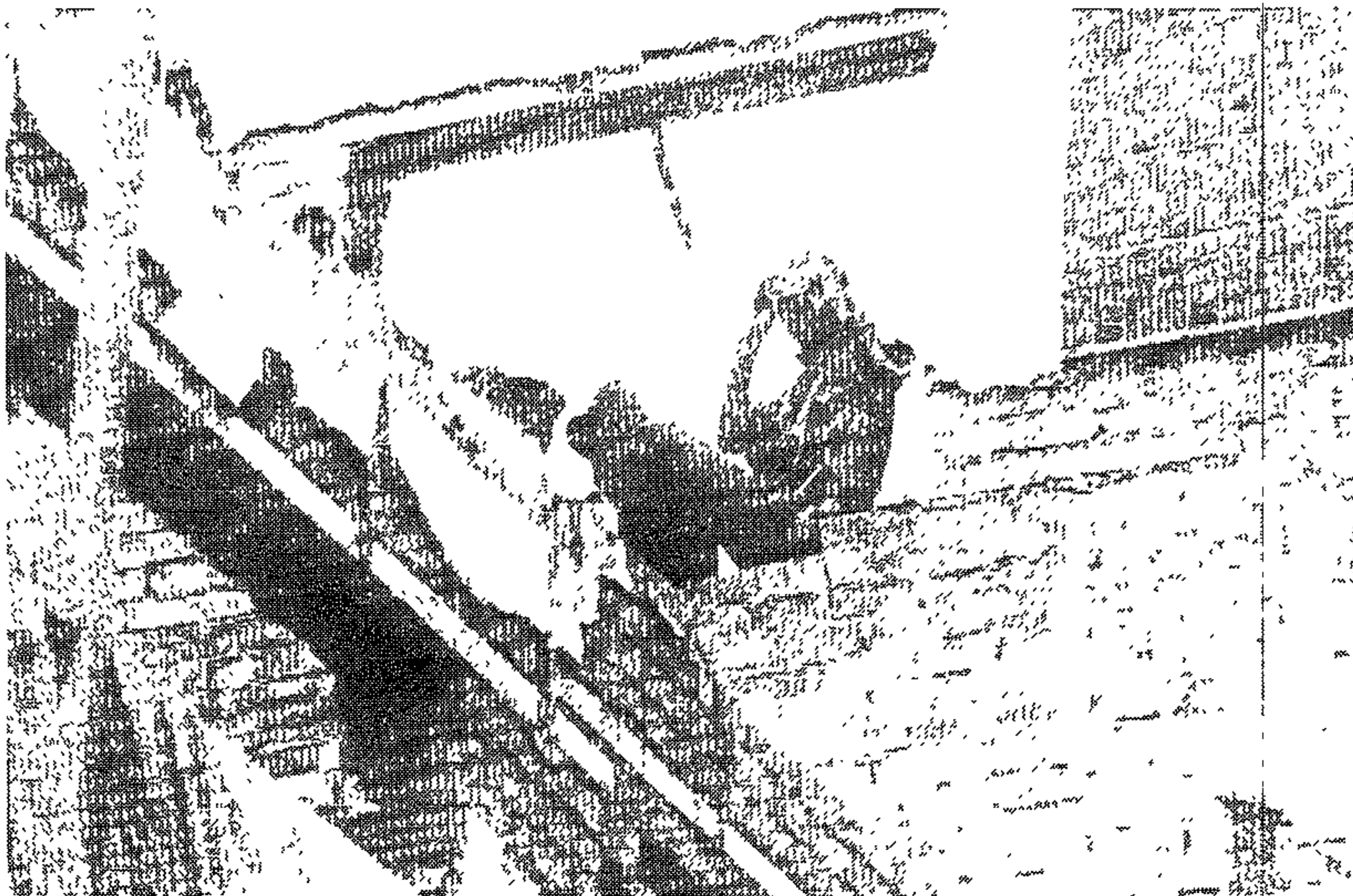
**Dark** (248)

He said most of the children had been forced out of their old schools by fighting between young ANC and Inkatha members.

The children attend classes in small, dark rooms in the middle of Inkatha territory. Virtually untrained volunteers from the Inkatha Youth Brigade teach large classes throughout the day.

The schools are paid for by the local communities but some of the teachers have not been paid since June.

Mr Nsele said: "I am a former teacher and I have shown the new teachers the basics. Most of the teachers are unqualified and the pupils have to use whatever they can as school furniture. But the scheme seems to



LOOKOUTS ... Inkatha school guards keep watch from a shattered building

Picture: HORACE POTTER

be a success. They are learning."

He said many pupils had not gone to school for up to three years because it was too dangerous.

Pupils at the makeshift Thembeletu Combined Primary School in Inanda say they were forced to leave their old school, Isikululiwe Post Primary School, because they were constantly attacked by children who supported the ANC.

Std 6 pupil Ozzia Cele, 16, said: "The ANC children hit us and burnt our exercise books last year. We just stopped going to school."

One schoolboy said his friend, 13-year-old Thembe Gwaba, had been shot dead on his way home from school.

Eighty percent of 244 Natal school children interviewed have seen classmates killed, according to a recent survey by the University of Natal Education Projects Unit.

In Inanda the emergency school is among damaged buildings and abandoned cars on a hill in the Inkatha stronghold of Mshayazafe. It is guarded by Inkatha members who keep watch with binoculars from the

shell of a double-storey building, and a squad of riot police in a Casspir.

Across the valley is another school apparently safe only for the children of ANC supporters.

Mr Sbu Ndebele, the ANC regional secretary in Southern Natal, said it was Inkatha children who had started bringing guns to school.

"But it is now time to get everybody together and solve these problems," he said. "We also have thousands of displaced school children on the South Coast."

The headmaster of the Bhekifa Secondary Primary School in Siyanda, near KwaMashu, Mr Bernard Shezi, told of a gunfight between Inkatha and the ANC that took place next to the school on a school day.

"Luckily no pupils were hurt that day," he said. "But almost every night, you can hear the thunder of guns."

Nevertheless, he said, some of his Std 5 pupils would pass their exams.



Richard made an offer in court of R40 000 to Frank Mukwatie, the 15-year-old boy he welded to a table and then set alight in December last year.

After the proposal was placed before

had he not made the offer he would "most certainly" have been sent to jail.

Northern Transvaal Attorney-General Don Brunette said he had consulted with the attorneys involved before the proposal was presented to the court.

He said he was satisfied by the way the matter had been handled by defence advocate, Mr JLC van Vuuren, and the boy's attorney, Mrs Kate Owen, of the firm Deneys Reitz.

"The two attorneys discussed compensation for Mukwatie and, after drawing up a signed agreement, this was placed as evidence before the magistrate. He accepted it and enforced the agreement as part of the sentence."

Mr Brunette said this procedure was not uncommon. Before sentencing, state prosecutor Morris Pogrund questioned the boy about his acceptance of the settlement.

## Employer

Mukwatie told the court he was aware that if Van der Westhuizen's offer was accepted the accused would not be sent to jail.

"It is good if he does not go to jail. No one has influenced me in my decision to accept the money," he said.

Van der Westhuizen's instructing attorney, Mr Jan van Niekerk, told the court that if his client was sent to jail he would be unable to pay Mukwatie compensation for his suffering.

"My client's employer is prepared to pay the R40 000. If Van der Westhuizen goes to jail, he will not be able to pay back the loan."

He said Van der Westhuizen earned a net salary of R2 000 a month and that he would be able to pay back the money from this.

Mrs Owen said that after consultation with Mukwatie he had instructed her to ac-



VAN DER WESTHUIZEN

cept the offer should the court not send Van der Westhuizen to jail.

Mr Pogrund described the crime as "barbaric" and totally unacceptable.

The boy, he said, would carry the scars for the rest of his life and Van der Westhuizen had to be

attempted murder.

He fined Van der Westhuizen R5 000 or two years' imprisonment with a further five years conditionally suspended for five years, provided he is not found guilty of any crime involving violence.

He instructed that the money be paid to the boy's attorney's office in three instalments by November 15.

Professor Andrew Skeen, associate professor at the University of the Witwatersrand's Law School, said the purpose of the sentence was twofold.

"The magistrate fined Van der Westhuizen on the attempted murder charge. Then he enforced as an order of the court the compensation payment. In other

According to the National Director of Lawyers for Human Rights, Mr Brian Curran, the sentence — which is a form of plea bargaining — benefited both parties.

After the case Mukwatie said he often had nightmares about the incident.

**Scars** 298  
"I feel the heat in my chest just as if the fire has not been put out. My throat closes up and I can still smell my own flesh burning. When I realise it is only a dream I sometimes cry with relief."

"I was a happy boy before it happened — now I am ashamed of my scars. I do not want people to see them because they stare at me. After the farmer burnt me,

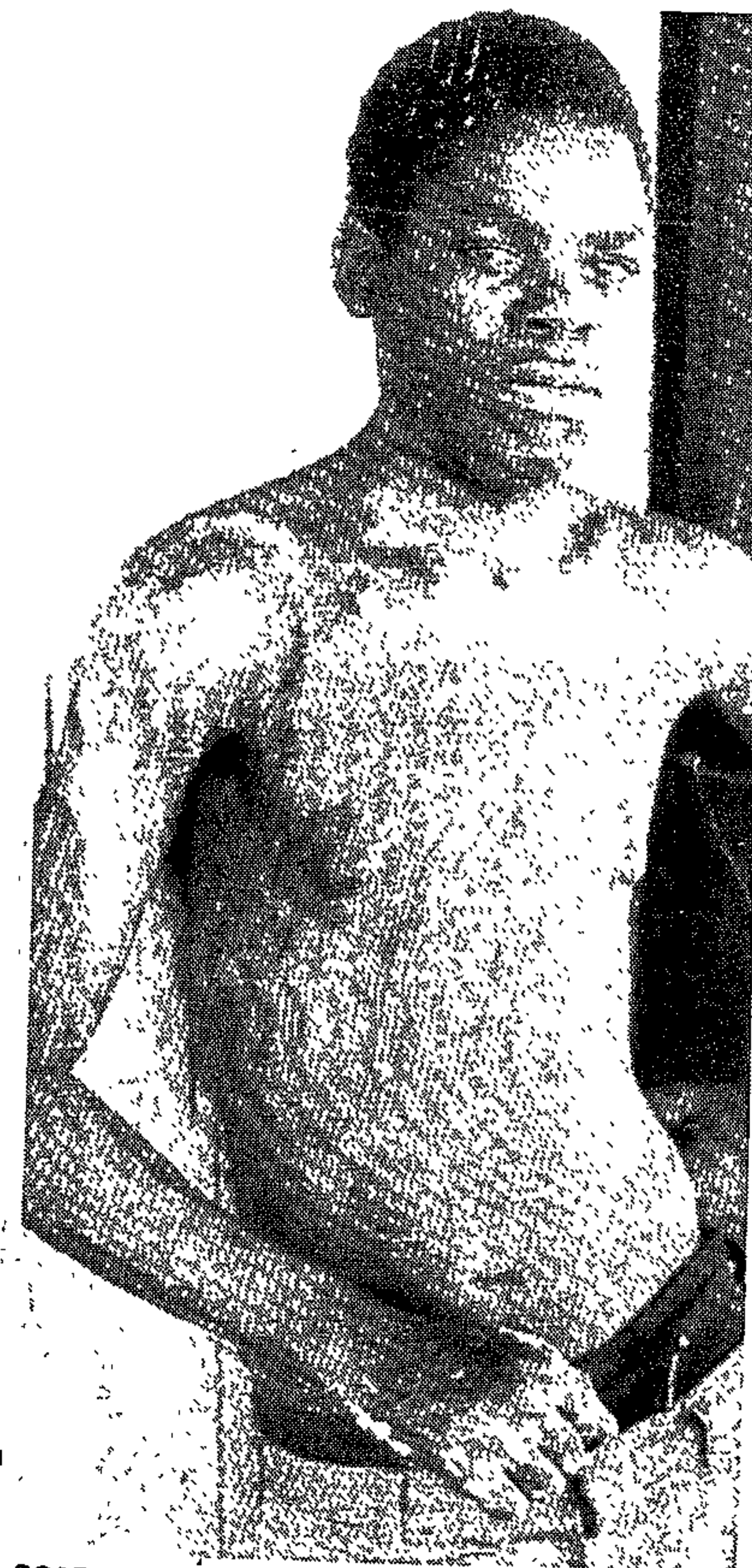
of a television set from the home of a Tshipise restaurateur in August 1989. He is to be sentenced tomorrow.

He has three previous convictions for similar crimes.

Mukwatie's mother, Johanna, said she was pleased the case was over and that her son had benefited, but she said she did not know if he would live long enough to complete his schooling.

"He seems to grow weaker all the time and cannot walk very far. Sometimes he cannot speak for long because he cannot breathe properly."

"I am so worried that if he gets ill he will not have the strength to survive," she said.



SCARRED FOR LIFE ... Frank Mukwatie shows the burns on his body. Picture: BRIAN HENDLER



# Girls spray poison for only R4 a day

CP Correspondent

SCHOOLGIRLS are working in terrible conditions for slave wages on timber plantations where chemical poisons are handled without proper protection.

This emerged from a City Press investigation this week into conditions on pine and gum plantations outside the town of Ugie in the north eastern Cape.

The forests are jointly owned by corporate giants Anglo American and De Beers and are managed by Mondi Paper Company - which contracts out some work.

Mondi representatives, who flew to the area to investigate the allegations, this week expressed concern about the situation.

The girls - some only 14 years old - said they worked a full day for a paltry R4.

City Press established that children are employed to spray dangerous weed-control chemicals. They and other workers said they were not issued with protective masks or goggles when spraying.

Local doctor RF Kyd said he could prove a marked increase in throat and chest problems dur-

ing the spraying season. Workers also complained that the poisons damaged their eyes.

Mondi said the poisons were not dangerous.

The girls dig trenches and spray poisons for 14 days in a row and are then entitled to one day off.

"But if it rains in the afternoon, we are told we have to forfeit the entire day's pay," said one girl.

A 14-year-old girl said she and other under-aged children used their parents' identity documents to get work. It is illegal to employ children under 15. While older workers earn between R171 and R198 a month, the girl said she was paid only R125.

The openly hostile manager of Pagen Weed Control in Ugie, Neil Mills, denied that he employed children. But just 30 minutes later City Press found a girl, who said she was 14, toiling with one of his labour gangs.

Asked what protective clothing he issued to workers during spraying, Mills said: "Sufficient for the job."

City Press also inspected the company's worker compound on Glen Cullen farm where 70 work-

ers, mostly women, are housed.

There are 10 beds to a room, no privacy and just two zinc basins to do all the washing-up for 70 workers.

Washing facilities are cold showers in a draughty corrugated iron structure. Winter temperatures often plunge to below zero in the mountainous area. When City Press tried to speak to compound occupants, a woman who identified herself as Mrs Wills ordered our correspondent to leave.

Mondi manpower resources manager Dr Brian Lucas said Mondi paid its workers a minimum of R290 a month and gave workers food worth R3 a day. But this did not mean the company's contractors did the same.

Lucas said Mondi did, however, require contractors not to employ workers under the age of 15 or allow workers to use chemicals in a dangerous manner.

Lucas said Mondi would investigate ways of alleviating the social problems of the community. The Anglo and De Beers Chairmen's Fund would be asked for support.



# Payout not enough — burnt kid

By **MONWABISI NOMADOLO**

FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD Frank Mukhwathi will soon be the the richest person in Tshituni, a miserable village in a poverty-stricken area a few kilometers from Thohoyandou, Venda's capital city.

He will get R40 000 court-ordered compensation from farmer John van Deventer, who was found guilty of assault in the Louis Trichardt Magistrate's Court after he had fastened a metal ring around Frank's left hand which he welded to a steel table. He then poured petrol over the boy, turning him into a human torch.

But the R40 000 will not take away the burn scars on Frank's chest, chin and hands — which will be a reminder of his terrible ordeal for the rest of his life.

Van der Westhuizen had pleaded not guilty to the charges of assault, but the court accepted Frank's evidence that the farmer had assaulted him and chained his legs before the ordeal started.

Van der Westhuisen was fined R5 000 or two years' imprisonment.

In addition, he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, which would be suspended if he paid the youngster R40 000 compensation. He chose to pay.

The magistrate ordered him to pay R10 000 by Tuesday, R15 000 by October 15 and the outstanding balance by November 15.



**PAYOUT ... Frank now wants to become a taxi driver.**

**Torched  
boy will  
get R40 000**

Frank told City Press that the money was "okay," but not enough.

"It's better than nothing. But he should have paid more, because this was the worst thing that has ever happened to me."

During the trial it was revealed that Van der Westhuizen's only asset was a motorbike. He earned R2 000 a month, but said his em-

ployer had given him a loan.

He agreed outside court that he would pay the money to stay out of jail.

Frank's mother, Johanna Lefoka, 57, told City Press she was happy with the outcome of the trial.

"At first I could not believe my eyes when I saw my son in agony," she said.

Lefoka, who has five other sons, told City Press from her dusty hut that her family was on the verge of starvation as she was no longer employed. She left her job when Frank was assaulted.

Originally from Hammanskraal, she came to Venda with her now divorced husband, Gidion Mukhwathi, in November, 1969.

Lefoka has since remarried, and gets no maintenance from her former husband.

"I left him when he brought a pregnant woman called Rosina to our quarters on the farm, and the boys became my responsibility," she said.

Frank has not decided what to do with the money, but his big wish is to become a taxi driver. His mother is going to look after the money and he wants all of it put in a bank so it earns interest while he makes up his mind.

■ Frank will be sentenced in the regional court tomorrow for stealing a TV set from a holiday resort which borders the farm where he was "welded" and burnt. He has three previous convictions for similar offences.





# A special day for the children

Sevelan 27/9/91 298

THE South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare launched its 1992 Our Children's Day project this week at a breakfast function in Johannesburg. The project is one of the largest annual fundraising drives in aid of child welfare.

Our Children's Day was first introduced by the council in 1926.

The council coordinates the activities of the 172 affiliated child and family welfare societies nationwide. In rapidly changing

times the stable wellbeing of children becomes a priority.

In such times children are increasingly exposed to abuse and consequently the child welfare movement needs to do everything possible to aid the child's development.

The day gives everyone the opportunity to focus on the important issue of child welfare, as well as to support the movement financially through publicity on a nationwide scale ranging from concerts to charity matches, film shows and street col-

fashioned discipline as far as our children are concerned."

She cited Britain as an example as "it has the highest crime rate and half of the criminals are kids. They do it for fun and their parent let them do it in the name of fun".

Mr Arnold Bessarabie, group chief executive of Fedsure and managing director of Fedlife, handed Joan Oberholzer of Child and Family Welfare a cheque of R50 000.

"On behalf of Fedlife, it gives me great pleasure to announce our continued association with the South African National Council

for Child and Family Welfare and in particular, our third successive sponsorship of 'Our Children's Day'."

Our Children's Day takes place on November 2.

## Missing

The Moila family of 2472 Tsagae Street, Rockville in Soweto, are searching for their son, Mr Moila Michael Molefe, who went missing from home on September 13.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the above mentioned address.



SOWETAN Friday September 27 1991

# Putting children first

Children and teachers of Lethabong Lower Primary School in Soweto celebrate the R500 they won from Citrus Exchange. Pic: WINKIE DIBAKWANE.

THE child with Aids and the family to which it belongs presents unique, demanding and exciting challenges to deliver effective care and support on terms that are acceptable to the child, the family and the community in which they live. *Sowetan 27/9/91*

This was said by Mr Richard J Wells, head of rehabilitation services at Royal Marsden Hospital in London, at the centenary conference of the SA Nursing Association in Bloemfontein this week.

Wells said the child infected with HIV and the unaffected child of infected parents would make enormous, though disparate, demands on society and health care providers in particular.

If the spread of HIV continued its established pattern, there might be 40 million people infected by the year 2000, which was the year it was hoped to proclaim the achievement of "Health for all".

The predictions were that, by the year 2000, about 10 million infants would have been born HIV-positive.

Wells said that, to protect children from infection with HIV, the issue must first be addressed of health education among adults.

People of all political persuasions, ethnic origins, health and social welfare disciplines must unite to address the issues that mitigate against children who already suffer the assaults of the condition, and those not yet born.

## Emphasis

The child with Aids could expect to be beset by numerous illnesses during its troubled and short life. The wherewithal in developing countries to treat those illnesses and infections was limited, and the emphasis must be based towards quality, rather than quantity, of life.

If care was to be effective it must involve many disciplines at many levels.

Mrs Arjan Herpertz-van Nieuwenhuijzen, chairman of the Dutch Oncology Society, on the child with cancer, said that children could be helped most when caregivers and parents were open and created an atmosphere where the child might express his concerns and feelings.

Van Nieuwenhuijzen said that childhood cancer affected the whole family. It was the parents, not the child, who first heard the diagnosis and were most acutely aware of the implications.

The impact of a life-threatening illness in their child was such that parents were thrown into a tangle of emotions that made it difficult for them to cope with the practical problems, not least of which were to maintain and security and sense of well-being of their child.

The other children in the family should also be told as much about the child's illness as they can comprehend.

Sister Clara Fenwick, of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said that once cancer was confirmed it came as a profound shock to the family. They needed time to grieve and adjust. At this time of maximum vulnerability it was vital that the family unit be maintained.

Fenwick said that at St Bartholomews they were able to accommodate whole families if necessary. - Sapa





# Putting children first

Children and teachers of Lethabong Lower Primary School in Soweto celebrate the R500 they won from Citrus Exchange. Pic: WINKIE DIBAKWANE.

THE child with Aids and the family to which it belongs presents unique, demanding and exciting challenges to deliver effective care and support on terms that are acceptable to the child, the family and the community in which they live. *Sowetan 27/9/91*

This was said by Mr Richard J Wells, head of rehabilitation services at Royal Marsden Hospital in London, at the centenary conference of the SA Nursing Association in Bloemfontein this week.

Wells said the child infected with HIV and the unaffected child of infected parents would make enormous, though disparate, demands on society and health care providers in particular.

If the spread of HIV continued its established pattern, there might be 40 million people infected by the year 2000, which was the year it was hoped to proclaim the achievement of "Health for all".

The predictions were that, by the year 2000, about 10 million infants would have been born HIV-positive.

Wells said that, to protect children from infection with HIV, the issue must first be addressed of health education among adults.

People of all political persuasions, ethnic origins, health and social welfare disciplines must unite to address the issues that mitigate against children who already suffer the assaults of the condition, and those not yet born.

## Emphasis

The child with Aids could expect to be beset by numerous illnesses during its troubled and short life. The wherewithal in developing countries to treat those illnesses and infections was limited, and the emphasis must be based towards quality, rather than quantity, of life.

If care was to be effective it must involve many disciplines at many levels.

Mrs Arjan Herpertz-van Nieuwenhuijzen, chairman of the Dutch Oncology Society, on the child with cancer, said that children could be helped most when caregivers and parents were open and created an atmosphere where the child might express his concerns and feelings.

Van Nieuwenhuijzen said that childhood cancer affected the whole family. It was the parents, not the child, who first heard the diagnosis and were most acutely aware of the implications.

The impact of a life-threatening illness in their child was such that parents were thrown into a tangle of emotions that made it difficult for them to cope with the practical problems, not least of which were to maintain and security and sense of well-being of their child.

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Sister Clara Fenwick, of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said that once cancer was confirmed it came as a profound shock to the family. They needed time to grieve and adjust. At this time of maximum vulnerability it was vital that the family unit be maintained.

Fenwick said that at St Bartholomews they were able to accommodate whole families if necessary. - Sapa



SOWETAN RADIO METRO

## TALKBACK

### 'Lack of jobs is cause of crime'

UNEMPLOYMENT has driven most township youths to crime and gangsterism, Mr. Steve Mokoena, a researcher at the University of the Witwatersrand, said yesterday. 27/9/91

Mokoena was a guest on the Sowetan/Radio Metro Face the Nation Talkback Show. 298

Mokoena spoke on the culture of violence engulfing the country.

Answering a question from Charles, who called from Berea, Mokoena said youths felt at home when they belonged to gangs.

"Unemployed youths identify with gangs because they want to be gangsters.

"Young blacks have role models, who have not been educated, they can relate to. They find some educated people as being just ordinary.

On the question of violence caused by political intolerance, Mokoena said there were situations where residents in some communities had been coerced into joining a dominant organisation.

He gave as an example the political rivalry at Bekkersdal and said: "What happened in Bekkersdal is an example of violence caused by political intolerance."

Mokoena said there was also a marked increase in domestic violence.





Santa's helpers . . . assisting in the charity drive over the festive season, is comedian Dennis McLean with junior city councillors (from left) Leora Romberg, Wayne Rudolph, Belinda Lazarus, Rudie Cohen and Brett Levin. Picture: Alf Kumalo

## Festivities to light up needy children's lives

By Louise Burgers  
Municipal Reporter

The lives of many needy children in Johannesburg will be brightened up over Christmas with the announcement that the city council will spend R800 000 on decorations and festivities in the city centre to the benefit of charity.

After an absence of 20 years, Christmas lights will be strung along Commissioner and Rissik streets, in the Library Gardens and outside the City Hall.

The main aim of the Christmas programme is to raise money for Johannesburg's chil-

dren and special button badges will be sold at R2 each. Beneficiaries include educational and welfare organisations.

The theme is Peace on Earth and schools, universities, retail outfits, service stations and welfare organisations are being called on to sell the badges.

November 30 is the date of the big "switch-on" by Mayor Elliot Kretzmer. A night parade with floats, bands, drum majorettes and other entertainers will follow.

A huge Christmas tree will be erected at the City Hall. On December 3 a charity ball will be

held and on December 7, a massive fireworks display will be held on Linksfield Ridge.

Apart from the major events, the Civic Spine will be filled with stalls, entertainers and other cultural activities during the festive season.

Culture and recreation committee chairman Cecil Bass said if the project was successful this year, it would be extended in the CBD and to Hill-brow.

"We hope to raise a substantial amount of money for charity. The security department will do everything in its power

to protect the public so people will be able to come along and enjoy themselves without fear of being mugged.

"We desperately need some fun in Johannesburg and for people, especially the children of the city, to enjoy themselves. We are having to deal with so many anguished issues in the city."

Special security arrangements are being made by the council's security department to protect the public. There will be foot patrols in the centre and in municipal parking lots which will be open free to the public in the evenings.



NEWSPAPER 1 201 7 11 1991

26 1991

# Paralysed Soweto teenager claims R800 000 from police

(298)

SUSAN RUSSELL

THE mother of a Soweto teenager who was left partially paralysed when he was allegedly shot by police during unrest at a funeral in 1989, is suing the Minister of Law and Order for R880 000 damages in the Rand Supreme Court.

Paulina Monamodi is suing on behalf of her son David who turned 15 in January.

He suffered spinal injuries which left him partially paralysed after he was shot in Zola, Soweto, on September 16 1989.

He is claiming past and future medical expenses, loss of amenities of life, disfigurement and pain and suffering.

The police deny they shot Monamodi during a Soweto funeral. They claim they fired towards a procession, but the injured youth was found in a coal yard about 50 metres behind them.

Capt Jacobus du Preez told the court yesterday he gave the order to open fire after a man at the front of the procession fired two to four shots in rapid succession.

Du Preez said ammunition and not tear-gas was used because police lives were in danger.

"It was an 'us or them' situation," he said.

Du Preez said he ordered his personnel

to stop shooting when people began running away and told them to look for dead and injured, but none were found on the spot.

However, cries were heard coming from the coal yard, and it was there that an injured child was found.

Du Preez, who said he was stationed in Soweto from 1984 to 1989, told the court it was common practice for crowds in riot situations to remove the injured and dead to prevent police questioning those who had been hurt.

The injured were not usually taken to hospital, but treated in people's homes.

According to his experience, there was always violence at funerals with political overtones, and funerals had been used for political purposes and hijacked by comrades.

Residents were forced to participate in processions, he said.

He told the court he did not know if the funeral had been political although there had been ANC and SA Communist Party flags displayed.



# Youth recounts 'welding' assault

Star 26/9/91  
By Willie Mashau  
Northern Transvaal Bureau

A boy of 15 yesterday recounted the circumstances surrounding the assault on him by a white farm supervisor.

Frank Mkwati, who was chained to a steel workshop table, doused with petrol and set on fire with sparks from welding wires, suffered second-degree burns.

John van der Westhuizen (31) set him alight on Hayoma Farm at Tshipise in the far northern Transvaal on December 8 1990.

Van der Westhuizen was on

(298)  
Monday sentenced to a fine of R5 000 (or two years) and a suspended jail sentence of five years.

He was also ordered to pay Frank Mkwati R40 000.

Frank, of Tshituni-tsha-fhasi in Venda, said yesterday that he used to work at the farm while attending school but ran away in 1989 after Van der Westhuizen allegedly assaulted him and fired shots in his direction.

He went back to the farm on December 8 1990 when his mother, Johanna Lefoka, who worked at the farm had sent for him to give him money for the Christmas holidays.

He said Van der Westhuizen found him at the farm gate and asked for his help in the workshop.

"In the workshop Van der Westhuizen assaulted me. He chained my feet and welded the chain to a cutting torch trolley.

"Van der Westhuizen later came back with about half a litre of petrol and poured all of it over my shoulders and stomach. When my clothes caught fire, he kicked me and left me engulfed in flames," he said.

When asked how he felt about the whole affair, Frank tried to speak but could not.



# Breaking the cycle of violence

Spk 8/7/91

(298)

Most families provide love, support and a harmonious environment for their members. Unfortunately, in some families things go badly wrong.

Child abuse is a serious problem — more than 5 000 children in England and Wales are injured by their parents each year, and more than 50 are killed.

According to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC), the number of cases of physical abuse to children in the United Kingdom is rising by about 200 a year.

However, this increase may be because more people are willing to report abuse to the authorities than in the past.

Child abuse is not a modern development. In the past a great deal of cruelty to children was tolerated by society.

Now, however, it causes a public outcry and receives a great deal of media attention.

A hundred years ago, child beating was considered part of the normal and necessary discipline of children.

It was also believed that children were the property of their parents who were free to treat them as they wished.

These ideas began to change during the 1870s when the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was formed in New York.

The form of cruelty which children suffer at the hands of their families varies.

The most common cases of child abuse reported are



Tears of trauma ... most incidents of child abuse occur at times of crisis and are provoked by feeding problems, persistent crying and accidents in toilet training.

physical violence, physical and emotional neglect, and emotional and sexual abuse.

Child abuse is not confined to poorer or less-educated families — it occurs at all social levels.

One well-publicised example was that of an American lawyer who was charged with beating his six-year-old daughter to death.

Social workers who have worked with abusing families often find almost all abusing parents have been abused themselves during

their childhood

This cycle of violence from one generation to another is very hard to break because parenting skills are learned from the way our own parents treated us.

If a child experiences only violence and neglect, he or she grows up too damaged to prevent the same pattern being repeated with his or her own children.

Abusing parents have no understanding of child development and expect unreasonable standards of behaviour from babies.

For example, one mother could not tolerate her seven-month-old child moving while its nappy was being changed and smacked it hard until it remained still.

Such parents usually have a low self-image because of the neglect and rejection they themselves experienced during childhood.

They often report that when their children cry they seem to be accusing them (the parents).

In such instances, the parent feels inadequate and expresses

her or himself by physically punishing the child. This makes the child cry more and causes the violence to escalate.

Studies show that most child abuse occurs at times of crisis and is most often provoked by feeding problems, accidents in toilet training or persistent crying.

Sexual abuse is rather different from physical cruelty because although it sometimes occurs in families that are generally violent or neglectful, it often happens in families that

seem to be otherwise caring.

All societies are against incest (that is, societies forbid sexual activity between family members other than between the mother and father).

Unless a parent admits to sexually abusing his or her child, it can be difficult to prove.

Although there are many types of sexual abuse, the most common is incest between father and daughter. This is usually non-violent and, despite denials, usually takes place with the mother's silent consent.

This places the child in a very difficult situation because she has probably been told that if she tells someone what is happening it will certainly mean the break-up of her family and possibly would lead to her father's arrest.

Many parents believe their children will be taken away from them if they ask for help.

Once a case has been reported, social workers can provide assistance for both children and parents by organising support in the form of childminders, home-helps, psychotherapy to help parents control their feelings, and family therapy.

However, there is a shortage of available resources to cope with the problem of child abuse.

Lack of funding means that social workers are often inadequately trained or are too over-worked to concentrate fully on each case.

Adapted from "Let's Discuss Family Life", published by Wayland.

For further information contact Trade Winds Press, Box 20194, Durban North, 4016.



# My day in hell

From Page 1

The boy, who undressed and showed the court burns on his throat, chest, abdomen and hands, said he was on his way to see his mother on the farm when Van der Westhuizen asked him to accompany him to the workshop to help with some work.

When they got to the workshop, Van der Westhuizen started assaulting him with fists on the head and body for no reason.

"He told four black men to hold me as he went into the workshop and came with a big chain and a shocking device used for cattle."

## Chained feet

"He chained my feet and started shocking me all over the body. Later he took an iron and fitted it around my left wrist. He took me to a steel table and welded the iron to the table, burning my hand in the process," the boy said.

Showing the court the burn mark around his wrist, the boy said Van der Westhuizen had gone into a smaller room in the workshop and came back with petrol in a plastic container.

"He poured it over my chest on the lumber jacket that I was wearing. Then he took the two terminals of the welding machine and advanced towards me hitting them against each other.

"The sparks from the terminals fell on my petrol-soaked jacket and caught fire," he said. As the youth said this, his mother broke down and had to be escorted out of court in tears.

## Burning jacket

He told the court that he tried, using his right hand, to pull the burning jacket off as the blaze ate into the shirt and his skin. He stopped when his hand also caught fire.

A labourer doused the flames with water. "The burning still continued because the nylon jacket was melting. When I tried to pull it off, my flesh peeled off too," he said.

Van der Westhuizen, who kept on shaking his head in court yesterday as the evidence unfolded, had later gone to his house nearby, the boy said.

"He returned and stood near me and laughed." Later, as he sat welded to the steel table, a white policeman arrived.

"He kicked me in the stomach and went out to his van. He brought handcuffs. One of the labourers sawed off the iron on my hand as I cried from pain.

## Never told

"The policeman pulled me up with the handcuffs that he had fastened on my burnt right hand and took me to his open van. He fastened the cuffs to a bar on the back of the van and drove me to the Messina police station," the boy said.

At no point was he ever told why all of this was happening.

He was later taken to hospital.

There were tears in his eyes when his pictures taken at Messina Hospital soon after the incident were shown to him.

He still feels pains and cannot walk for long distances.

The hearing continues.

Star 19/7/91

## Child assault: father jailed for 6 months

Staff Reporter (298)

A father of six was jailed for six months yesterday after being convicted in a Johannesburg Magistrate's Court of assaulting three of his children and grievously assaulting his wife.

The man, who may not be named to protect the identity of the children, was sentenced to 18 months, with 12 months suspended for five years.

He had trampled on his wife, hit her head against a wall, punched her and hit his children with safety belts.

Passing sentence, Mr C Nel said the man's three other children had been taken away from him in 1984.

"You have shown no remorse and obviously did not want to take responsibility for your actions.

"The way you assaulted your children is not acceptable to this court, or to anyone in society. You may punish children when they deserve it, but not in the way you did."

Mr Nel said the man had treated his wife disgracefully. "When you take your marriage vows, you promise to look after your wife, not to batter her."

Although the man claimed to be addicted to dagga, his lack of remorse was deplorable, the magistrate said.



# Boy who was welded to table shows court his scarred body

Sunday Times 21/7/91

By JOCELYN MAKER

A YOUNG boy stripped in court this week to show his scarred body which was allegedly burnt after his wrist had been welded to a table.

When Frank Mukhwathi, 15, of Tshituni village, Venda, turned so that the Louis Trichardt regional magistrate could see the white scars on his lower back, the child's mother hung her head in despair.

Earlier, she had left the court weeping as her son told of his day of agony at the farm Hayoma.

Messina farm manager Jan van der Westhuizen has pleaded not guilty to attempted murder.

The teenager said he had been on his way to visit his mother, who worked on the farm, on the morning of December 8 1990.

## Hitting

As he turned on to the farm road, Mr Van der Westhuizen drove up in a bakkie. Four workers were on the back of the vehicle. Mr Van der Westhuizen told Frank he wanted him to help in the workshop.

"I got on to the bakkie and when we got to the workshop, he got out. As I began walking, he grabbed me by my chest. He began

hitting me on my chest and stomach," said Frank, adding that the farmer hit him about 10 times.

"He fetched a chain and a cattle prod. He chained my feet while the four men stood around. After my feet were tied, he began shocking me all over my body."

After this, Frank said, Mr Van der Westhuizen took a piece of steel which he fitted around his wrist.

"Then he fetched a welding machine. My legs were chained while he did this. He then put my arm against the table and with the piece of steel around my wrist, he began welding it."

Earlier, he showed the court the deep burn scar which had been left around his wrist.

"I had a lumber jacket on and a pyjama top underneath. He went and fetched petrol. He threw the petrol on to my jacket. Then he took the welding machine and rubbed two rods together. Fire came out of them."

"The fire caught me on my chest. It began to burn. He never spoke to me. I did not know why he was doing

this to me."

Frank said that by this time his jacket, pyjama top and body were burning.

"With my right hand, I tried to pull the clothes off my chest, but had to stop when I felt my right hand burning."

"After this, the four men threw water on me and put out the fire."

After the fire was extinguished, Frank said, he tried to pull the jacket off with his injured right hand.

## Kicked

"My skin came away as I did this. I could only get the right sleeve off; another man cut off my left sleeve. After this, the accused went to his house, came back and stood there laughing at me."

He told the court a policeman arrived shortly afterwards and kicked him in the stomach and the sides of his lower body while he was still attached to the table.

Frank said a farm labourer then cut his arm free with a steel saw.

The policeman handcuffed his burnt right hand and put him on the back of a bakkie.

He was taken to the Messina police station and then

to hospital where he remained for four months.

The accused's attorney, Mr JLC van Vuuren, said Mr Van der Westhuizen denied using petrol or a welder to set the boy's clothing alight.

A Pretoria police forensic expert showed a video to prove that the boy's jacket must have had a flammable substance poured on it to have caught alight.

The case has been postponed to September 23.

By MOSS MAMAILA

A FATHER who raped his 13-year-old daughter was this week sentenced to four years' jail in the Thohoyandou Regional Court.

The court was told that the man, a member of the Zion Christian Church (ZCC) from the Venda village of Tshisisi, had sent his pregnant wife away to deliver their sixth child.

Giving evidence, the girl said that on July 16 this year, she and her siblings slept in their father's hut because they were afraid to sleep alone in the other huts.

"At about 8pm when the other children were

## Father raped his own child

fast asleep, my father invited me to his bed," the girl said.

"He told me he wanted to taste salt.

"I enquired whether he wanted to make love to me, his child, but he slapped me and asked if I wanted to give it to other people before giving it to him."

The girl, who told the court she was a virgin at the time, testified that her father then raped her.

Before she joined the other children sleeping on the floor her father warned her not to tell anyone about the incident or he would assault her.

Two days later, she alleged, her father raped her again.

The following day, the girl told her mother what had happened and she reported it to the police.

Passing sentence, magistrate CN Booie said the accused had subjected his daughter to severe abuse.



# Hostel 'sex slave' escapes

By ELIAS MALULEKE

A 14-YEAR-OLD girl went through six months of "hell" during which she was held captive in a hostel and repeatedly raped by inmates.

The girl this week escaped from her abductors at the Meadowlands men's hostel in Soweto, where she had been held as a "sex slave" since December last year.

The abduction was reported to the police but, despite numerous security force raids on the hostel for weapons, she was never found.

The girl, who cannot be named, was abducted from her Meadowlands home last December by a hostel dweller during an attack in the township.

She was taken to the hostel where she was imprisoned until her dramatic escape on Wednesday night.

The horror tale has shocked township residents, who have intensified their calls for hostels to be scrapped.

Several women in the strife-torn Reef townships have repeatedly alleged they were abducted and taken to hostels, where they were raped.

"This is conclusive proof of the atrocities and brutalities perpetrated by hostel dwellers against innocent children. To prevent further assaults of this nature, the hostels must go," a member of the ANC's Meadowlands branch said.

Police spokesman Col Tienie Halgryn told City Press the incident was "shocking". However, he declined to give details, saying this would hinder police investigations.

He said a man had been arrested for abduction and rape and further arrests were expected.



**AT LARGE . . . Buti Malobane poses with two of his victims.** ■ Pic: TLADI KHUELE

## Manhunt for child molester <sup>(298)</sup>

By **MONWABISI NOMADOLO** <sup>18/8/91</sup>

EAST Rand police have launched a manhunt for a self-confessed child molester from Daveyton who is on the run.

When City Press contacted the police for comment four weeks ago when the story broke, East Rand liaison officer Captain Ida van Zweel denied police had records of a rape case of a four-year-old, in which the molester was implicated.

The disappearance of 17-year-old Buti Malobane, after confessing to molesting three girls, has left residents uncertain about their children's safety.

The youngest victim was only 10 months old and still wearing a nappy.

Van Zweel confirmed this week that the case had been reported to the Daveyton police and was being investigated.

She said a warrant of arrest has been issued, adding that a police search was underway.

Police would also consider placing the youth on television's *Police File* as he youth posed a danger to society.

Police said they have visited Buti's home 12 times the past three months.

Earlier, the police denied having records of the case, even after City Press gave them the name of the investigating officer.

However, after reading about the case in City Press, investigating officer Sergeant Nathaniel Thakge telephoned the newspaper to confirm he was busy with the case.

The officer said Buti's father, Johannes, had promised to co-operate by handing his son over to police if he was apprehended.

A Sgt Pohl called City Press from the Benoni po-

lice Child Protection Unit this week trying to trace the whereabouts of the molester.

Transvaal Provincial Administration social workers have also visited the families of the victims.

The chairman of the Daveyton area committee, Zeph Zabane, said the safety of the children in the area could not be guaranteed until the culprit was apprehended.

Speaking to City Press earlier, Buti said he was acquitted at the Benoni Magistrate's Court two years ago without pleading after appearing three times on a charge of rape.

The furious mother of the 10-month-old baby girl said she was not called to testify.

Last month Daveyton residents led by Zabane apprehended the rapist and later released him.

Zabane expressed concern about the disappearance of Buti, adding residents were afraid of him.

Van Zweel appealed to residents not take the law into their own hands.

"If apprehended, the suspect should be handed to the police," she said.

Buti - a Std 5 pupil who no longer attends school - last month detailed how he in the past sexually molested three little girls, aged between 10 months and four years.

He confessed to raping a four-year-old in his neighbourhood, but the family has since moved from the area and resettled in nearby Etwatwa.

He said he indecently assaulted the second victim after taking off her nappy behind a shack while he pretended to play with her.

The last was raped in May, and the culprit disappeared until he was caught 'by' residents in July.



# Child abuse to be discussed at parenting seminar

298  
Sowetan  
23/7/91

THE Pick 'n Pay-sponsored Nation Building Road Show promises to entertain as well as educate the Bloemfontein community where it will be this weekend.

The first of the weekend's events is the parenting seminar which takes place at the Zenzele YWCA on Saturday.

The seminar consists of presentations by professional people on issues such as child abuse, Aids and parenting.

Members of the local community will lead discussions on problems in

their areas and propose solutions for them.

The speakers will include youth representative Miss Faith Makoka, teachers' representative Mr Mike Lekhetho, Mrs Rachel Sempe, who will speak for parents and Father Sondiya on behalf of the clergy.

## Choirs

The seminar starts at 10am.

A school choirs' competition will dominate Sunday's programme.

Nine schools will participate in the event to be

held at the Norman Doubell Hall from 9am.

Each of the school choirs will sing a traditional and a formal choral piece.

The winners will qualify for an all-expenses-paid trip to Johannesburg to compete in the Nation Building inter-schools choir competition.

Anyone requiring more information on either the Nation Building events in Bloemfontein this weekend should call the organiser D1 Sutherland at (011) 886-7153.

(298) ARL 26/8/91

# Child abuse: 25 000 calls

**The Argus Correspondent**

JOHANNESBURG. — Nearly 25 000 calls, or more than 700 a day, were recorded at Childline's national toll-free telephone number in June, said the Minister of National Health and Health Services, Dr Rina Venter.

But while calls (mostly from children) flood the 0800-123321 telephone number, experts are seriously questioning whether the co-ordination or the medical, welfare, psychological, legal and police back-up is available to handle the huge child-abuse problem uncovered by the Round Table television advertising campaign.

Contrasted with the huge number of callers to the toll-free referral number is the fact that only 560 a month, or 15 to 20 daily, are being received by the Johannesburg Childline office, according to co-ordinator Mrs Elize Morgenrood.

It is clear after discussion with child-abuse experts and volunteer Childline counsellors that the organisation lags far behind the problem and is ill-

equipped to help the abused on the huge scale now being uncovered.

Childline volunteer telephone counsellor Louella Levin said a serious concern was that many Reef callers to the toll-free number simply never made the second call after being asked by 0800-123321 to phone their local Childline office.

Mrs Morgenrood said the Round Table ad campaign had been extremely effective in promoting the toll-free number.

Response to the controversial television advertisement had clearly uncovered a desperate need for resources to manage child abuse.

But publicising that number alone was not a solution to child abuse.

The toll-free number merely directs the flood of callers to the appropriate, available service which lacks time for telephone counselling.

Forced to rely on minimal financial backing by the government, it was clear long before the advertisement was flighted

that child-abuse resources were ill-equipped to handle a flood of complaints.

Mrs Morgenrood claimed virtually no research had been done on the problem and government support for Childline (often the first and only resort for desperate, abused children who may feel uncomfortable getting in touch with social welfare agencies) is almost nil.

Launched in 1988 by the South African Society for Child Abuse and Neglect (Sascopan), the Childline "telephone-in" service was part of the ripple effect of publicity attracted by the SAP's child-protection unit, said Child Abuse Clinic medical officer Dr Sandy Wise.

Since 1986 Childline has been established in Durban, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg.

But until recently, when 39 trained volunteers completed the intensive course in Johannesburg, a pool of 10 volunteers headed by a paid co-ordinator comprised the total counsellor workforce from 8.30am-8.30pm on the Reef.



# Child sex: Welfare anger at suspended sentences

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ARC 26/9/91

**The Argus Correspondent**

JOHANNESBURG. — Suspended sentences imposed on two men who had intercourse with a 14-year-old girl at a massage parlour, have drawn criticism from welfare authorities.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said that two men were found guilty of having intercourse with a girl under the age of 16 and sentenced by a Johannesburg magistrate to 12 months, suspended for five years.

The punishment drew a call for a rethink of values which sees crimes against property in some cases carrying heavier penalties than those against persons.

Calling for stricter penalties for child prostitution, executive

member of the National Council for Child and Family Welfare Mr Keith Heilmann said not only girls but street children who are mainly boys, were being solicited.

National Institute of Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders director Mrs Heather Regenass said it was important to find what happened to the child victim.

"Crimes against property are punished far more severely than acts against people. We would like to see a different trend in sentencing," she said.

Captain Opperman said six people had been arrested by detectives of the Johannesburg Child Protection Unit acting on information that a massage

parlour employed and "misused" a 14-year-old girl.

Captain Opperman said Jan Nortje, 22, and Percy Land, 24, were arrested on a charge of having intercourse with a girl under the age of 16.

They were found guilty by a Johannesburg magistrate and sentenced to 12 months in prison, suspended for five years.

Detectives then arrested Mr Nortje's wife, Belinda, who allegedly managed the massage parlour, Massage and Sauna, on a charge of procurement.

She appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on Monday and the case was postponed to October 25 for trial. She was released on her own recognisances.

...ad ...  
...d that the SABC had failed to ... race sponsorship agreement.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### *B/0 on 24/9/91* Farmer fined for torching boy

A FARMER who set a 15-year-old boy alight was sentenced yesterday to R5 000 or two years' imprisonment after being convicted of attempted murder in the Louis Trichardt Regional Court. (298)

John van der Westhuizen was also sentenced to a further five years in jail, suspended for five years on condition that he paid the boy R40 000 in three instalments for physical damages.

The case was a sequel to the events of December 8 last year when Van der Westhuizen assaulted and set the boy on fire at his Hayoma farm near Messina.

The boy told the court earlier the farmer took an iron, fitted it around his wrist and welded it to a table. He then poured petrol over the boy and set him alight. He was saved by a labourer who doused the flames.

### *B/0 on 24/9/91* CP secretary jailed for 14 days

CP CHIEF secretary Andries Beyers was yesterday sentenced to 14 days in prison by the Pretoria Supreme Court for refusing to identify a source who claimed the National Intelligence Service had kidnapped a key witness in the Winnie Mandela kidnap and assault trial. Beyers had appealed against the sentence imposed in March by a Pretoria magistrate.

The court dismissed Beyers' appeal against his conviction and sentence, saying reasons he gave for refusing to identify his source were not valid. Beyers claimed he could not identify the source because he feared identification could harm future sources of information. He also feared for the life of his source.

### Warrent for Hani withdrawn

A WARRANT for the arrest of Umkhonto we Sizwe chief of staff Chris Hani was withdrawn in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court yesterday after he made a brief appearance. *B/0 on 24/9/91* (44)

Hani and 19 other ANC members were arrested in connection with an alleged illegal gathering near Parliament on May 23. Eight of the accused have failed to appear and warrants for their arrest are still effective. The matter was postponed to December 2.

RT.  
IR.  
TEAM 5198/13/E

REPORTS. Sapa.



Star 25/9/91  
**Toughest  
year ahead  
for children**

Staff Reporter **298**

The countdown to Our Children's Day on November 2 has started as child welfare in South Africa faces the toughest year of its existence.

Urging that children should be allowed to enjoy their childhood, television presenter Ruda Landman claimed at the launch yesterday that 48 percent of crimes in Britain were committed by people under the age of 20.

"And children as young as eight regularly carry weapons."

"There is a worldwide breakdown in morality and simple old-fashioned discipline," said Ms Landman.

Our Children's Day, which is convened annually by the National Council for Child and Family Welfare, is a major event to create public awareness and raise funds for 172 affiliated societies.

# New charity aims to bring relief to Africa

By Stan Hlophe

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Children of Africa (southern Africa) — a new charity to help Africans to help themselves and to create awareness of the plight of children worldwide — was officially launched in Johannesburg this week.

The target is to raise \$50 million (about R140 million) through a music concert on November 30 in Lagos, Nigeria, and film, TV and recording rights.

Founder and vice president Miriam Makeba said at the launch "Our

aim is to show the world and ourselves what it means to be an African.

"During the recent and continuing tragedy of famine, other countries and organisations have given their support and aid to Africa. Now we ourselves, the Africans, must do something for Africa — in Africa."

ANC president Nelson Mandela, also on the board of trustees, said:

"The children of Africa are the most valuable treasure. It is they who are destined to preserve the environment and keep it as a home for the people of Africa."



CARL-  
TICK  
3/1/91

## Hostel rape: 11 in court

JOHANNESBURG. — Eleven Soweto youths, including a 12-year-old, appeared briefly in the Orlando Regional Court on Monday following the alleged abduction and gang-rape of young girls from the Bethany Salvation Army Girls' Home on Christmas Day.

They were not asked to plead and the case was postponed to January 14. The oldest member of the gang in court was 22. The accused included the 12-year-old, a 13-year-old, five 14-year-olds, two 15-year-olds and a 17-year-old. — Sapa

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# Friend of the outcasts

WINKIE Direko's involvement with the Child Welfare Society opened a new chapter in her life and turned her into a friend of society's outcasts, prisoners.

The 62-year-old principal at Mangaung High School in Bloemfontein has spent most of those years fighting for the rights of prisoners from her community and helping them with anything she can during and after serving their jail terms.

Her crusade began after the 1976 riots and since then she has worked tirelessly to help prisoners and their families in her community.

She started by forming a subsidiary National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro).

"Many children were detained at that time and I started off just helping them to get bail and arranging for their defence through the SA Council of Churches.

"I soon became a prisoners' friend as more people came forward for help," she explained.

Soon Direko established a relationship with the legal authorities and learned more about how she could help her "friends".

"Because I was the chairman of the organisation, I would negotiate bail with the investigating officers.

"I learned that if I could prove to the authorities that I was a

*Sowetan 26/8/91 298*

TO keep up with nominations for the Sowetan/Eskom Woman of the Year competition which close on August 28, we will be featuring more than one woman until September 2.

By PEARL MAJOLA

responsible person with an interest in preventing crime I could stand in the witness box and plead in mitigation for the prisoners.

"As a worker at child welfare, I came across many problem families where the children invariably got into trouble, usually theft."

One of the most memorable and heart-warming episodes in her work was when a man who had been in prison was released.

## Permit

"He did not have a lodger's permit and therefore could not get a work permit. I helped him apply for one and thereafter he got a job.

"Three months later he had found a job and he came to my house and brought me a pair of stockings.

"Knowing him, I asked where he had stolen them from but he told me he had bought them as a present to show me his gratitude because he was now working.

"This kind of reward is what makes what I do

worth every effort I put into it."

The challenge of having to raise her six brothers and sisters after their father died may have had something to do with the way she is committed to the well-being of others.

As a young girl she took the initiative and joined the Girl Guides. She is presently chief commissioner elect of the Girl Guides Association of South Africa.

Next year she will be the first black woman to become chief commissioner.

She is also president of the National Council of African Women.

"When I was young, I looked up to the women in the NCAW and I was determined that when I grew up I would work for the community as they did.

"A voluntary commitment is more worthy because what you do is always there. There is nothing more satisfying than when a young man comes to me and says he now has a regular job," she concluded.

\* Miss Winkie Direko qualifies for the Sowetan/Eskom Woman of the Year competition.



# Woman of the Week

WINKIE DIREKO

## Epileptics find solace

By PEARL MAJOLA

in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, where they had settled.

"I formed the Black Epileptics Association and we raised funds which enabled us to buy sewing and knitting machines. We then got volunteers to teach and 30 epileptic students to start with."

But the Ntukas had to move again, this time to Bloemfontein, where there were still no educational facilities for Norah.

Ntuka had to start all over again.

"I conducted a study in that area to find out the number of epileptics. Then I got help from neurologists and psychologists I worked with at Pelolomi Hospital to raise funds and start a workshop which we ran for 35 people in my garage," she said.

"Soon after that the Department of Education and Training took over Catholic schools and we were allowed to use one that had been left empty.

"At the time I only had unqualified teachers, but

THE day her six-month-old daughter, Norah, fell off the back of her nanny and developed epilepsy saw Aileen Ntuka make a life-long commitment to the cause, especially the education of epileptic children.

Ntuka, a qualified nurse, has established a school, a workshop and a clinic for epileptics in Rocklands, Bloemfontein.

"We were living in Cape Town when Norah fell. She was admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital for two years before being transferred to Baragwanath where she spent another six years," said Ntuka.

The Ntukas moved to the then Rhodesia so that Norah could attend a special school for epileptic children where she went up to Standard 8 before they moved back to South Africa in 1978.

When she was rejected at the local schools, Ntuka decided to do something for all epilepsy sufferers

Ntuka kept her full-time job at the hospital and did all the work for the school during her spare time.

In 1978 she was invited by the British Epileptic Association to do short courses in epilepsy in Britain.

In 1982 she returned to Britain and in 1984 she was invited to tour 17 American states to observe the work of epileptic organisations and do short courses.

But her exciting trip to America was followed by two major setbacks. She was fired from her job.

As if that was not enough, her relationship with the DET broke down and they withdrew their support for the school, taking away the furniture they bought and withdrew teachers' salaries.

\* Mrs Aileen Ntuka now qualifies for the Sowetan/Eskom Woman of the Year competition.



# Urgent baby deaths inquest sought

AT LEAST 60 deaths are suspected to have resulted from infected Sabax drips — all of which may have been avoided had the Government reacted timeously to original complaints relating to the first baby deaths last year, attorney Peter Soller has stated.

In a lengthy letter to Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee this week, Mr Soller — who is representing a host of parents whose babies allegedly died as a result of the infected drips — appealed for an inquest as soon as possible.

A hearing was urgent

HELEN GRANGE

“in order to determine the cause of so many and so unnatural deaths which took place in a sophisticated medical society — and which, 18 months later, has never been clarified”.

Mr Soller added that families were being broken up and “lives destroyed” because of the trauma suffered by families ignorant about the cause of death.

Affected families had even emigrated because of the “disturbing fact as to what the future holds in respect of hospital ser-

vices and medical treatment — seen against the background of the failure to take positive measures in this matter”.

Mr Soller said his clients had sanctioned him to appeal to the Government to “see to it that justice is now done”.

Responding to the letter, the Justice Ministry said everything possible was being done by the department to expedite the investigation in order to finalise the matter so that justice could take its course.

The Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand had, according to the de-

partment, completed his investigations in the shortest possible time, considering the complexity of the investigation.

The Attorney-General had decided that no criminal prosecutions would follow the deaths of the infants concerned, but an inquest hearing would be held soon.

The police investigation into the deaths of the adults had also been completed. This matter was now under consideration by the Attorney-General and his decision on whether prosecutions would follow was expected soon.

# African babies' Aids nightmare

Star 24/8/91

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Estimated numbers of HIV-infected women



Source: World Health Organization.

THE devastating impact that Aids is going to have in Africa is dramatically shown by this graphic.

One of the most tragic aspects of the Aids pandemic in Africa is that, unlike other regions of the world, nearly half of those infected with the disease are women.

This means there are more doomed babies being born with Aids in Africa than anywhere else. The graphic, based on figures supplied by the World Health Organisation, is published in the latest edition of the United Nations magazine Africa Recovery.

Whichever way it is looked at, it shows the severity of the Aids infection in Africa compared with the rest of the world. The situation has been described by the UN Children's Fund (Unicef) as "a ca-

## AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

lamity whose dimensions are scarcely comprehensible".

Of every 100 000 women of child-bearing age in Africa, 2 500 are infected with HIV, the virus that causes Aids. The comparative figure is 140 in North America, 70 in Western Europe and 30 in Asia.

Of the 8 million to 10 million adults estimated to be HIV-infected throughout the world, nearly 6 million are in Africa. And of these, 800 000 have full-blown Aids. In addition, 900 000 children are HIV-infected and nearly 500 000 of them have Aids.

The International Research Office of the United States Census

Bureau estimates that in 25 years' time 70 million Africans could be infected with HIV.

UN estimates are that "child mortality rates may rise as much as 50 percent in much of sub-Saharan Africa during the Nineties, wiping out the gains in child survival that have been achieved over the past two decades.

"Another 10 million children may be orphaned by the deaths from Aids of their mothers or both parents."

Unicef says the key to preventing a massive toll among children is to contain the spread of Aids among women, since about a quarter of all pregnant women who are HIV-positive pass the infection on to their new-born.

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# 'Adopted' baby living in squalor and filth

By Abbey Makoe  
and Musa Mapisa

298

One of the babies allegedly adopted illegally at the Natalspruit Hospital is languishing in filthy domestic disorder.

When The Star visited the home of baby Portia and her mother "Nicoline" (whose real name is being withheld at her request), the child was semi-naked.

She wore only a dirty blue jersey as she sat next to a brazier outside as a cold wind cut across the yard at her Tokoza, East Rand, home.

Portia looked drowsy, and seemed listless. When she was touched, she screamed and would not heed her mother's plea to calm down.

It appeared that she had not been bathed for a long time. Dry mucus was caked around her nose and dirt covered her feet.

During the three hours The Star spent at her home she ate many sweets and ginger cakes from her mother's shop.

Her mother offered

The Star reporters a drink and washed the glasses in a basin in which she had just washed.

The house, which consisted of a bedroom and one large room, was dusty.

Nicoline revealed that at one stage she had had psychological problems. Thandi Ntombela, the social worker at Natalspruit Hospital who allegedly "sold" Portia to Nicoline in June last year, said she had previously placed a child in foster care with her.

The child was later removed by the "TPA social workers", Ms Ntombela said.

Nicoline's husband is not aware that he is not the biological father of the child. Nicoline said she had a miscarriage while she was at Natalspruit Hospital last year.

She was frightened that her husband, who desperately wanted a child, would divorce her, so she arranged to get a baby from among those who had been abandoned.

Star 14/8/91  
**'I don't know  
of 2 missing  
children'** 298

Natalspruit Hospital superintendent Dr Norman Kearnes has denied any knowledge of two children having disappeared from the wards some two or three years ago.

Dr Kearnes was reacting to the statement in the Sunday Star by Thandi Ntombela, the hospital's social worker, that said she knew of only two babies whose disappearance the hospital could not account for.

Ms Ntombela has vehemently denied her alleged involvement in a baby-selling racket.

Dr Kearnes said Ms Ntombela was continuing with her duties at the hospital because "we are operating on the presumption of innocence".

Meanwhile, the Transvaal Provincial Administration has expressed fears that the inquiry into the baby-selling allegations could take longer than expected as the investigating team's progress was being hampered by the reluctance of people with information to come forward. — Staff Reporter.



# SAP swore at us, say schoolboys

By Guy Jepson  
Crime Staff

Star 14/8/91  
298 289

Police are investigating claims by two 17-year-old schoolboys that they were verbally abused by policemen in Yeoville, Johannesburg, last Thursday.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman confirmed that a crimen injuria docket had been opened after one of the boys, Redhill High School pupil Jed Battersby, had lodged a sworn affidavit with the Yeoville police.

Jed — the son of John Battersby, chairman of the Foreign Correspondents' Association and reporter for the Christian Science Monitor — claimed he and a "coloured" friend, Themba Smuts, were subjected to a constant stream of abuse by two plainclothes policemen who quizzed them on a tape deck he was carrying.

In the affidavit, Jed said he and Themba were stopped by two men in an unmarked car in Saunders Street. Although they indicated that the tape belonged to Themba, the schoolboys were ordered into the vehicle.

Jed refused, asking the passenger to first identify himself, but they got into the car after the passenger allegedly swore at them and threatened to spray gas at them.

The driver then fleetingly produced an identity card. According to the affidavit, the schoolboys gave the policemen Themba's father's telephone number to verify that the tape had not been stolen.

The policemen made radio contact with a person called "Jacoob". After more alleged verbal abuse, the boys were dropped off where they had been picked up.

Before driving off, the driver allegedly called Themba a "f---ing Indian".

Captain Opperman said the allegations would be thoroughly investigated. He added that the police had "a reasonably good explanation for what happened".

# Meeting mum's needs

By NOMVULA KHALO

THE Institute of Child Caring Companies has teamed up with the Highgate Pick 'n Pay Hypermarket to launch a child-caring project that includes a baby room to be used for breastfeeding purposes by mothers visiting the centre.

Child Caring Corner will assist mothers with daily health care needs of their babies.

A qualified nurse will be on hand daily to give advice to the mothers in a special room that has been

set aside at the store.

In addition to this facility, there will be a free monthly newsletter through which mothers who cannot attend the Corner can get information on baby health care.

There will also be a "Dear Sister" box in which mothers can post

their queries and concerns.

"The Highgate Corner is the first one of many that we have planned," explained ICCC managing director and founder of the project Brenda Robson.

"The service is aimed at mothers who require child-care facilities and need a fully personalised service, but cannot afford

the rate-charged at clinics and hospitals.

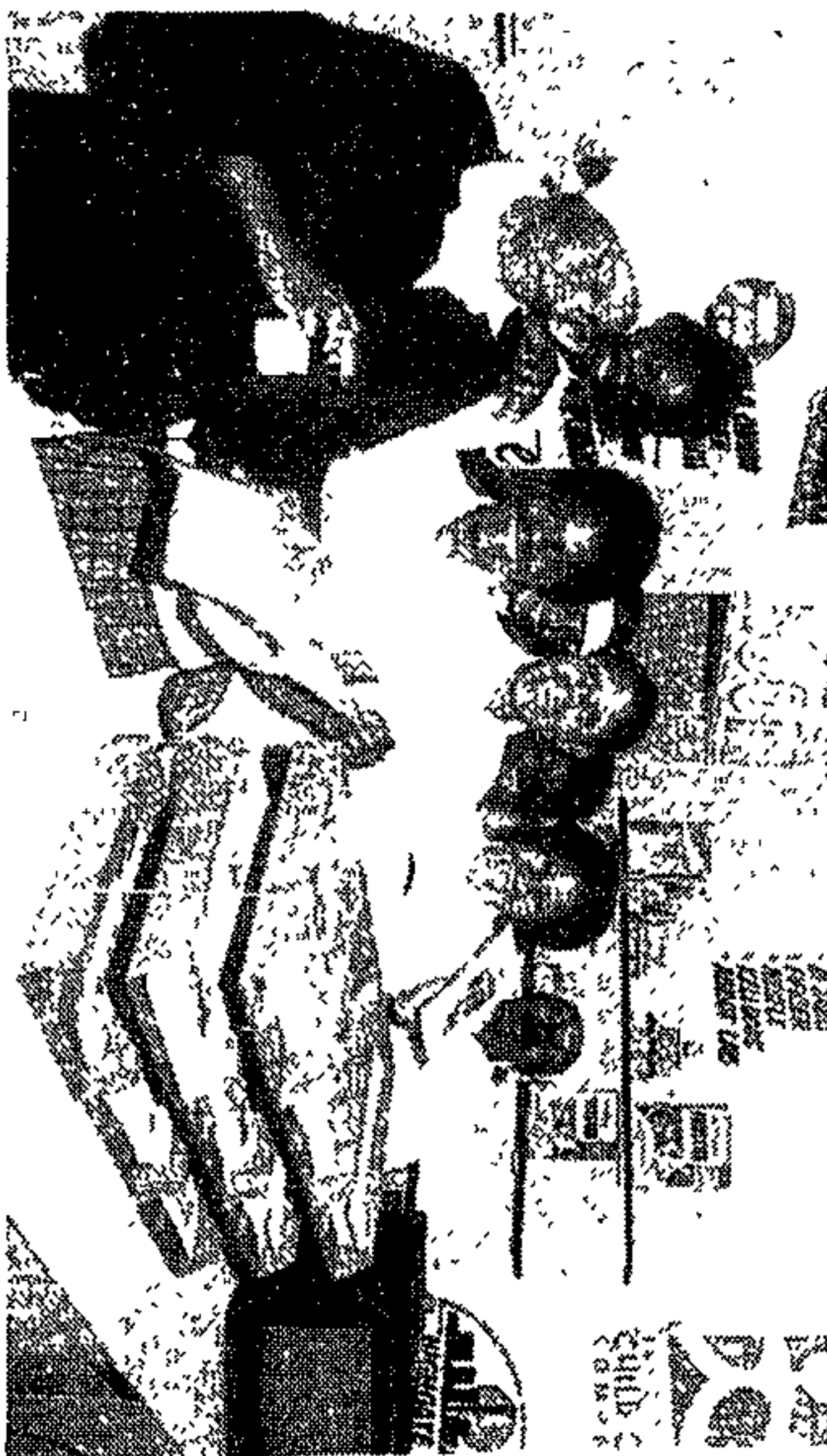
"I realise there is no use talking about health, but that health needs to be taken to the people and what better place than a shopping centre where the mothers are," she said.

"The mothers need to know what to do when their baby is not eating, how and when to switch from formula to solids.

That information will be available at the corner and that is why ICCC was formed."

Different topics on baby care, including breastfeeding and nutrition, will be delivered by doctors and nurses between 12noon to 2pm, starting from Saturday and on alternate Saturdays thereafter.

Other companies sponsoring the project are Tiger Oats, Borden foods, Colgate, Pfizer, Nestle, Kellogg and B-Tabs.



Some of the parents who attended the launch of the Child Care Corner at Highgate shopping centre.





## Caring for <sup>298</sup> children <sup>1518/191</sup>

Critical shortage of space in children's homes and places of safety for child-abuse victims is being addressed through the training of local-community members as substitute parents.

Adults who join the programme will be trained by the Department of Health and Welfare Services.

There are two categories of substitute parents: place-of-safety parents who care temporarily for children removed from their homes, and foster care parents who take over from the place of safety on a temporary basis.

For information telephone Debbie Richards or Corne Hoffman on (011) 836-3061. — Staff Reporter.

# Intensive care facilities short

## Neo-natal treatment compromised

ACCEPTED norms for neo-natal intensive care treatment in South Africa need to be critically reassessed because of chronic shortages, Professor Beyers Bresler Hoek warned in Bloemfontein, last week.

He was delivering his inaugural lecture at the University of the Orange Free State, where he is professor and senior specialist of the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health, as well as head of neo-natal services at the city's academic hospitals.

If more facilities and funds were not provided, the number of potential

neo-natal intensive care users would have to be drastically curtailed, Hoek predicted.

He acknowledged that much of what he had to say conflicted with traditional and accepted ethics, morals, rights and religious values, but added it was open to critical re-evaluation.

More babies in South Africa needed intensive care treatment than could be handled and the increasing costs - both financial and labour - were difficult to justify.

The provision and maintenance of facilities were expensive and financial resources had not in-

creased proportionately to costs.

Intensive care for certain categories of babies, including premature ones, had to be reconsidered as it was not always in the best interests of the baby, parents or the broader community, he maintained.

As a result of the shortages, more funds would have to be made available from the State, or other sources, to maintain neo-natal intensive care facilities.

Parents would also have to make bigger financial contributions, Hoek said.

Intensive care treatment for babies was a privilege and not a right and he warned doctors would be faced with more difficult "and even impossible" choices.

The present infrastructure to help disabled babies was largely inadequate, he added.

Such babies had a strongly disruptive and even destructive effect on parents, marriages and families.

### Parents

Also, the financial implications for the parents and community were enormous.

As for "non-medical guidelines", Hoek said where more than one baby could benefit equally from intensive care, but there was only a facility for one, the following babies should not qualify for intensive care treatment:

Babies whose parents had Aids;

Where one or both parents were addicted to alcohol or drugs;

Those whose parents were permanently unemployed or had no fixed or regular income; Those who were illegitimate or whose mothers had been raped;

Those whose mothers had received no pre-natal care for reasons other than non-availability or accessibility;

Where both parents were mentally retarded or had major psychiatric disturbances;

Parents had a criminal record;

Parents were guilty of child abuse or molestation;

Parents had three or more healthy children; and, Parents could not pay at least a portion of the cost for the use of the facility.

Hoek added if a baby

did not qualify for intensive care, it did not mean it would receive no treatment.

It would still receive all the necessary care, except treatments particular to intensive care.

The practical settlement of harsh, present-day realities appeared increasingly difficult to reconcile with traditional ethical, moral and religious viewpoints, he said.

According to some economists, the use of scarce and expensive facilities or resources for weak babies was economically unjustifiable.

There were more premature babies in underdeveloped and developing communities than in so-called First World countries, Hoek said.

This, together with the unacceptably high population increase, was an important reason why the number of babies needing intensive care in South Africa was greater than in highly developed countries. - Sapa





By LULAMA LUTI

COLD winter days without enough blankets or clothes are a thing of the past for more than 50 Soweto children who were this week presented with blankets, trousers and shirts.

The needy children, all pupils at Mzamo Lower Primary School in Orlando West, were given the blankets and clothes by Soraya Hassim of the Fordsburg-based Islamic Relief Fund. *City Press 18/8/91*

Mzamo principal Caroline Makause said a bread and soup scheme was initially intended for children from poor families but had since been extended to other children.

"Most of the children for whom the scheme was intended are orphans. Some live with their pensioned grannies or in some cases the parents are unemployed.

"For those who live in shacks, the soup kitchen has been a blessing, especially during violence," she said.

Makause said Hassim was doing wonderful work, especially for children from Mzimhlophe.

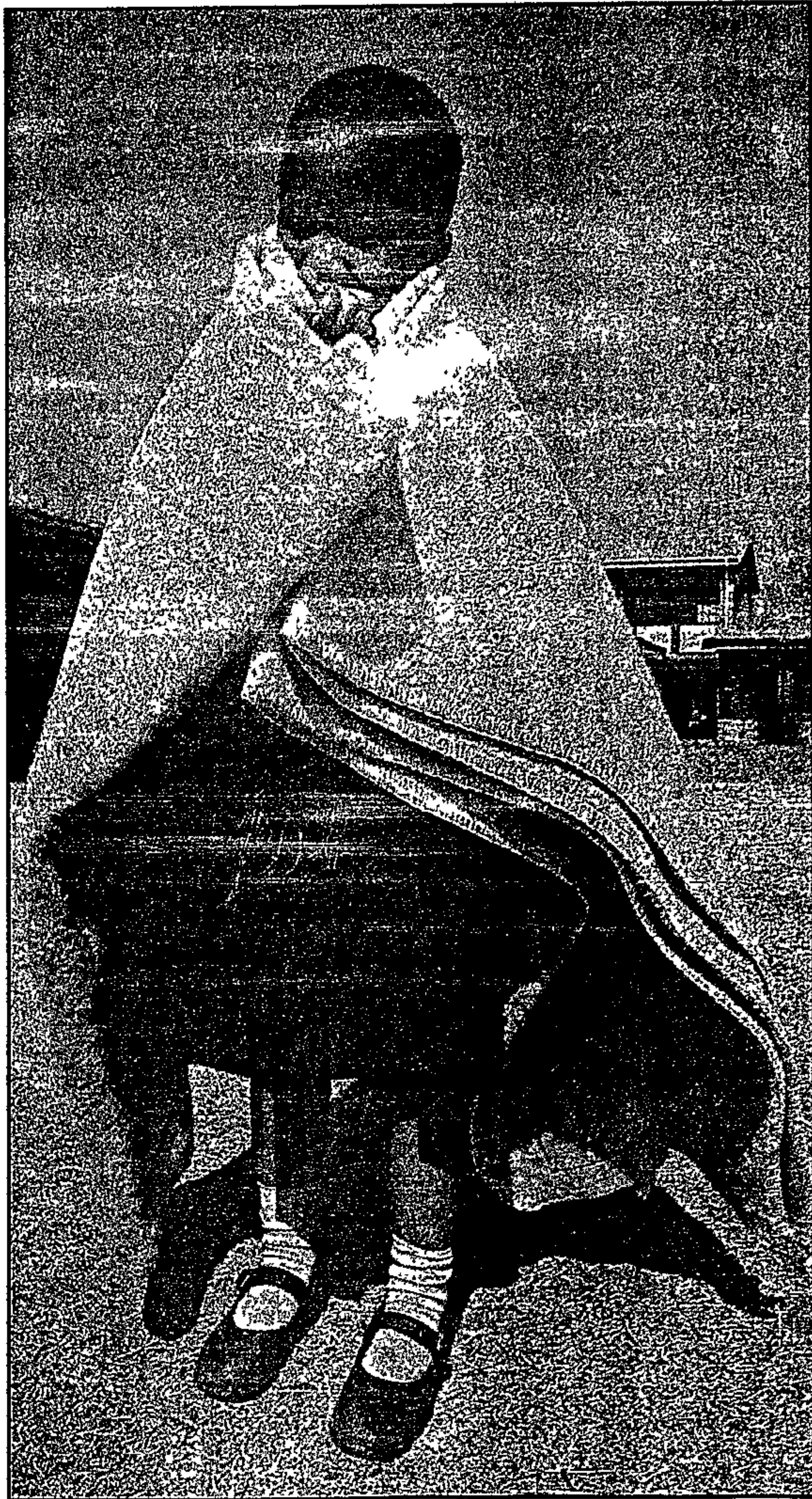
Community worker Hassim said her organisation has been involved in providing relief schemes to people throughout the PWV region and the scheme covers more than 30 000 children.

Among the areas in which the organisation operates are Orange Farm near Evaton, Zonk'izizwe in Katlehong, and the squatter camps in Soweto.

"We have been running soup kitchens for schoolchildren and the elderly.

"The services are concentrated mainly in the squatter camps where people live in terrible conditions. We believe it is our duty to try to bring whatever comfort we can to them," said Hassim. She added that the or-

# Hot soup keeps the cold at bay



A little girl from Mzamo School with her blanket. **PICTURE BY EVANS MBOWENI**

ganisation was largely dependent on donations by, and support from, the Muslim community.

"The clothes and blankets are collected from schools and churches

who have been very generous and without whose help and support the project would not have been possible."

She said the organisation, together with the

Islamic Medical Association, also ran a mobile medical unit in the squatter camps, where elderly people were examined and provided with medicine.



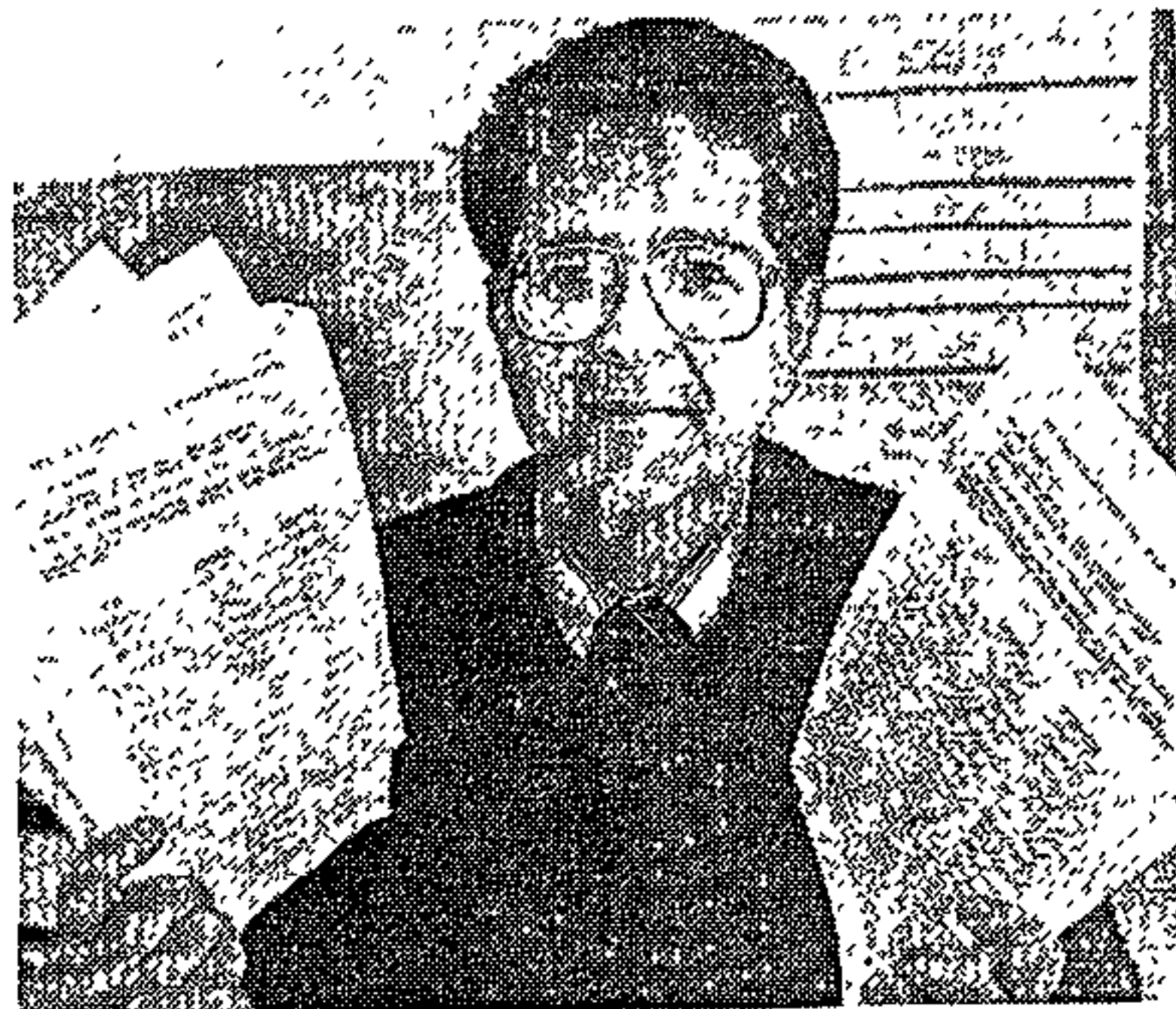
# Doctors to apply 'more pressure'

ET 20/8/91 Staff Reporter

THE fight against VAT on medical services would continue — even if the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, rejected a Western Cape petition signed by 14 000 people in just three days, doctors said.

The petition, with an initial target of 7 000 signatures, was initiated by the Western Cape Medical Association of SA (Masa). The chairman, Dr Tony Behrman, vowed "more pressure" if the tax on medical services was not scrapped.

Under VAT doctors will pay 12% tax on supplies and recoup it from patients.



**ANTI-VAT DOSE . . .** Western Cape Masa chairman Dr Tony Behrman has collected 14 000 signatures.  
Picture: RICHARD BELL



# Pharmacists' exodus 'may affect safety of patients'

TANIA LEVY

THE exodus of pharmacists from public hospitals has reached a point where the safety of patients can no longer be guaranteed, the SA Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists (SAHIP) has warned.

SAHIP president Tienie Britz said yesterday the association was concerned at the deteriorating control of medicines in hospitals caused by the increasing numbers of pharmacists leaving state hospitals.

He said poor salaries were the main reason for the exodus and an increase of about 25% was probably needed to keep pharmacists. They had not received an occupational increase since 1985 and this year had to be content with the 6% increase awarded to all public hospital staff.

Britz said pharmacists working in private hospitals earned between R800 and R1 200 a month more than their public sector counterparts.

SAHIP vice-president Sue Putter said the association expected the losses to increase and feared that it could lead to "a total breakdown" in

hospitals' pharmaceutical services.

She said about 16% of pharmaceutical posts in Transvaal's hospitals were vacant last year and about 20% of those in the Free State. In Natal the figure was about 11%.

She believed the figures were much higher by now. At least half the starting posts were unfilled at present. Senior people were resigning.

Natal MEC for Health Services Peter Miller said he would raise pharmacists' "deep discontent" at a meeting with National Health Minister Rina Venter on August 12. Representation would also be made to the Minister of Administration.

He denied pharmacists were leaving hospitals "in droves" but said action had to be taken on salaries.

Transvaal Provincial Health Services spokesman Jan van Wyk said vacant posts had arisen over the years. He said at most times 80% to 90% of posts in Transvaal hospitals were filled.

## Death of ANC member: man in court

CAPE TOWN — A 31-year-old man appeared briefly in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court in Cape Town yesterday in connection with the death of ANC worker Michael Mapongwana last month.

Eric Mahlutshana, of R432 Khayelitsha, was arrested in Crossroads on Wednesday. A formal bail applica-

tion is to be heard on Monday.

Western Cape Civic Association chairman Mapongwana, of Khayelitsha, died when balaclava-clad gunmen opened fire on a taxi in which he was travelling in Philippi on July 8.

No charges were put to Mahlutshana. The case was postponed for further investigation and for the bail application. — Sapa.

## Protest against 'white' school

TANIA LEVY

MAYFAIR residents will hold a picket on Monday outside a local whites-only nursery school facing closure at the end of the year.

A spokesman for the parents, Ahmed Suliman, said the Magrietjie Nursery School is currently only 30% full because it operates on a "whites-only" basis.

"Although the school exists in an area which has effectively been non-racial for the past few years, many local children are turned away for being the 'wrong' colour," he said.

A TED spokesman yesterday said the school could accommodate 120 pupils and currently had an enrolment of 40.

He confirmed that closure had been recommended by the school management committee, which was under consideration. Other options were also being considered.

Suliman said there was a dire need for education facilities in the area but the school restricted its admission to white children, many of whom did not live in Mayfair and were bused in.

Practices at the school contradicted recent statements by government Ministers regarding under-utilised schools and the need to avoid bussing in pupils.

Education Ministers recently said red tape would be removed to allow empty white schools to be used by pupils of other races.

# Reaching full potential

*298*

**PARENTS** have a responsibility to be involved in the development of their children and to stimulate them in such a way that they achieve their full potential.

This is the view of Mrs Dorothy Nienkemper and Mrs Hilda Rocher, of the Bloemfontein Child Information Centre of the University of the Orange Free State.

The two women have

published a handbook to guide parents in the development of their children.

The need for the manual emerged when parents who visited the centre for expert information on the development

of their children, revealed a lack of insight into the educational value of home activities.

The manual will serve as a yardstick to determine a child's development at a particular age.

When the child's age is compared with the monthly intervals in the tables, each parent will see what the child should be able to do at a particular age.

Nienkemper and Rocher point out, however, that as development differs from child to child, there is no reason for concern when a child's development does not strictly follow the manual.

It is also not unusual for a child to be interested in activities normally associated with the opposite sex.

Parents should not necessarily buy expensive educational toys. Ordinary consumer articles and toys of waste material can fulfil the same purpose.

Play is often regarded as a waste of time, but its contribution to the development of a child can never be underestimated.

More details about the manual can be obtained from Nienkemper or Rocher at telephone 051-473548 or 051-4053292. - Sapa



Youths are fleeing South Africa for Zambia through Swaziland as political violence continues to dis-

"There is a big problem with accommodation because the influx is more than we can handle. We definitely can't cope with the large numbers of people arriving," an official at the transit centre said. The centre can only accommodate about 400 people.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is financing food provisions and accommodation for the refugees.

"We are trying to enforce emergency programmes to accommodate

Arrangements are being made with the Kenyan Government for 500 refugees to study in that country.

The Australian Government is funding the 500 students now in Nigeria but the ANC is trying to mobilise resources for the 800 plus new arrivals.

"The 500 students will hopefully leave for Kenya before the end of the year," the official said. - *Sapa.*



lost boy  
was

## gran's 'slave'

By MONWABISI 298  
NOMADOLO

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD boy who was snatched from his Mhluzi home six months ago and used as a "slave", is back with his delighted parents.

Little Lunga Ntozini went missing in December. He was last seen playing with a black woman known to his family as "Lerato Moremi" whose boyfriend was a sub-tenant at his parents' home.

Lunga's father, Michael Ntozini, said he had spent more than R4 000 consulting witchdoctors and prophets in unsuccessful efforts to find his son, and had placed a "missing persons" advertisement in a Johannesburg newspaper.

Then a Soweto woman who went to Bloemhof in the Free State came across a little boy who stayed with a neighbour of the people she visited. When she came back to Soweto she saw the advertisement, realised that the little boy was Lunga, and phoned his family.

His father then spoke to the police who drove him more than 500 km to retrieve the child.

"My son had lost weight, and was deeply distressed. He just cried when he saw me," said Ntozini.

Middleburg police liaison officer Lieutenant D Hall said a charge of abduction had been laid and investigations were underway. No arrests had been made yet.

The woman who discovered the boy said he had looked lonely and scared.

"I got used to him because he played with my relatives' children. He was always dirty and could not speak Tswana properly. He was confused about his name when I questioned him."

She said the family he was staying with had made him a slave: "They kept an eagle eye on him."

"The child's main job was to lead the blind granny of the house on her begging missions."

She said his captors drank a lot.



**HAVING A BALL...** It's hard to believe UCT student Norma Mbude was cavorting around in her swimsuit in this weather, but we thought you needed a reminder of summer.

■ Pic: FANIE JASON

## Despair ends a life

CP Correspondent 4/8/91

POVERTY and false promises by a man led a young mother-of-four to kill her youngest baby and bury the corpse in the sand, the Venda Supreme Court heard this week.

In the dock before judge JC van der Walld, Khensani Gladys Musimeki, 21, of Dazhana village pleaded guilty to murdering her eight-month-old, Nkhetheni, on March 6, 1989.

Moseneke told the court she was working at a tea plantation, earning R90 a month. Of the amount, R40 went towards a babysitter.

She said the child's father Daniel Negota had promised her "heaven and earth" while she was pregnant. After she had delivered, he took to the hills

and never supported the baby.

She told the court that she had met Negota on the day of the incident.

She had asked him for R2.50 to take the baby to her home, but he had refused and a quarrel ensued.

She had stopped on her way home and killed the baby while breast feeding him.

Passing judgment, the judge said he understood the circumstances which the accused found herself in, although he did not condone it.

"When a defenseless child who never asked to be brought to this world, is killed by his mother who is supposed to love and protect him, the crime becomes more serious" the judge added.

He then handed down a suspended sentence of five years.



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## Venues for exile children rejected

298

PATRICK BULGER

GOVERNMENT had offered a choice of about 14 different venues to the ANC for the accommodation of 700 exiled children from Tanzania, an official involved in the childrens' return said at the weekend.

An ANC team had visited the buildings, but none had been entirely suited for their requirements.

The children — all of them pupils at the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Tanzania, which is being wound down — were to have been housed at Pretoria's Hillview School until a bomb caused extensive structural damage to the school last month. *Blom 5/8/91*

A National Health and Population Development Department spokesman said the department would be responsible for the childrens' welfare once they returned.

He said negotiations for their return were continuing.

An ANC spokesman would not comment on negotiations for the return of the children.

Meanwhile, the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of SA exiles (NCCR) announced at the weekend it would scale down its activities because of financial problems.

## Record number to write matric

*Blom 5/8/91*

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The number of black candidates registered to write the matric examination this year had increased by 47 000 to a record 294 000, Education and Training acting director-general Dirk Meiring said at the weekend.

Last year 37% of the 233 000 who wrote the exam passed.

Fewer school days had been lost in the first five months of this year, compared with January-May last year.

The situation was worst in the Johannesburg region, where 21% of school days were lost.

In the Highveld region the figure was 19%, the diamond fields region 16%, northern Transvaal 12% and Orange-Vaal 11%. In Natal 4% of school days were lost.

Last year 68 097 white pupils wrote matric and 95,83% passed, 43% with matric exemption. The authorities expected fewer white pupils to sit the exam this year.

Meiring said government's com-

mitment to expanding and improving black education was clear from this year's budget allocation of R3,3bn — up 69% on the 1989/90 allocation.

Meiring said in 1990/91 school building projects valued at R133m were completed.

Classroom accommodation was provided for another 22 840 primary and 16 975 secondary school pupils.

In the current financial year, contracts worth R230m would be completed, providing accommodation for another 20 600 primary and 41 405 secondary school pupils.

This meant that by the end of March there would be 2 754 new classrooms, providing accommodation for 101 820 pupils.

Last year the department created 1 800 extra teacher and administrative posts at a cost of R63m. This year another 2 262 posts were created at a cost of R96m.

Stationery provided last year cost R11,9m. The figure would rise to R18,5m this year.

## Subsidy cutbacks hamper growth of universities

SHARP cutbacks in government subsidies to universities were already being felt with student populations at optimum level, academic sources said at the weekend.

A spokesman for the National Education Department said potential growth was restricted by limited resources.

He said the growth rate was about 5% and the state was battling to finance existing student levels.

Asked if the department envisaged the building of new institutions, he said universities were autonomous and it was not up to government to create new varsities.

Chief Director of the Committee of University Principals Jos Grobelaar said SA had lower tertiary education institution populations than other nations of comparable income.

He said technikons should expand, but not at the expense of universities. "You cannot reduce the university intake as it is necessary for the future

of the country to have high levels of education"

Several universities said they were unable to expand any further. A spokesman for Wits University said the number of students had increased from 18 718 in 1988 to 19 316 this year.

Wits did not have the space or money to put up new facilities.

A spokesman for Rhodes University said the university was "more or less full".

"We do not have enough residence space. Enrolment has increased from 3 736 in 1988 to 4 196 this year. Most of the increase has been in the East London campus, not the main Grahamstown campus."

A University of the Orange Free State spokesman said its stable student figures showed that the university had capacity to survive the difficult financial situation.

Enrolment had increased from 9 217 in 1988 to 9 318 in 1991.

## Two die in funeral march shooting

TWO people were killed, five injured and 18 arrested at Boipatong near Vanderbijlpark on Saturday after shooting and the discovery of arms during the funeral of a member of Inkatha.

Vaal Civic Association spokesman Paul Sithole said people at the funeral of Inkatha member Billy Mokotedi reported that shots were fired by a group at the front of the procession towards people at the back. *278*

Police spokesman Lt Wikus Weber said about 150 Zulus and 250 others, believed to be ANC supporters, were taking part in the Boipatong procession at the time.

Meanwhile the ANC, its youth league, the Alexandra Civic Association and the Congress of SA Students claimed Inkatha members ran through Alexandra on Saturday attacking shack settlements, injuring residents and firing shots into the air.

Ten people were treated for stab wounds at the Alexandra Health Centre. — Sapa



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Ten people were treated for stab wounds at the Alexandra Health Centre. — Sapa

# Child labour rampant in SA – report

Star 5/8/91  
By Shirley Woodgate

Child labour in South Africa, particularly in the rural areas, is increasing in the face of mounting poverty and declining economic standards, claims Johannesburg Child Welfare Society director Dr Adele Thomas.

Quoting from her major one-year study in collaboration with Professor Jack Otis, she said that though there were no local figures to back up her claims, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) had estimated that, throughout the world, up to 55 million youngsters under 15 (or 11 percent of 10 to 14-year-olds) were working.

"But this figure may be conservative, and experts claim 145 million is more realistic," Dr Thomas said.

The study, released ahead of tonight's JCWS annual general meeting, revealed that South Africans were relatively unaware of the problem and that no official local studies had been done.

"The ILO estimated in 1987 that in South Africa there were more than 60 000 black child farm labourers, many in the 8 to 14-year-old bracket," Dr Thomas said.

Children may be employed at factories and farms, often at hazardous activities; sold into child prostitution or economic bondage; typically underpaid and uneducated; overworked and without any of the health and employment protections enjoyed by adults.

A more detailed look at activities revealed they were used to sell vegetables and fruit, clean taxis, push food

trolleys, do general delivery work or distribute advertisements and newspapers, collect scrap iron, or work at garages or with building contractors, as packers at stores or as farm labourers.

In one of the worst cases uncovered by Dr Thomas, a family of five lived in a single room and all worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week. The three children, who had never attended school, earned R10 a month, and their parents' income was R25 a month.

The son, aged 15, was "fisted and beaten" if any of the cattle he tended got lost, and on one occasion the farmer had tied wires attached to a car battery across his wrist.

Another case involved a woman who claimed she had run away from a farm with her three children after the farmer had allegedly broken her ribs during a beating.

He also allegedly lashed her children, aged 14, 12 and eight, across the legs and back if they did sloppy work. They had to work from 5 am until late afternoon without pay and often without food.

Dr Thomas said that although significant legal developments regarding child labour had occurred, the major problem was the continued lack of legal machinery to prosecute employers who broke the law.

Solutions included the implementation of rural and economic strategies to expand training and employment strategies, compulsory free education to age 16, the launch of a national study of child labour by the Manpower Commission, and a review by the Department of Manpower of its powers to enforce child labour legislation.



Star 6/8/91

## Concern over HIV-positive infants' care

Staff Reporter **298**

The most compelling problem facing the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society is the spread of Aids, and Government and private-sector support is urgently needed to care for HIV-positive babies, the society's chairman said yesterday.

Speaking at the 81st annual meeting of the society, N Barlow said the already extended health and welfare resources in the Johannesburg region had not yet fully begun to feel the effects of "this devastating problem".

The society had drawn up guidelines for staff-training programmes and investigated ways of promoting Aids awareness, Mr Barlow said.

Another problem was the considerable number of orphaned children who were returning to South Africa from exile.

# Parents are urged to stimulate their children

298

PARENTS have a responsibility to be involved in the development of their children and to stimulate them in such a way that they achieve their full potential.

This is the view of Mrs Dorothy Nienkemper and Mrs Hilda Rocher, of the Bloemfontein Child

Information Centre of the University of the Orange Free State.

The two women have published a handbook to guide parents in the development of their children.

The need for the manual emerged when parents, who visited the

centre for expert information on the development of their children, revealed a lack of insight into the educational value of home activities.

The manual will serve as a yardstick to determine a child's development at a particular age.

When the child's age is compared with the monthly intervals in the tables, each parent will see what the child should be able to do at a particular age.

Nienkemper and Rocher point out, however, that as development differs from child to child, there is no reason for concern when a child's development does not strictly follow the manual.

## Toys

It is also not unusual for a child to be interested in activities normally associated with the opposite sex.

Parents should not necessarily buy expensive educational toys.

Ordinary consumer articles and toys of waste material can fulfil the same purpose.

Play is often regarded as a waste of time, but its contribution to the development of a child can never be underestimated.

More details about the manual can be obtained from Mrs Nienkemper or Mrs Rocher at telephone (051) 47.3548 or (051) 405.3292. - Sapa



# 'Babies sold for R200'

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Abandoned babies have been sold in Natalspruit Hospital to childless couples for R200, it is alleged.

Informed sources said women faking pregnancies to appease husbands also paid to obtain babies.

But the acting superintendent at the hospital, Dr Ron Mitchell, said yesterday: "I would be horrified if this is true."

Dr Mitchell said the hospital would investigate the allegations. He is standing in for the superintendent, Dr Norman Kearnes, who is on leave.

A Johannesburg newspaper said it had been told that at least eight abandoned babies were sold or taken from the hospital during the past 18 months.

A woman, who was not named, said

## Claim of illegal trade in hospital

she was given a two-month old baby last October and agreed to pay R200 "to speed up the process and obtain the necessary papers and certificates."

The woman has sworn to an affidavit describing in detail how she made the arrangements to get the child.

A Tokoza woman also said she got a baby girl from the hospital without proper documentation, after another child she tried to adopt was "removed" from her and taken to Transkei.

Hospital sources confirmed the illegal trade and said it was known to a number of people, including nurses.

"When there is an official inquiry I am

prepared to give evidence under oath," one source said.

The source said that in September last year she heard a conversation between a reception clerk and a woman who wanted a baby.

The clerk had asked for a R100 deposit saying: "If you do not pay the money you don't get the baby."

The source said many of the women who had received babies believed they were legally adopting them.

She believed that hospital staff tolerated the unorthodox adoptions because many abandoned children spent up to six months in wards where they were at risk of infection from sick children.

It is illegal to offer or take money for adoption of a child. The Childcare Act provides penalties of up to R8 000 in fines and prison sentences of up to two years for offenders.

Johan van Wyk: the reason for that foreign kiss — isn't Peaches from France out maybe?

## NEWS

### VAT blow for many creches

John Miller  
Star Line

9/8/91

Certain creches, after-care centres and colleges will have to charge VAT from the end of September.

Only those institutions linked to a Government education department will not have to do so.

A spokesman for Inland Revenue said VAT would not be charged on creche fees for children aged from three to six if they attended pre-primary classes at a creche linked to an educational authority. However, if such a creche or nursery school enrolled children under the age of three their fees would be subject to VAT.

Lynn Morris of the Housewives' League said creches and after-care centres were two areas in which the league had asked for relief when submissions were made to the Vatcom hearing. But these were turned down.

#### Badly off

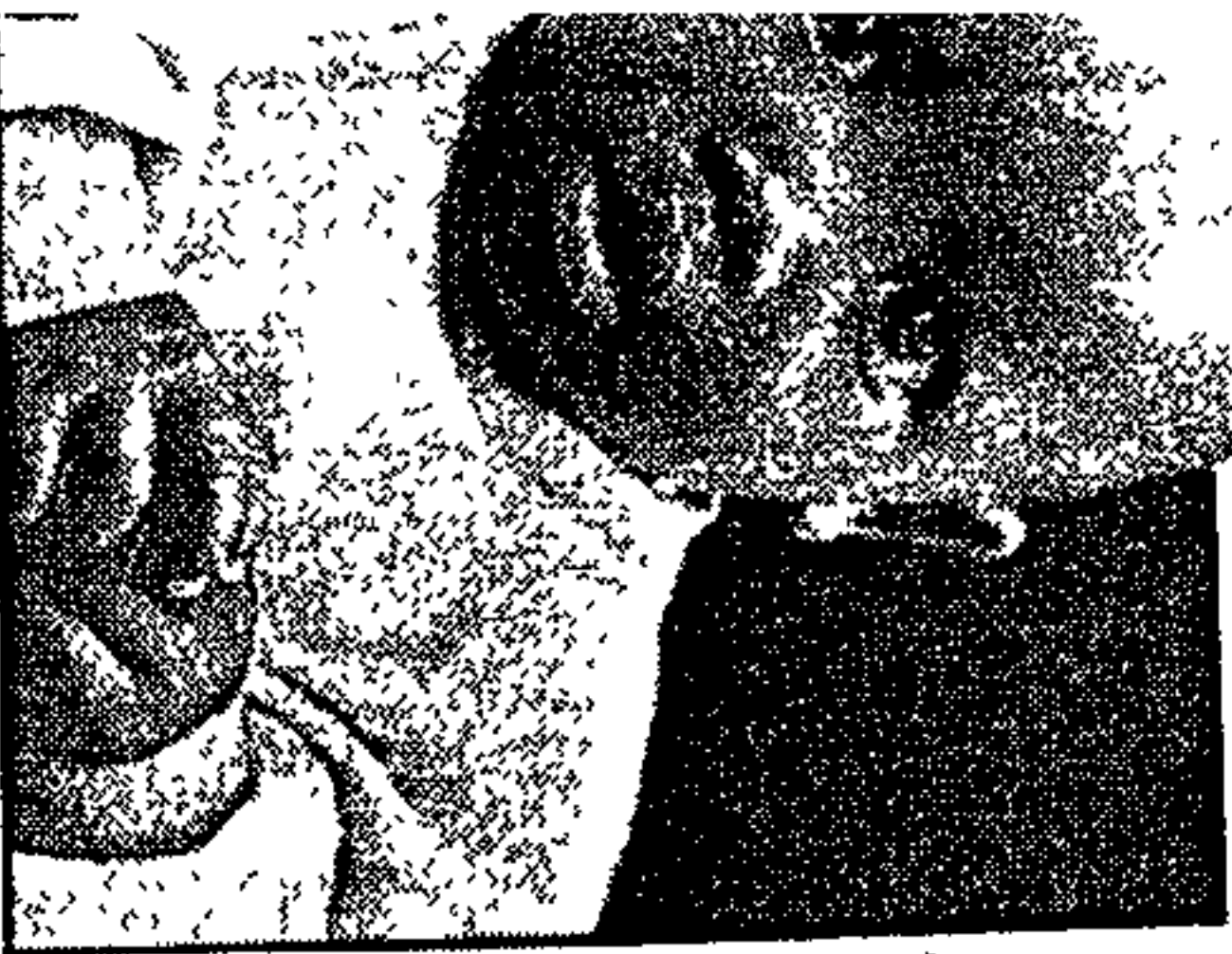
"I do not think the Government realises how badly off a lot of people are and that not only single parents but married women are also forced to go out and work and put their children in a creche or after school centre in order to make ends meet."

She said working women were helping the economy and deserved to be assisted.

Brenda Reisnik, owner of Birnam Business College, said the imposition of VAT on all private college fees was an absolute catastrophe.

A spokesman for the Single Parents Group said VAT would affect thousands of people who relied on creches and after-care centres.





Picture: Herbert Mabuza

# Abandoned babies 'sold for R200' at Natalspruit

By Musa Mapisa  
and Abbey Makoe

(298)

Abandoned babies have been sold by a social worker at Natalspruit Hospital for R200.

Childless couples and women faking pregnancies to appease husbands demanding children have paid social worker Thandi Ntombela to obtain babies, according to informed sources.

Ms Ntombela yesterday denied the allegations, although she confirmed that until late last year babies had been taken from the hospital by social workers without authorisation.

## 'Many women believe adoptions are legal' (298)

From Page 1

parents. Prospective adopters were told to contact Thandi.

"The adoption was not finalised because my husband's signature was required and it was impossible to get," she said.

However, Ms Ntombela had promised to get her a baby if she kept in touch.

A source at the hospital confirmed the illegal trade and said it was known to a number of people at the hospital, including nurses.

"When there is an official inquiry I am prepared to give evidence under oath," the source said.

She said in September 1990 she heard a conversation between a reception clerk and a woman who wanted a baby.

The clerk had asked for a R100 deposit, saying: "If you do not pay the money, you don't get

the baby."

The source said many women who had received babies believed they were legally adopting them.

She believed hospital staff tolerated the unorthodox adoptions because many abandoned children spent up to six months in wards where they were at risk of infection.

Jeanette Myburgh of the National Council for Child and Family Welfare said it was illegal to offer or accept money to adopt a child. The Child-Care Act provided for fines of up to R8 000 and prison sentences of up to two years.

"We must put the child's interest first. We are looking for parents for a child, not a child for childless couples."

● A mother's desire for a child drove her to break the law — see the Saturday Star tomorrow.

Ms Ntombela, who has worked at Natalspruit Hospital since 1979, said she had never given anyone a baby without going through official adoption procedures.

"There is somebody spreading these things against my name — a plot or something."

Acting hospital superintendent Dr Ron Mitchell said yesterday: "I would be horrified if this is true."

Superintendent Dr Norman Kearnes, who is on leave, said last night that to the best of his knowledge legal adoption procedures were strictly adhered to by hospital staff.

If the facts warranted it, he

would immediately institute an inquiry.

"If it is proved that anyone has circumvented the legal adoption procedures, they will be prosecuted," he said.

The Star has been told that at least eight abandoned babies have been sold or taken from the hospital in the past 18 months.

A woman claims that a social worker named Thandi gave her a two-month-old baby in October after she agreed to pay R200 "to speed up the process and obtain the necessary papers".

In a sworn affidavit the woman describes in detail how

she made the arrangements to get the child.

She said Ms Ntombela had later given her a form with which to get a birth certificate for the baby from the Alberton Welfare Commissioner.

A Tokoza woman also admitted to The Star that in June last year she received a baby girl from the hospital without proper documentation — after another child she had tried to adopt was "removed" from her and taken to Transkei.

Although the woman admitted having received the baby without going through the normal adoption channels, she refused to reveal who gave her

the baby, saying "she could not betray a person who had helped her".

She also denied having paid for the baby.

The woman said that at one stage she was mentally unstable because of her problems but she had to get the baby because she had told her husband she was pregnant and this was not true.

A Soweto woman also told The Star she had had a problem adopting a baby after she responded to an appeal by Natalspruit Hospital in the Sowetan newspaper for adoptive

● To Page 2

# TPA orders probe into baby racket

Star 6/8/91 (298)  
Sav 10/8/91  
THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has ordered an investigation into the baby-selling racket at the Natalspuit Hospital, exposed by The Star yesterday.

Hospital authorities are refusing to comment.

The TPA and child care organisations yesterday appealed to all who had adopted children at the hospital to come forward to give evidence.

The TPA said in a statement it would report to the SAP, "should any of the allegations appear to be true".

The TPA would not be drawn on the scope of its investigation. The spokesman would also not say who would lead the team.

Dr Adele Thomas, director of Johannesburg Child Welfare, said her

ABBIE MAKOE  
and MUSA MAPISA

organisation wanted an in-depth investigation into the allegations.

She said the investigation should be led by professionals, "to make sure nothing is overlooked".

National Council for Child and Family Welfare spokesman Jeanette Myburgh said her organisation would monitor the investigation.

"We will insist on checking absolutely every document. We will also scrutinise the way in which the investigation was conducted," she said.

An SAP spokesman said the police would decide how to act after a report had been received.

● See reports, pictures on Page 10.



# Woman 'paid R200 to adopt a baby boy'

Star 10/8/11

MUSA MAPISA and ABBEY MAKOE

298

A mother has described how she paid R200 to "adopt" an abandoned baby from a social worker at Natspruit Hospital in October last year.

In a sworn statement, the mother said she wanted to have children and had been interested in adopting a child for some time.

The Star yesterday revealed that abandoned babies were being sold to childless couples by a social worker at the hospital.

"During the course of 1989 I heard from other people living in my township that one could adopt children from the Natspruit Hospital in Germiston. I heard that, in order to adopt a child, I should approach any of the social workers at the hospital."

The woman said she went to the hospital and spoke to a social worker.

"She confirmed that I could adopt a baby through the hospital. We discussed the matter briefly and then entered my name and address in a book containing, I was told by her, a list of persons who wished to apply for babies."

She said in October last year she returned to the office and spoke to a social worker named Thandi. She did not know her surname.

"Thandi explained that it would be possible to adopt a baby but that it is a difficult, lengthy process. However, Thandi told me that if I was prepared to pay approximately R200 she would be able to speed up the process and obtain the necessary papers and certificates for me more quickly."

"Thandi took me to a children's ward within the hospital where many babies were playing. All the babies in the ward were, I would estimate, less than two years."

"Thandi explained to me that these were abandoned children who were up for adoption. Thandi showed me, in particular, one boy who she said was

the Natspruit Hospital and handed Thandi R200 in cash. ... I did not receive any receipt for the money."

She said Thandi then handed the baby, X, to her. Thandi told her that the baby had been born on August 13 1990.

"I was given no documentation, such as a birth certificate, in relation to X. Thandi told me, however, that she would contact me shortly regarding a birth certificate."

She said she did not receive any documentation for the "adoption". She returned home with X.

"I have named him Sibusiso, which means 'blessed'. During November 1990, when, after a number of weeks, Thandi had not yet contacted me regarding the birth certificate, I returned to Natspruit Hospital and spoke to Thandi regarding the birth certificate."

## 'Lawfully'

"Thandi gave me a piece of paper, telling me that I should take the piece of paper to the Commissioner's court in Alberton and that I would there be able to get the birth certificate."

"I at all times believed that I adopted Sibusiso according to correct and lawful procedures. I have, however, been informed by The Star newspaper that it appears as if Thandi was not acting lawfully and that I may have not lawfully adopted Sibusiso, but 'purchased' Sibusiso as part of an unlawful racket operated by Thandi at Natspruit Hospital."

"I cannot describe the happiness that Sibusiso has brought me and my husband. Sibusiso has changed my life completely. I love him very much. Before Sibusiso came to our lives my husband and I were unhappy at not having children. Sibusiso has brought us closer together."

"I look after Sibusiso full-time and





**TRAGIC TWIST:** No one could doubt this mother's love for her baby. She cuddled and fussed over him, fed him, and then rocked him to sleep as she told how he had

changed her life. The bond between them, their mutual need, could not have been stronger had she been his biological mother. It almost seemed irrelevant that she had bought this baby for R200. Now that the unorthodox adoptions at Natalspruit Hospital have been exposed, it is clear that the woman and her baby are caught up in a

tragedy, not a scandal. Mothers do not abandon their children lightly. And adoption procedures are designed to make a match that will last a lifetime. The woman who has found happiness with a little boy that she bought realises now that she has broken the law. In telling her story she says she wants to make the adoption official.

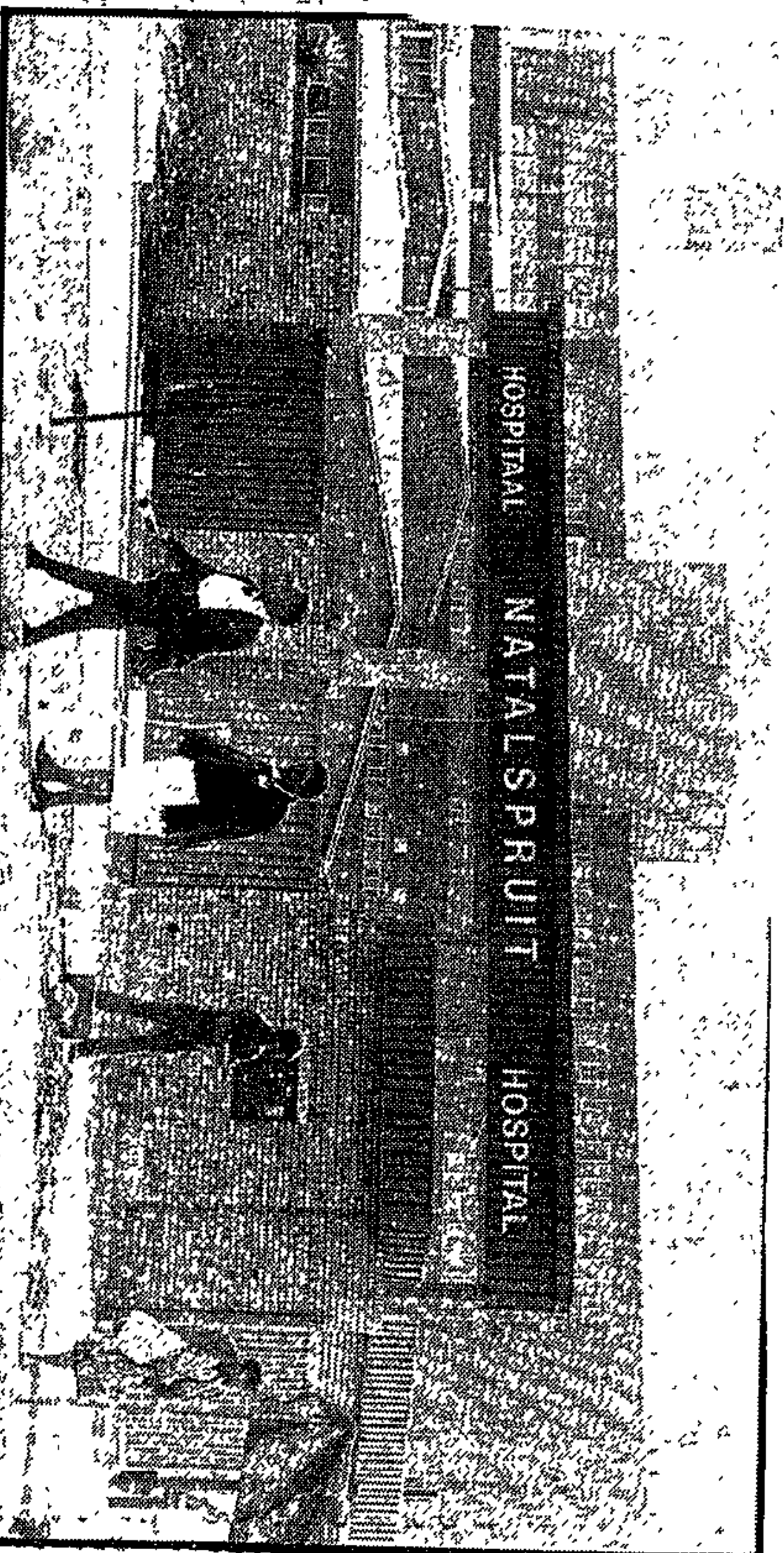
# When having a child defines your very existence

THE cases of two families who bought babies from a hospital social worker demonstrate the lengths to which some childless couples will go to have a child.

Nicoline started her marriage with dreams of her own home, filled with children and all the happiness that comes with extended-family life.

Even antagonism from her in-laws did not bother her much because she was confident that her husband would always be on her side.

Approval came a few months after the wedding as family members started remarking about her "growing belly".



**SOURCE OF CHILDREN:** The hospital where childless couples have paid R200 to 'speed up' the process.

**MUSA MAPISA and ABBEY MAKOF**

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"I was very happy that at least my in-laws would be able to accept me because after the baby had been born, there would be something special that would bind me with them," said Nicoline.

Five years passed and three pregnancies ended in miscarriages at eight months. Her husband, driven by cultural pressures that demanded he prove his manhood by fathering children, turned against her. To save her marriage, she admits that she secretly

"adopted" a one-month-old baby girl from Natalspruit Hospital in June last year. But she can never tell her husband, who believes he is the biological father of the child.

Another woman said her husband and family supported her plan to adopt a child after 10 years of miscarriages.

The sadness ended last October. She went to Natalspruit Hospital and met Thandi Ntombela. The next day she went back with R200 and Ms Ntombela gave her a boy. "Since then there has been peace in this home," the woman said.



# Babies are not sold say social workers

*Sowetan 13/8/91* *298*  
**FOLLOWING** last week's "babies-for-sale" allegations, social workers in private practice have pointed out that they are entitled to charge for professional services rendered in adoptions.

Reacting to a statement by the National Council for Child and Family Welfare, that the South African Associations of Social Workers in Private Practice said it was "illegal to offer or accept money to adopt a child" and it wished to set the record straight to avoid any possible misunderstanding.

In a statement distancing the SAASWPP from illegal baby sales, executive member Mrs Christa de Vries said in Johannesburg: "Any social worker in private practice may legally charge and collect fees for professional services rendered by a client regarding the adoption of a baby."

~~"The collecting of fees for professional services rendered can under no circumstances be construed as being money or a price paid for a baby."~~

## Code of conduct

"In this regard, we must also point out that even social welfare associations or organisations now often charge fees for professional services."

De Vries said adoptions arranged by social workers in private practice were "absolutely legal".

"The work of social work private practitioners is also regulated by the code of conduct. It was promulgated as regulations in terms of the Social and Associated Workers Act of 1978 and is applied by the South African Council for Social Work, the statutory regulatory body for the profession in South Africa."

## Screening process

A source close to the social workers said private practitioners charged about R90 an hour when consulting the prospective parents. They could also pay from R1 500 to about R3 000 or more before the delivery of their adopted baby.

The total fees charged for assessing the parents' suitability - "the whole screening process" - depended on how much time the social worker spent on the case.

"But the screening process is not a promise of a baby. If so, then it would be buying a baby."

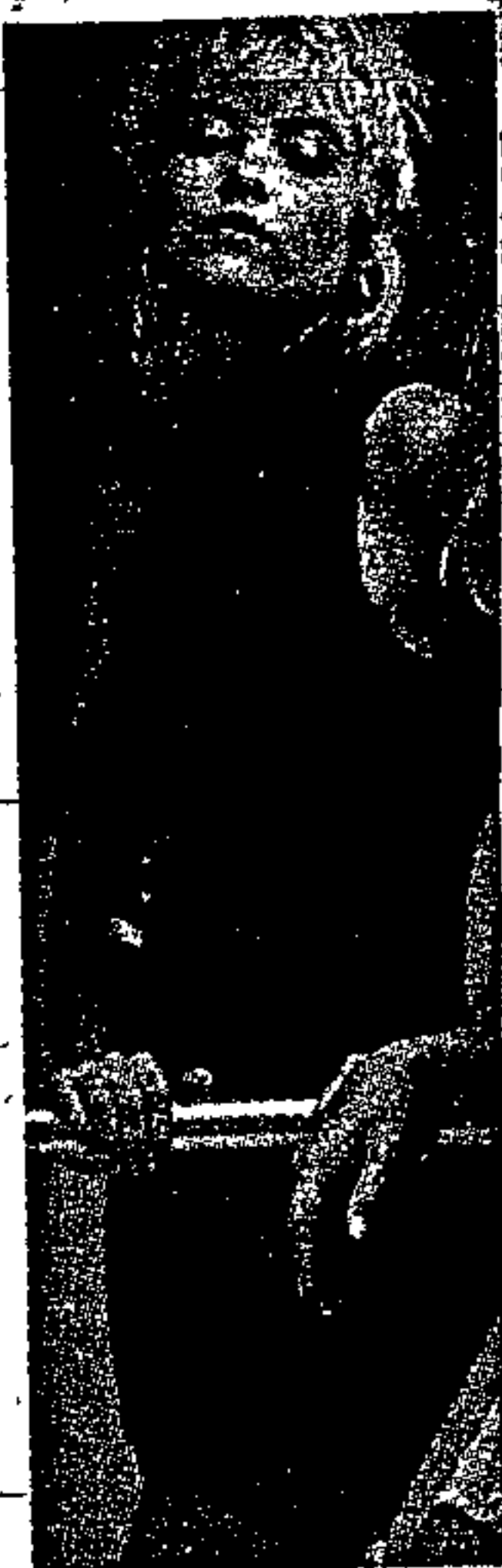
## Unwed mothers

The source said applying to private practitioners for a baby did not necessarily speed up the process.

"We don't have access to babies like the organisations do," he said.

Private practitioners' sources were usually couples who knew somebody who had a baby available, hospitals where social workers referred people, ministers and unwed mothers.

One of the advantages of private practitioners was that they did not impose the same limitations on applicants, the source said. - *Sapa*.



## The Lon

Waiting, waiting, robots to change. For a place to park. For the queues to shorten. Same old story - bills there are no thrills.



# Soweto pupils the Mandrax dealers' latest target

Star 12/8/91 298  
A BUSSE of the tranquilliser

Mandrax is spreading into black communities, police have warned

In Soweto, Mandrax abuse has become so widespread that some shebeens are doubling up as drug dens

According to National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro) social worker Thuthi Poole, at least 10 percent of pupils in Soweto are abusing drugs, with as many as 40 percent doing so at one school

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Jac de Vries said 49 people were arrested for dealing in Mandrax and 12 for possession last month. Police had confiscated 361 tablets and 1 g of Mandrax powder.

"The black community has always been an untouched market for Mandrax dealers but has now become a problem area," Colonel de Vries said.

"Although negligible compared with white areas, the average 361 tablets we confiscated a month is too high for us."

The dealers pushed the drugs among schoolchildren because children were curious and prepared to try anything

"The number of people found in possession of Mandrax is alarming. What is worrying is that it is mostly children who use the drugs."

The problem, he added, was now becoming similar to that in the white community

Drug expert Dr Sylvain de Miranda recently criticised the allocation of large sums of money to narcotics departments to detect and prosecute drug offenders while only R5 400 a month was allocated to prevent drug and alcohol abuse in Soweto, with a population of more than 2 million

A teacher in Orlando West, who refused to be named, said it was usual to find pupils, especially boys, attending classes under the influence of drugs

He said the school sometimes referred cases to Nicro, some were sent for counselling and

A quiet Saturday morning in Orlando East, Soweto's oldest township, was disturbed by shrieking screams from a cluster of shacks.

A teenage boy was holding a gun and pointing it at people in his mother's backyard.

The terrified squatters dashed inside their shacks and came out holding money which they passed to the youth. Others fiddled in their pockets, pulled out a few coins and dropped them into his hand.

All the time he was threatening to shoot "any dirty dog that doesn't want to pay their rent".

The youth pocketed the money, stashed his gun in his pocket and took off.

"He is going to buy drugs with our money," said one angry shack dweller.

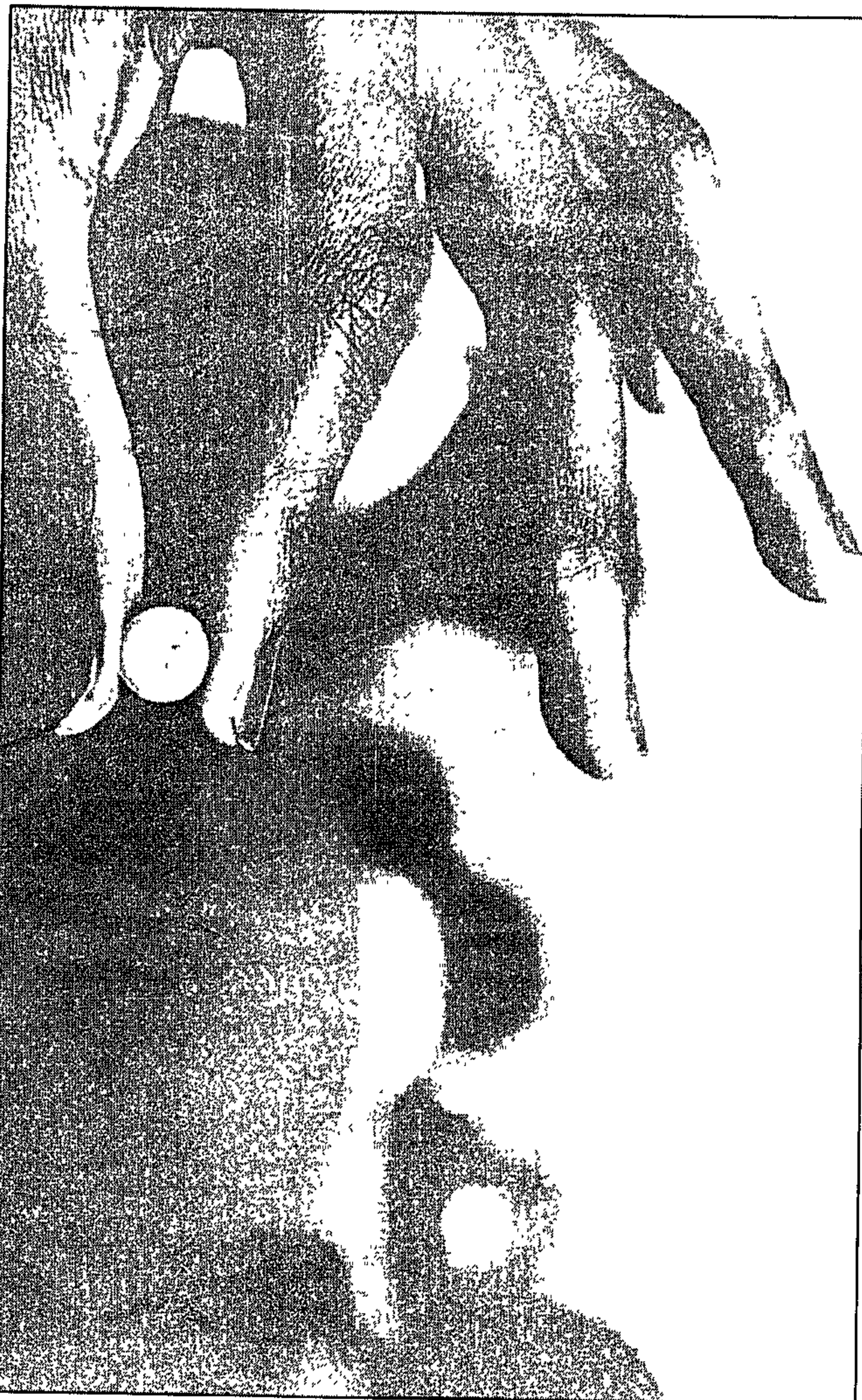
By ZINGISA MKHUMA and THABO LESHLO.

Readily available... the abuse of Mandrax is spreading in township schools

others simply disappeared from school

"It is not uncommon to find boys smoking dagga during school breaks. But those that take Mandrax misbehave in class and threaten others with violence"

A social worker at a Rockville school admitted she had counselled pupils with drug problems, but refused to disclose the number of pupils she has seen, saying all cases were



strictly confidential.

All teachers agreed that pupils who used drugs should not be expelled but rather treated with sympathy

"We believe our role is to mould pupils, because some of them come from broken homes and are ignorant of the dangers," one teacher said

According to Nicro regional developer for Soweto, Shumane Khumalo, the alarming spate of

violent crimes in the township was compounded by the availability of drugs.

Teenage addicts, some as young as 13, lurk on street corners, ready to pounce on anybody to finance their habit

The drug is known by many names. Some call it "Popomala", because it turns the user into a zombie, while others call it "i-ngidi", meaning "lock", because it locks their knees, impairing movement

A 16-year-old boy, who claimed to have been addicted since the age of 11, told The Star he wore an overcoat, even in warm weather, because "the combination of dagga and Mandrax makes me feel cold"

He said he was introduced to drugs by an older friend. He lapsed into short bouts of memory loss and frequently had to be reminded what he said last when spoken to

He said more than six houses in Orlando East alone sold Mandrax to regular customers. New clients must be accompanied by a regular

The boy bought a tablet for R10 for The Star

Prices range between R5 and R15 depending on availability

A Soweto social worker who deals with drug cases has claimed that young boys were being used by crime syndicates to rob people in return for drugs

"We are responsible for this mess. Drugs are being peddled in schools by the suitcase. So long as there is a demand, suppliers will continue selling drugs," she said

"Those teenage drug addicts that come to our attention are frog-marched here by their parents, but few return for treatment. Out of the many cases we see every month, we are lucky to end up with only one person" □



# Many laws broken in baby 'adoptions'

By Abbey Makoe  
and Musa Mapisa

(298)

Star 12/8/91.

The removal of babies from wards at Natalspruit Hospital on the East Rand contravened the Child Care Act of 1983 — a binding guideline involving the adoption of children.

The screening procedure, which determines whether or not someone is suitable to adopt a child, was also sidestepped.

As a result, all the provisions concerning the qualifications for the adoption of children were neglected. The first law allegedly broken was the "prohibition of consideration in respect of adoption".

Acceptance of cash by a social worker would be a direct transgression of the Act.

However, the Association of Social Workers in Private Practice said in a statement that any social worker in private practice could legally charge fees for professional services ren-

dered to a client regarding the adoption of a baby.

It was only illegal for money to be paid when babies were sold like merchandise.

It is not clear how many children could have been placed with unsuitable adoptive parents.

Dr Adele Thomas, director of Johannesburg Child Welfare, said: "The fact that desperate children have been adopted in this manner means many of them might not have been accepted by their adoptive parents. This unethical practice is absolutely terrible." Her organisation would, if requested, help in the investigation ordered by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

"Our duty is to protect the rights of children."

The Star went through the Child Care Act and was able to identify some of the claimed irregularities.

While the Act requires that to qualify for child adoption, married couples should be screened jointly, some of the wives

adopted children from the hospital on their own.

A requirement that adoptive parents had to be medically tested was not met. The adopted children's medical history was also unknown to new parents.

Where the prospective adoptive parent was single, the consent of the Minister was required. This was not given in the deals concluded at the hospital.

The Star has also established that parents who had adopted children did not have any documentary proof of this. The Act says: "The adoption of a child shall be effected by an order of the Children's Court."

An order of adoption issued to parents who have legally adopted a child must be kept by the adoptive parents. Many did not have this.

The purpose of the order is to terminate the rights and obligations existing between the child and the biological parents, thus avoiding confrontations with the adoptive parents.

# Row erupts over baby-sales claims

JOHANNESBURG. — Social workers in private practice have hit out

at a National Council for Child and Family Welfare (NCCFW) statement last week that it was illegal to sell or buy babies.

The row has ensued in the wake of the babies-for-sale allegations at the Natsalspruit Hospital in the

southern Transvaal.

Sources close to the welfare industry say the reaction is an indication of the rift between bona fide organisations and the private practitioners who are trying to elbow their way into an industry which has recently begun to be privatised.

Reports last week that social

worker Ms Thandi Ntombela had sold abandoned babies for R200 each and the NCCFW statement that it was "illegal to offer or accept money to adopt a child" have brought matters to a head.

"Any social worker in private practice may legally charge and collect fees for professional services rendered to a client regard-

ing the adoption of a baby," SA Associations of Social Workers in Private Practice (SAASWPP) executive member Mrs Christa de Vries said yesterday.

"The collecting of fees for professional services rendered can under no circumstances be construed as being money paid for a baby. Even social welfare associations or or-

ganisations now often charge fees for professional services," she said.

Mrs De Vries said adoptions arranged by social work private practitioners were "absolutely legal". The Child Care Act provides for fines of up to R8 000 and a prison sentence of up to two years for offering or accepting money for a child. — Sapa



# Depression in children is often not recognised

*Sowetan 13/8/91*  
SERIOUS depression in children is often underestimated or not identified because it appears to be a behavioural problem, Mr JL le Roux of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of the Orange Free State, said at a conference on school health in Bloemfontein.

Le Roux said that anti-social behaviour and the use of drugs or alcohol could indicate depression.

The child wanted to leave home because he felt he was not understood or accepted.

These children were often sullen, reluctant to be involved in family activities and withdrew from social activities by staying in their rooms.

Poor self-care and a specific sensitivity to rejection in a love relationship might also appear.

Le Roux said that special features of depression in youth were irritability and inter-personal problems at school.

## Alcoholism

Views were expressed that they are "dumb" or "unpopular" and there was an acute reduction in school achievement.

Le Roux said that 46 percent of children with depression also had other disturbances such as alcoholism and anxiety problems.

There was no family history of depression in 31 percent of the children, but 23 percent had a history of depression in the family.

Dr Frieda van Rensburg of Bloemfontein told the delegates that children who suddenly "vanish" and do not respond, are too often diagnosed as epileptics.

Other factors such as health and the lack-of-attention syndrome also caused

this condition. *(298)*

As more demands were placed on the child, its problems increased. *(68)*

The measurement of the electrical waves of the brain (EEG) was not a sifting test and too many children received anti-epileptic medication after such a test.

Van Rensburg said that other factors should also be considered before medication, which had side-effects, was prescribed.

Dr Pieter Bettings of the UOFS said that the neuro-psychiatric evaluation of pre-school children should receive more attention.

## Problems

Of 1 132 pre-schoolers examined in Bloemfontein, more than 400 suffered from neuro-psychiatric illness.

Bettings said that problems found with children examined were with motor co-ordination, perceptual problems, abnormal behaviour, learning problems and minimal brain dysfunction.

It was also found that illnesses such as epilepsy, asthma, allergy and infections had mostly already been diagnosed and that the children were receiving doctors' treatment.

The school health authorities had referred 18,8 percent of the children to, mainly, specialists.

Mrs F Janeke, of the Child Guidance Clinic of the Free State Education Department, suggested that teaching methods should be examined for possible breeding grounds for problems, while classes should be offered to help children from other cultural groups so that children were not unnecessarily referred for remedial teaching. - *Sapa*



# New lease of life for creche

298 1165 24/7/91

## Hearts are opened to the dire plight of Flats toddlers

SORCHA VASEY, Staff Reporter

AFTER "seven years of bad luck", the Baphumele Educare Centre can look towards a brighter future.

The plight of the Khayelitsha creche was recently highlighted in The Argus and drew "tremendous" interest and support.

There was no ceiling or insulation, windows were broken and cooking was done on a hot-plate in the playroom.

Now two readers, Mr Dennis Dlamini, who is on the Caltex social responsibility committee, and Mrs Jacqueline Mercer, have secured material and financial aid for the creche.

"After visiting the creche and seeing the desperate situation I decided to get involved. I met Jackie who was anxious to help and we started phoning around."

They approached the Lingeletu Town Council and successfully re-applied for the empty plot beside the existing creche where a new building will be erected.

An Athlone builder, Mr Wagiet Petersen, agreed to provide labour, materials will be supplied by Federated Timber, and Guguletu draughtsman Mr Thami Ciya will draw up the plans free of charge.

The dilapidated building was bought by the Grassroots Educare Trust in 1980 as a community project.

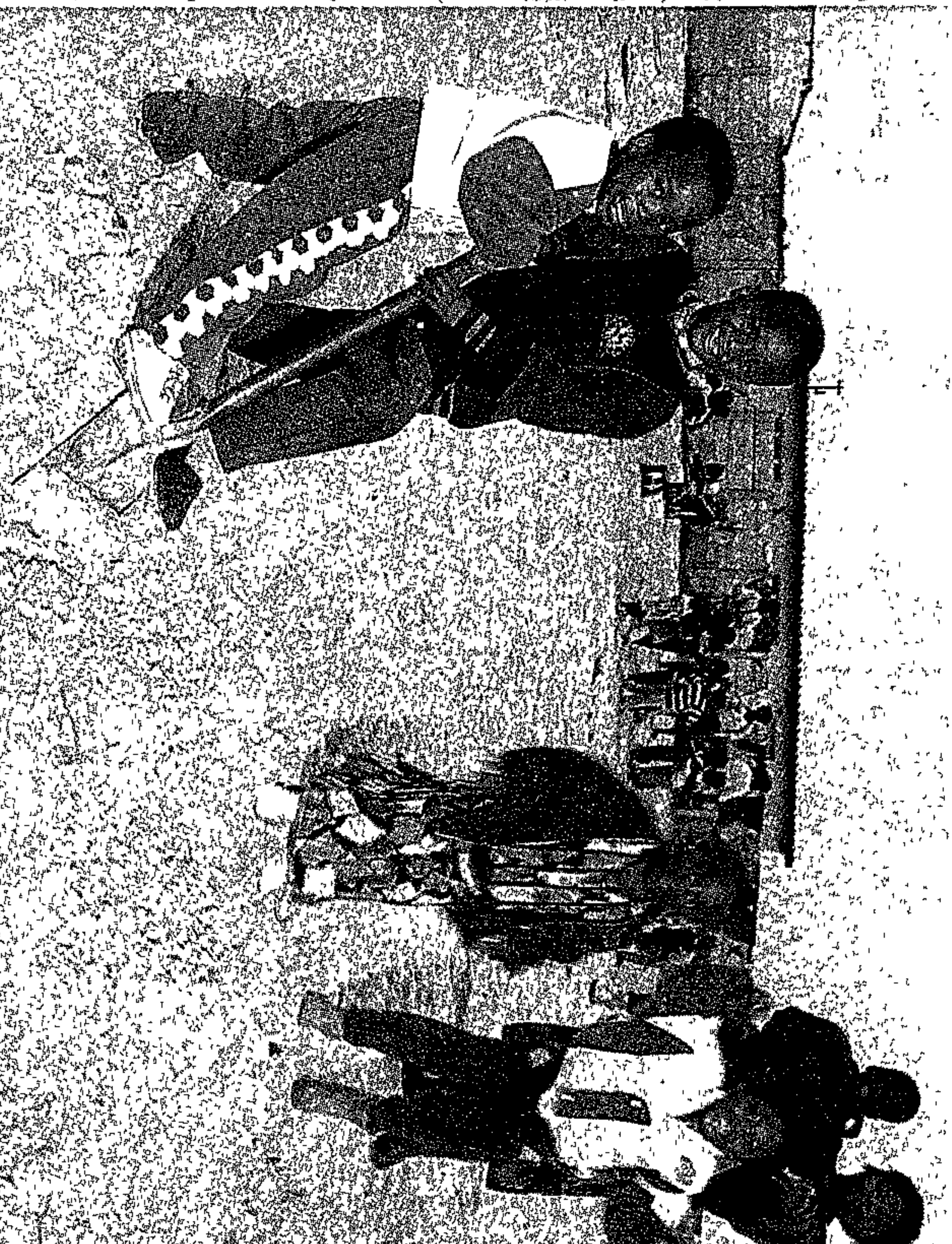
There is a critical need creches for preschool children in the area.

The creche accommodates up to 80 children who go hungry when there is no money for food.

"We are so grateful to those who have offered their services," said Miss Rosalia Khau, who runs the creche.

"Brother Bernard from the Catholic social welfare bureau brought us food and toys and said he will try and bring more food," Mrs Khau said. "Unfortunately when people offer toys we can't collect them because we have no transport."

Anyone who wants to assist the Baphumele centre should contact Mrs Khau at 361 4307.



**HOUSE BUILDERS:** Children from the Baphumele creche lend a hand at digging the foundations of their new building while the others dance for joy.

Picture: ROY WIGLEY, The Argus



# An entertaining notion for bringing people together

Star 25/7/91. 298  
By Jacqueline Myburgh

Nothing breaks down barriers more effectively than entertainment — that has been proven beyond doubt by the success of Joyce Levinsohn's Children's Theatre.

Children of all races have been performing together for the past 14 years, and "they simply cannot grow up with any prejudices," says Joyce.

She started the Children's Theatre in 1977 with the Tales of Beatrix Potter, and pioneered integrated children's theatre a year later, when she cast the first black actor on a South African stage since the "opening" of theatres. The show was the Wizard of Oz at the Alexander Theatre.

Since then, Joyce Levinsohn's Children's Theatre has grown so popular that a Trust, administered by prominent businessmen and women, was formed to finance it. The Johannesburg City Council recently allocated premises in Parktown, from which the Theatre could operate.

The greatest achievement of the Children's Theatre has been to bring children of all races together on stage where they experience, from an early age, the easy interaction of all people.

The audience, too, learns from the cultural integration.

"The children in the audience see a black girl being lifted by a white boy in a dance routine — and they are completely comfortable with one another," says Joyce.

Joyce's large and generous heart means that her audiences range from private school children to streetwise children from Hillbrow.

"When poorer groups phone and ask for a discount, I just can't say no and I let them come for nothing.

Another of her contributions to cultural integration has been the annual performance of the "Songs and Tales for Africa" at the Johannesburg Zoo.

The show, which is different every year, consists of African folk tales and music adapted for theatre.

# Kid bride in hiding from hubby

By ELIAS MALULEKE

A 14-YEAR-OLD bride who was allegedly "sold" to a white businessman has disappeared — leaving her "husband" searching frantically.

The girl, who cannot be named under the Child Protection Act, has also not been to school for several days.

She is said to be hiding with friends from her mother and "common-law" husband Nick Hart.

The girl is said to be no longer interested in the affair with Hart, who is three times her age.

City Press reported last Sunday that the girl's whereabouts were unknown when it exposed the scandal.

Hart and the girl's mother have been searching for her without success and, according to one of her friends, she has vowed not to return to Hart.

Hart and the girl allegedly started having an affair in 1986, when she was still under 10, with the blessings of the girl's mother who later accepted R1 000 lobola for her.

Until now, the two have allegedly been living as man and wife at a factory owned by Hart in Mabopane's industrial area.

The girl's mother has been accused of selling her daughter to the businessman.

Last week the unemployed mother of 12 confirmed receiving the R1,000 as part of a R1 800 lobola she had asked from Hart, saying she consented to the affair because the two were "in love".

The mother declined to say whether it was true that her daughter had walked out on Hart, saying she was no longer willing to talk to the press.

Hart's hunt for the girl was hampered by the local and overseas media which besieged his factory.

City Press has information that since Hart paid lobola for the girl there is no action that can be taken against him in Bophuthatswana.

A social welfare officer said it would be to Hart's advantage if he legally married his young bride. But where is she?



Nick Hart



# Poverty blamed

C/PRESS 28/7/91

## for family death craze

By ELIAS MALULEKE

IS Odi bewitched?

Or is stress and poverty to blame for spouses and lovers burning each other – and those close to them – to a cinder?

This is the big question posed by residents of the Bophuthatswana area following the alarming trend.

The deeper tragedy, however, is that most of the victims of this family madness are children.

Inyangas have shied away from answering the question for fear of being accused of being a witch and torched.

Most of the victims have been reduced to ashes after relatives showered paraffin on them or their homes before striking a light.

Three people died in this terrible manner this week in GaRankuwa, bringing the number to six since the beginning of the month and 10 since June.

Eight children and four adults are known to have died after being set alight during family disputes. One child was just a month old.

Areas affected include GaRankuwa, Mabopane and Boukenhout.

Bophuthatswana police liaison officer Col Dave George said a family quarrel apparently led to the killing of three children this week.

He said a lovers' tiff led a man to pour inflammable liquid over an outbuilding of his in-laws in GaRankuwa and set it alight.

"The adults managed to escape, but three children were trapped in the

house and burnt to death," he said.

The orgy of death started when the wife and child of a Mabopane businessman were burnt to death in his four-roomed house in stand No 2413, Block B, Mabopane.

It has not yet been established how the two died and police are still investigating.

Then Sana Maluleka had a row with her husband and let him go to bed before she poured paraffin over him and their two-year-old child and set them and herself ablaze in their wooden shack in Boukenhout.

In the same month and not far from her home, the son of a landlord allegedly poured a bucketful of paraffin over the year-old child of a tenant and burned him to death.

In early July, three people died in a shack on stand No 3277 after Philip Mahlangu went berserk with rage and set his backyard room alight.

Minutes before that, the 32-year-old hawker displayed indescribable cruelty when he repeatedly battered his beloved two-year-old toddler Lebogang and month-old infant Thoko.

Jeremiah Makola luckily escaped one of the attacks, but his shack was razed.

A senior police officer in Odi said there were indications that lovers' betrayals were to blame.

But why take it out on the kids?

Social worker Tebogo Sompane said stress, the high rate of unemployment and jealousy were the major factors.



SURVIVOR... Jeremiah Makola escaped the burning frenzy.



**We don't like  
double-speak!**

ON THE MARCH... Johannesburg city centre came alive this week when close to 20 000 railway workers marched to Transnet headquarters to protest against the manage-



# Goedgevonden kids immunised

By DAN DHLAMINI

THE Anglican Church's Mothers' Union this week successfully put pressure on authorities to intervene in the health crisis faced by the Goedgevonden community which has been "under siege" since April - and unable to get health care.

Children of the black farmers who reoccupied Goedgevonden Farm - from where they were uprooted in 1978 - were immunised on Friday following pressure on health authorities by members of the union led by Maggie Nkwe, wife of the Klerksdorp Anglican diocese's Bishop David Nkwe.

Mothers' Union members also handed cakes, fruit, sweets and newspapers to the leader of the community, Olefile Segopolo, to distribute.

Nkwe said she would also arrange with the National Medical and Dental Association to send a team of doctors to Goedgevonden in a bid to ease the health crisis in the area.

Nkwe, a director of the Soweto-based Orlando Children's Home who is also a professional nursing sister charged with primary health care, told City Press she had persuaded the reluctant Transvaal Provincial Adminis-

tration Community Health Services to immunise the Goedgevonden children.

"I am delighted that the children have been immunised, but am equally disappointed that the principle of a mobile clinic, which should reach out to the people, was not adhered to. People had to walk about two kilometres to the gate to get service," she said.

Nkwe said earlier on a sister Venter told her that the road to Goedgevonden was bad and their vehicles could not travel there.

Nkwe took the matter up with the Western Transvaal TPA's regional Community Health Services chief director, Dr LL du Toit, who said the mobile clinic should go to the farm.

Du Toit said: "As you know Goedgevonden had been a sensitive area. We could not include them in our roster because they were there temporarily. They will get the service again after 10 weeks."

Segopolo said the community was at first suspicious about the presence of the mobile clinic, thinking that the Ventersdorp farmers who assaulted them in May were trying to poison them.



# AWB officer guilty of hitting child

By JANICE HILLIER

AN AWB kommandant has been found guilty of assaulting a coloured child at a formerly whites-only swimming pool in the Northern Cape.

De Aar magistrate Mr JW Prinsloo this week found Daniel Bothma, 28, guilty of slapping eight year-old Darwin Solomons in the face and hitting him over the head with a snorkel at the town's municipal pool in January.

He was fined R50 (or 25 days' imprisonment), suspended for one year. Bothma was acquitted of two other charges of assault.

## Armed

The incident occurred after armed right-wingers, who were against blacks, being admitted, visited the pool after it had officially been opened to all races.

In a separate matter, magistrate Mr LM Bothma acquitted Bothma and Mr John Lester Geyser of charges of assault and crimen injuria.

The charges arose after Bothma and Mr Geyser allegedly assaulted three juveniles, also at the town's swimming pool, in October.

The magistrate found the two men had not intended to commit the assault.



# Louis is adopting new South Africa

STimes 28/7/91  
By CAS St Leger

**THE** mastermind behind the State President's "new South Africa" advertising campaign has adopted two little Tswana orphans.

Ad agency boss Louis Wilsenach and his wife Gretchen, both 50, of Honeydew took the two boys into their home after their parents were killed in a car crash.

"If you're such a big deal that you can write the headlines, you must live them," said Mr Wilsenach, creator of Mr FW de Klerk's campaign.

"It didn't come instantly to me that we should look after the boys. The idea just grew. It was as if the Lord said to me 'If you really care about people, here's a good opportunity to care for the two little ones'."

"When I shared the idea with my wife, Gretchen, she went a little bit pale. These were the free days of our life, with our children grown up. Now here I was talking about taking in two little black boys. She said 'Don't rush me'. Three or four days later, she said 'I am 100 percent with you'."

## Teacher

"Then it was a matter of talking to the boys' families. They took three weeks to decide and then said we could have them. They liked the idea and now here they are, two boys who are fast changing our lives."

"We are now considering adoption. They are now our children and I will bring them up and look after them. My commitment is to them."

It all began when staff at the Louis Wilsenach Agency decided to establish two pre-primary schools for black toddlers — one in Soweto, the other on the Wilsenach estate, next door to Gary Player's daughter, Mrs Jennifer de Luca. The De Lucas have a little black girl, Nomsa.

Two years ago, Mrs Nkele Lechela arrived to take up a teacher's post on the Honeydew estate, with

## De Klerk's ad man takes in orphaned Tswana brothers

her husband Gerry and two little boys, Thebo and Lebo, now 8 and 4, whose names both mean "blessing".

"We had so much respect for Nkele, she was a wonderful lady," said Mr Wilsenach.

Just before Easter this year, the Lechelas went shopping. Their car skidded on a wet road and crashed into a tree. Mr Lechela was killed and paramedic Craig Kent lost three fingers in the jaws of life trying to save Mrs Lechela. She, too, died.

The Wilsenachs have two grown-up children, Len, 27, a game ranger in Namibia, and Mia, 23, a photographer at her father's agency.

"We called Len and said 'You've got two black brothers'. He replied 'So you think you're the Websters'!"

The children took to their new lifestyle easily. "We had trouble with basic things like please, thank-you and hugs. They didn't know about hugging."

Beds and baths were novelties. "We realise that there are two worlds in South Africa and white people do not know about blacks' world."



**SUCH A BLESSING . . .** advertising boss Louis Wilsenach and his two 'sons' Lebo, 4, and Thebo, 8  
Picture: GARTH LUMLEY

"The first time I took Thebo to his school, something tore inside me, just dropping him at that dilapidated, broken down, ugly school. It was my son being dropped at school, not just any child, it was my boykie."

Now Thebo is being assessed educationally and Mr Wilsenach hopes he will

attend Parkview school and Lebo an English-speaking pre-school.

Mrs Wilsenach, who returned on Thursday from a trip to France, was quickly won over. Thebo asked for a goodnight kiss. "That kiss, across the colour line, was the end for my wife. Now they are her little boys."

The Wilsenachs have changed their home language from Afrikaans to English. "We decided for their sake to speak English for a while. I said to them, 'One day, my seuntjies, praat ons Afrikaans'."

The children have no nanny. "They are my sons and I look after them. But, with my wife away spending my money in Paris, and me on my knees bathing two little black boys, I did wonder what I was doing when I can't even cook an omelette. That's when you discover take-aways."

## Video

Contact has been maintained with the Lechela relatives. An aunt arrived last week for Thebo's birthday party and was startled to hear Mr Wilsenach addressed by the children as "papa". A video of their parents' funeral has been kept for when the boys are older and their photograph hangs on the bedroom wall.

"I've got one challenge in my life and that's to keep them as sweet as they are. The boys are so pure."

While friends and neighbours are supportive, Mr Wilsenach is aware he might encounter problems.

A fortnight ago, he took the boys to the Kruger Park, telephoning hotels before he left, saying he hoped they would not throw them out as he had two black boys with him. There were no incidents. "Everyone was very friendly."



# Sowetan seminar a crowd puller

298  
Sowetan  
29/7/91

A LARGE number of residents in Mangaung township near Bloemfontein showed keen interest in the Sowetan's Nation Building seminar held in the township over the weekend.

The seminar, titled "Parenting and Health" sponsored by Pick 'n Pay, was addressed by professionals, youth groups, teachers and parents. Several topics, such as child abuse, were discussed.

An expert on child abuse, Sister Mapule Khanye, told participants that communities should

be made aware of the different types of abuse and the need to help the victims.

Local support groups have been successful in offering emotional support to the abused and often took action in identifying the abuser.

## Emotional

Dr Garth Japhet talked about the impact of Aids on community and personal life were discussed. He explained its syndrome, how it is passed on and what preventive steps could be taken to halt its spread.

The seminar has put educators and health

workers in touch to co-operate in assisting sufferers and their families.

Mrs Rachel Ramatsui, a local social worker representing the parents, focused on the emotional and social needs of the youth which parents overlooked.

She identified the family as the cornerstone of a strong nation and its primacy in educating the child about love, respect, authority and understanding, among other things.

Other seminars will be held in Pietersburg on August 10, Daveyton August 24 and Soweto on September 14.

# Home for kids

A R5-MILLION children's home, the first of its kind in the Transvaal, was officially opened by Administrator of the Transvaal Mr Danie Hough outside Pretoria yesterday. *Soetan 11/8/91 (298)*

The home, which is part of the Jabulani welfare complex, will accommodate about 200 abandoned children. The complex will include a place of safety.

Hough said the home, known as Legae La Rona State Children's Home, was suitable for housing destitute children. - Sapa.



# 'Give unmarried dads more say'

star  
Pretoria Bureau 18/7/91

An unmarried father who is willing and able to support his illegitimate child and assume a paternal role, should be allowed to do so, says an attorney.

David van Onselen, in an article in the July edition of De Rebus, the Association of Law Societies' journal for attorneys, says the law should be changed to entitle the unmarried father to move an application to court for an order elevating him to the status of "participating parent".

However, such applications should be as-

298 (245)  
sessed on their individual merit. The father would have to show at least that he is able to pay maintenance and is willing and able to play an active role as father to the child.

His involvement with mother and child should also have no detrimental effect on the child — or, on balance, should have a positive effect on the child.

At present, the law makes provision only for the rights of the married father and the South African Law Commission's report on the legal position of illegitimate children does not provide for the rights of the unmarried father.

# Mother brings claim over son's prison death

South  
18/7-24/7/91

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By Henry Ludski



**SIT-IN:** Bonteheuwel residents occupied the City Council offices in the township on Wednesday to highlight their grievances about high rents and the lack of housing in the area. The mayor of Cape Town, Mr Gordon Oliver, and council officials came to the offices later to accept a memorandum after residents threatened to remain there overnight. PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

## Boesak signs for ANC under glare of television spotlight

THE mother of a 15-year-old schoolboy who was shot while in police custody has expressed her dismay at the "lenient" sentence given to the policeman who shot her only son.

This week, 21-year-old police constable John Short pleaded guilty to culpable homicide. He was fined R2 000 and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment, suspended for four years.

Mrs Katrina Booysen, 42, has now brought a civil claim against the Minister of Law and Order for loss of earnings and funeral expenses. The sentence has also been described as "totally inappropriate" by Lawyers for Human Rights director Mr Brian Currin.

### 'Irresponsible'

The court described Short's actions as "unacceptable" and "irresponsible".

Pieter Booysen was shot dead in January this year after a macabre "game" in the Upington police cells in January this year.

Evidence before the court was that Short had been using his gun to play a "game" with Booysen with his firearm when the shot was fired. Mrs Booysen said this week, "I am extremely unhappy with the policeman's sentence."

"I lost my only son and the policeman who shot him has been given a fine. I am very hurt by this."

Booyesen was convicted of rape in December and was in custody awaiting transfer to a reform school when he was killed. A police spokesperson for the Northern Cape confirmed on Wednesday that Short was still in the employ of police and that a departmental investigation would be held into the question of his conviction.



## 30 000 whippings shameful — Nicro

298 DARIUS SANAI

MORE than 30 000 people were sentenced to whipping last year, the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro) said yesterday.

Nicro regional director Heather Regenass said yesterday government figures showing that 31 647 people were sentenced to whipping last year were "shameful".

The figure excluded "a large number" of prisoners whipped for offences committed while in prison. 18/7/91

Latest figures did not give a breakdown by race of people sentenced to whipping. Regenass said figures for previous years showed coloureds were far more likely to be whipped than blacks or whites.

Juveniles of all races could expect to be sentenced to between four and eight strokes with a light cane for minor offences such as fighting in public.

Corporal punishment should be abolished, she said. The Nicro programme of rehabilitating offenders and teaching schoolchildren about the effects of violent crime was being undermined by a legal system that dealt out violent punishments.

A Justice Department spokesman said yesterday the department had no plans to change or abolish the corporal punishment system.

## 15 Bophuthatswana convicts still on fast

18/7/91 THEO RAWANA

ALL but 15 prisoners in Bophuthatswana hospitals had suspended their strike by last night after intervention by ANC president Nelson Mandela, the Mafikeng Anti-Repression Forum said.

Mandela, on a midnight visit to hunger strikers at Odi Hospital on Saturday, persuaded prisoners to suspend their strike so that "other strategies" could be pursued in the campaign for their release.

This resulted in 25 prisoners suspending their strike at the weekend, and these in turn called on the other 41 to suspend the fast. Forum spokesman Laura Taylor said last night 26 prisoners had suspended their action, but the full facts had not been explained to the remaining 15.

"I have been granted permission to visit them at Bophelong Hospital and will be talking to them tomorrow (Thursday)," she added.

Taylor, who had gone to the hospital in the hope of meeting the prisoners yesterday, said a Human Rights Commission report that only one prisoner was still on hunger strike was incorrect.

Sapa reports that three political prisoners at Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town have resumed their hunger strike, after fasting for 27 days in April.

● Comment: Page 10

## 'Kill Mandela' retort was joke, court told

18/7/91 WILSON ZWANE

POLICE Warrant Officer Gideon Cornelius Lubbe was not thinking straight when he "jokingly" told a group of Inkatha supporters to wait and kill ANC president Nelson Mandela on the night of May 1, the Protea Magistrates' Court heard yesterday.

Lubbe has pleaded not guilty to charges of improper conduct and/or alternatively bringing the SAP into disrepute. The charges against him arose from an incident in Soweto when he allegedly told a group of Inkatha supporters: "If you want to kill Mandela, wait till tonight."

The incident was filmed by a video cameraman working for an international news agency.

Prosecutor Carin Nienaber submitted that Lubbe had admitted he did not have to utter those words, which she said rendered his conduct unbecoming and which dented the SAP image.

Defence attorney Ike Swartzberg said Lubbe had not had time to consult with his superiors about what to say to the group. Had he had time Lubbe would not have uttered those words.

Giving evidence earlier in the day before magistrate I Olivier, Lubbe said he was joking.

Lubbe said he thought he was under threat from the group, which had stopped and surrounded a police van in which he was travelling.

The group was talking about killing Mandela and in an attempt to defuse the situation which had grown tense, Lubbe told them "jokingly" to "wait till tonight if you want to kill Mandela".

"I did not think the situation out properly then, but on reflection I think it was not necessary to say those words," he said.

But he did not agree with the State that his words dented the SAP image, he said.

The case was postponed to August 5 for judgment.

# Anglova

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# Family murders analysed

*Sowetan 19/7/91*  
MOST child victims of family murders are under the age of 12 and almost 40 percent of children killed are younger than six.

This emerges from a Human Sciences Research Council study on family murders committed in South Africa between April 1989 and October last year.

The study - which rejected the theory that apartheid is directly to blame for family murders - found that 71 percent of child victims of family murders during that period

were younger than 12. This tallies with the finding that most family murderers fall into the 24 to 35-year age group.

The 300-page report highlights the plight of children caught up in "power struggles" between their parents before the murders took place.

Marital problems featured strongly in most family murders, and parents often used their children to manipulate one another.

Many children suffered extreme

stress and anxiety as a result.

In most cases, family murderers were deeply emotionally involved with their children - and tended to have better relationships with their children than with their spouses.

## Children

Murderers' strong attachment to their children was also traced as the motive for murder in some cases, in that children were killed so they would not be abandoned

when the parent committed suicide.

Most family murders were committed at the family home and mostly while families were asleep - either late at night or in the early morning. Medication was seldom used to "immobilise" the victims.

Various methods were used for the murders - including gassing, drowning, stabbing - but the highest percentage of victims were apparently shot dead. - *Sowetan Correspondent*.

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# A Durban lawyer fights for rights of unmarried fathers

297  
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Sowetan 19/7/91

UNMARRIED fathers who are willing to support their illegitimate offspring should be allowed to do so, a Durban lawyer has argued.

Writing in the July issue of the Association of Law Societies' journal for attorneys, Mr David van Onselen said the law should be amended to give unmarried fathers broader "participating" roles.

He wrote: "An unmarried fa-

ther who is ready, willing and able to support his illegitimate child and assume a parental role should be allowed to do so."

Van Onselen said the law should be changed to entitle the unmarried father to move an application to court for an order elevating him to the status of "participating parent".

He cautions, however, that such applications should be assessed on their individual merits,

and the father would have to be convincing.

The father should show he is able to pay maintenance, willing to play an active role as father to the child, and has a reasonable explanation for the period of absence or delay if the application is made long after the child's birth.

Van Onselen argued the father's involvement with mother and child should have no detrimental effect on the child, but

have a positive effect.

The law makes provision only for the rights of the married father and the South African Law Commission's report on the legal position of illegitimate children does

not provide for the rights of the unmarried father.

The Unmarried Fathers' Fight, known as Tuff, was recently established to provide a forum for unmarried fathers. - Sapa.



# The face of hunger

## Starvation and death in Africa's richest country

**TWO-YEAR-OLD** Mpho Maimela faces death in Africa's richest country because her family has run short of food.

The black child's fight for life in a shabby hospital ward is testimony to the yawning disparity in living standards in white-ruled South Africa.

Her irritable crying, swollen belly, discoloured ginger hair, eye cataract and skin ulcers stem from the malnutrition that affects an estimated three million children in rural areas.

Poverty is spreading in the countryside because of redundancies in mines employing rural workers, overcrowding, overgrazing, deforestation and general lack of development.

Operation Hunger, a private welfare group that feeds 1.6 million people daily and promotes self-help development, estimates three people die of hunger-related disease every hour.

### Favourite

"The favourite white South African saying is 'But look at the rest of Africa'," says Operation Hunger director Ina Perlman.

"Well, Zimbabwe's and Botswana's infant mortality rates are way better than ours, with nothing like our GNP (Gross National Product)," she says, citing United Nations figures.

"In any case why the hell should a black South African look at the rest of Africa? His standards of comparison are right here, and should be right here," Perlman said in an interview.

In a country where company directors can earn more than R30 000 a month, 12 million people or almost half the black population earn less than R100 a month needed for a family of five to survive, Operation Hunger says.

Another two million have no measurable income whatsoever.

Witwatersrand University researchers say per capita black income is a tenth that of whites - about the same as it was 70 years ago - or 13 percent of informal earnings are included.

The worst poverty is in the 10 tribal homelands where most blacks live. The areas - apartheid creations untouched by recent reforms - are overcrowded dustbowls where families depend on cash from migrant workers in "white" South Africa.

### Destitute

Mpho's swelling has eased in the month she has been in Jane Furse village in the Lebowa homeland in the Northern Transvaal.

Doctors say she may survive but will be blind in one eye for life and a question mark remains over her mental development.

Mpho's mother said she fed her family only maize meal and water after employers sacked her husband and money ran out.

Such a starch diet leads to kwashiorkor, or chronic lack of protein, common among the destitute who make up a third of all people fed or aided by Operation Hunger in Lebowa.

### Fees

A Jane Furse doctor said the hospital treated only the "tip of an iceberg" of malnutrition-linked kwashiorkor, measles, tuberculosis, gastroenteritis and bronchitis as many Lebowans could not afford the nominal registration fees.

Around Jane Furse, people live in mud or zinc huts without electricity or sewerage. Water comes from streams or sporadically from communal taps. People burn wood or aloes for energy. Many roads are dust tracks along rain-eroded hills.

Operation Hunger field worker Frans Themba estimates 40 percent of the people he helps have no cash in-



PERLMAN ... Our country is a bloody disgrace.

come and 70 percent of adults are unemployed.

"Sugar, tea, fruit and vegetables are luxuries and we don't even talk about milk," said Themba.

He said many women were abandoned by migrant worker husbands who took second wives in urban areas and ceased remitting money.

Over in Schoonoordt, along a bumpy dirt road crevassed by soil erosion, orphans Anna (16), Tiya (11) and Gertrude (8) live in a corrugated iron hut on a windswept hillside where dust from exhausted, overgrazed fields silts up at their door.

### Listless

Barefoot and listless, they said they lived off maize meal and protein soup delivered monthly by Operation Hunger.

In Glen Cowie shantytown, mother of eight Maria Mopoitho laughs when asked how often she eats meat.

"How can you ask such a question?" she said through a interpreter.

"Sometimes I am frustrated because I don't

know what to do to survive," she said. Crippled by asthma, she does not have the energy to try to plant vegetables around her mud hut.

"In know life is different in Soweto," she said. "There is meat to eat. People have good clothes. But I would need taxi fare to go there. And without a place to stay and a job it would be worse than here."

### Reforms

Asked what she would like from President FW de Klerk's reforms, she replied "I want land and money to work it."

Aid workers estimate a quarter of all deaths in the black community are malnourished children under five.

Perlman said that unless aid groups received money to feed two million people by August or September that figure could rise to half. The Western norm is about eight percent.

"It's a bloody disgrace in a country of our wealth," said Perlman. *Sapa-Reuter.*



EMPTY BOWL AND HUNGRY LOOK ... More than three million children in South Africa's rural areas are affected by malnutrition.

Sowetan 19/7/91 (298)

Sowetan 19/7/91



## Children and violence in SA

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DURBAN. — The political structure in South Africa has exposed children to violence seldom experienced elsewhere in the world, says the dean of the faculty of law at the University of Natal, Professor David McQuoid-Mason.

11.11.91  
Speaking at the Children in Crisis conference here yesterday, Prof McQuoid-Mason said the correct legal response to community violence by and against children was state intervention and protection, but this was not happening in South Africa.

He said the distortions within South African society caused by apartheid

CT 28/7/91  
laws could be blamed for the notorious necklace method of executing suspected police informers.

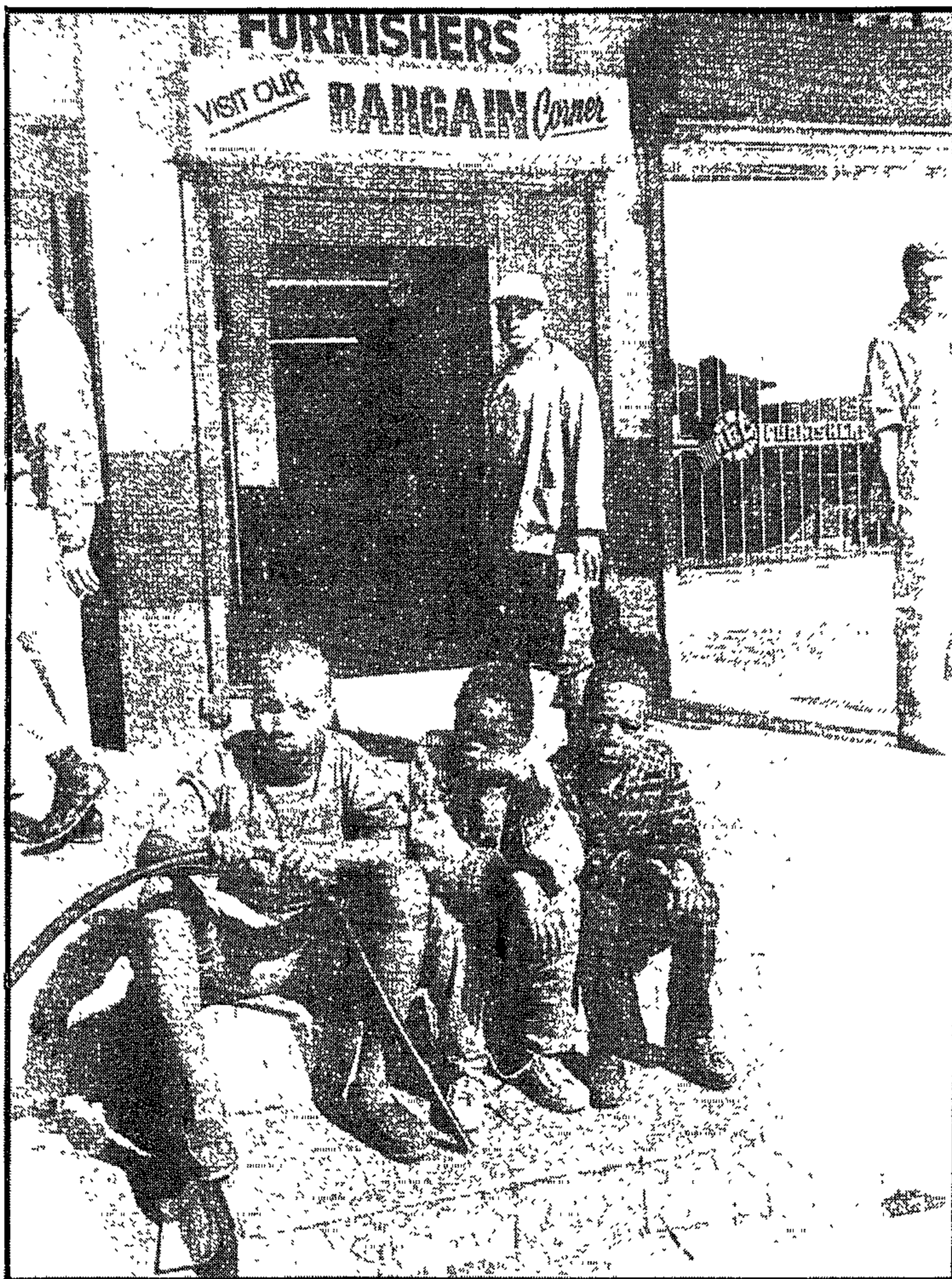
Speaking at the same conference, Pinetown's Child and Family Welfare Society director Mrs Priscilla McKay said there was an urgent need to establish a national campaign to rehabilitate the youth, the victims of the violence.

She said many children had fled their homes because of the violence.

The children were insecure and did not trust anybody. The problem was compounded by the unstable economic situation in this country. — Sapa



Alexandra is virtually a suburb of Johannesburg, yet few whites know what conditions are like in the township. Reporters SUE OLSWANG and ABBEY MAKOE and photographer REBECCA HEARFIELD visited Alex this week. These are their impressions.



JUNIOR JOB-SEEKERS: Three Alexandra school children on the lookout for "piece" work during school holidays. (298)

# Johannesburg's suburb of Shame





**HARD TO SWALLOW ... Messina Advice Office worker Eaglet Chipu with some of the poisonous drugs found at the dump.**

# Bitter pill for township

Q Press 21/7/91

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## Messina dumps lethal

cessfully campaigned for its removal.

"Since the consumer boycott of white-owned businesses was suspended the situation has worsened," he said.

Rosina Matome said she was shocked when her seven-year-old son came home with a handful of pills. He told her he had found them on the dump.

"The dump must go because it is going to kill our children," said Matome.

A spokesman for the Nancefield council, CJ Matan, said the dump was the responsibility of the Messina Town Council and had nothing to do with the local council.

## drugs in Nancefield

private hospital, restaurants and butcheries were also using the site to dump their refuse.

Messina town clerk JA Kok - who used several four-letter words when approached for comment - said his council was not to blame for people who exposed themselves to danger.

The dump was "fenced in", and if people went there they did so at their own risk, he said. The dump is, in fact, not fenced in.

Children have been seen playing with drugs and bullets they had found there. Residents claim the bullets are dumped by soldiers who live in the SADF barracks in the town.

Messina Advice Office director Jacob Matanye said the dump had been in use for two years, and residents had unsuccessfully demanded that the dump be moved to a place where children could not reach it.

**By ELIAS MALULEKE**  
A PHARMACY is dumping lethal drugs a few metres away from Messina's Nancefield township.

The dump is a playground for children and a hunting ground for scavengers.

The owner of the pharmacy, Jan Naude, said he was not aware the drugs were being dumped on the site and would investigate.

Naude said as far as he was aware, old drugs were burnt and not dumped in Nancefield.

City Press also discovered that the SADF, a

# Student jailed by man who bust him

By DAN DHLAMINI

AN Ipelegeng student who was arrested by a Schweizer-Reneke magistrate for picketing in front of his court two months ago, was this week sentenced to nine months' jail by the same magistrate on a separate charge.

Magistrate CC Butler halted court proceedings on May 27, and, still wearing his magisterial gown, went outside and arrested Taung College of Education student teacher, Aubrey Matsau, 24.

Matsau was allegedly picketing outside the court with 15 others to demand the release of political prisoners.

Matsau - who still faces a charge of taking part in an illegal march - will appear again on August 22 to face the picketing charge.

He is likely to appear before magistrate Butler.

This week Matsau was found guilty of attempting to defeat the ends of justice by influencing state witnesses to give false evidence in court.

In sentencing Matsau to an effective nine months' imprisonment Butler said he was grossly irresponsible and wondered what type of a teacher he was going to be.

■ Meanwhile, a group of 28 Ipelegeng residents, including a 10-year-old boy and a 65-year-old woman, briefly appeared before magistrate Kruger on a charge of taking part in an alleged illegal march on May 31.

The case was referred to the attorney-general and the accused were warned to appear on August 22.



Star 23/7/91  
**Fun day for (298)  
needy children**

A never-to-be-forgotten day, rather than just one to remember, is being planned for next month for 300 underprivileged children from all sections of the community as well as the public.

Prizes valued at thousands of rands can be won by all who attend.

Robin Hood, a charity promotions organisation, is the driving force behind the fun day to be held at the Sturrock Park sports stadium on August 3.

Children from 10 major welfare organisations will be involved.

Thousands of rands have been donated to make it a special occasion.

# Accused denies using petrol

By Dirk Nel  
Northern Transvaal Bureau

LOUIS TRICHARDT — A police forensic expert yesterday used a video in a regional court to prove that the lumber jacket worn by Frank Mokwati (15), who was allegedly "welded" to a steel table and set alight on December 8 must have been sprinkled with a highly flammable substance.

John van der Westhuizen (30) of Hayoma Farm, Tshipise, has pleaded not guilty to charges of assault and attempted murder, arising from second-degree burns sustained by the boy, who testified on Monday that Mr van der Westhuizen sprinkled petrol on him and then set him alight with sparks from two welding irons.

Lieutenant Mark Froneman of the SAP Forensic Science Department in Pretoria showed the court a video sequence featuring tests made with a welder, and a jacket similar to the one worn by the boy.

Attempts during the test to ignite the nylon and cotton jacket with sparks from the welder failed, until petrol was sprinkled on it.

However, Lieutenant Froneman said there were no traces of petrol on the boy's jacket when he examined it in June.

He said this did not necessarily mean that a small amount of petrol had not been sprinkled on it.

Defence attorney J L C van Vuuren said during cross examination of the complainant, that Mr van der Westhuizen denied using any petrol or a welder to set the boy's clothes alight.

He claimed Mr van der Westhuizen had been informed by police that the boy was wanted in connection with a burglary.

The accused took three workers with him when he heard the suspect was on the farm and they found him hiding in an orchard, the defence contended.

They caught the boy, and the accused took him to his

workshop where he put a bent piece of iron around his wrist and welded this to the table to prevent him from escaping, Mr van Vuuren told the court.

But the accused had definitely not set the boy alight purposely, he claimed.

Under cross examination the boy denied he was on the run, but did acknowledge that he had been told to appear in court on August 13.

He said he did not know what it was all about.

Messina District Surgeon Dr Maria van der Walt, who examined the boy shortly after the alleged workshop incident, described the injuries as second-degree burns, explaining that the victim had had to go undergo skin-graft surgery.

She rejected a suggestion by the defence that the wrist injury could have been an abrasion, saying it was definitely a burn.

The hearing was adjourned until September 23.

Morris Pogrund is appearing for the State.



# I welded boy to steel table says farmer

From Page 1

were false.

He said he had never been told why he was tortured in that manner.

He denied he was caught by three men in an orchard of mango trees after trying to run away when Van der Westhuizen and the three men cornered him.

"The accused will admit to welding your left hand but he says he was holding the iron with his hand as it was not hot. He will deny that he poured petrol over you or that he hit the terminals of the welding machine together to produce the sparks.

## Fire

"He will say that the jacket caught fire on its own," Van Vuuren said.

The boy replied that it was not true and asked Van Vuuren how the fire could then have occurred, to which Van Vuuren replied: "That is my instruction and I want your comment."

Messina district surgeon Dr Maria van der Walt told the court that when the boy was ad-

mitted to hospital on December 8 he had second-degree burns all over his chest, neck, abdomen and both hands.

She said he also had a wound around his left wrist, caused by burning.

Responding to a question by Van Vuuren that the wound could have been caused by the hand struggling to get out of the welded iron, she replied: "No. I particularly checked that wound very carefully. It was a burn wound."

The case was postponed to September 23 and 24.

his clients illegal.

## ANC children's return delayed

THE RETURN of 400 children of ANC exiles will be delayed until an alternative is found to the Pretoria school which was bombed at the weekend, the ANC said yesterday.

Hillview High School was to be used to house and educate the children, who were due to return to South Africa from Tanzania on August 15.

"The safety of the children is our most important concern and we will do everything in our power to ensure their safety on return to their country."

Damage to the school is estimated at R800 000. *Sowetan 17/7/91*



# Funds for children's shelter reach R92 000

A GROUP of concerned individuals under the umbrella of the Child Welfare Society in Claremont, has passed the halfway mark in its fund-raising efforts for the new Claremont Children's Shelter in Fir Street, Claremont.

R92 000 has been raised of a target of R150 000.

Mrs Jill Ritchie, a Claremont resident, said: "Money has come to this project from various fund-raising functions.

"Recently we held a successful raffle and many tickets were sold. The City Council has given us R30 000 that had been earmarked for the Lighthouse shelter in Strandfontein, which has had to close.

"We also held a braai for street chil-

dren on the site of the proposed shelter. Deputy Mayor Frank van der Velde attended and is taking a personal interest in the project."

Mrs Ritchie added that the proposed shelter would not only be an overnight shelter for street children but would serve as a temporary home while their individual cases were being investigated by social workers.

If their parents can be traced and if they did not run away because of abuse they will be sent home. Otherwise they will be placed in homes or institutions best suited to their individual needs.

"We are reliant on the public for funds and we would appreciate any donations," said Mrs Ritchie.

□ Call (021) 61-9417.

delegation was in SA to study the role of women after apartheid and it would talk to a broad spectrum of women to find out what assistance Germans could offer. — Sapa.

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**TANIA LEVY**

The Boere Vryheidsbeweging (BVB) warned last week it would not allow black children to use the school which would become a "target of Boer resistance".

The BVB was among right-wing organisations which yesterday denied responsibility for the explosion.

But the CP said the explosion was the direct result of government's decision to use it to accommodate hundreds of ANC members in a traditionally white area.

Government had to accept that such actions were seen as seriously provocative, CP deputy leader Ferdie Hartzenberg said.

A National Health Department spokesman said Minister Rina Venter would not comment on the school's future until the matter had been discussed with the ANC.

● Comment: Page 10

## Chowdown



Court told of assault by farmer

# Boy 'welded to table, set alight'

By Dirk Nel  
Northern  
Transvaal Bureau

LOUIS TRICHARDT — The mother of a 15-year-old boy broke down and wept in the Regional Court here yesterday when her son told magistrate G J J van Deventer how he was "welded" to a steel table on December 8 last year and then set alight by a farmer, John van der Westhuizen.

The boy, Frank Mokwati of Tshituni village in Venda, removed his shirt to show the court severe burn marks all over his body. He said he had not yet recovered from the injuries, despite being treated in hospital for four months.

Mr van der Westhuizen (30) of Hayoma Farm, Tshipise, pleaded not guilty to charges of assault and attempted murder during a previous court appearance.

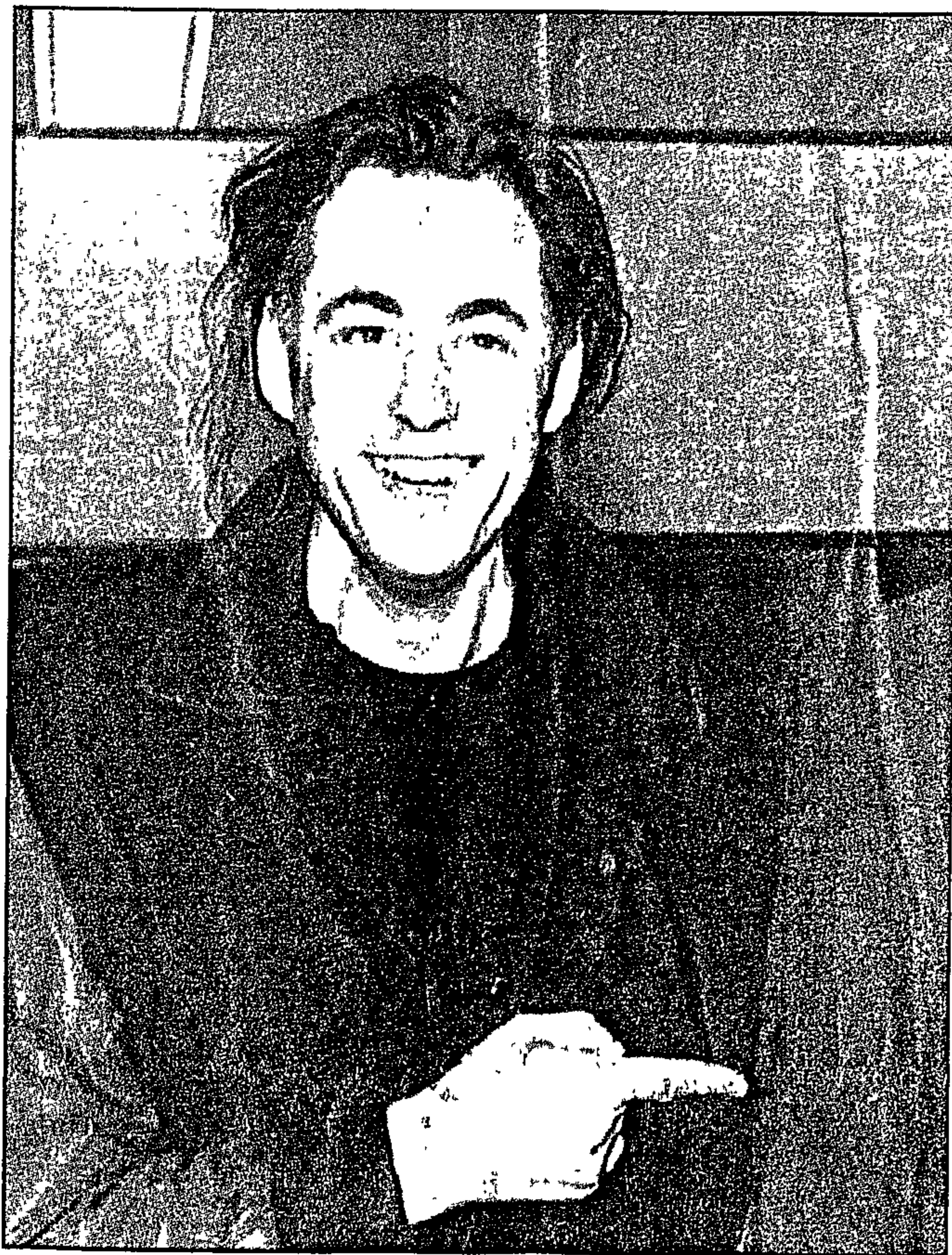
The boy testified that he was on his way to see his mother near Tshipise on the morning of December 8 when the accused pulled up in a bakkie and asked him to help with a chore. He climbed on to the back of the vehicle, joining four other young blacks.

The accused then drove to a workshop on Hayoma farm, where the man grabbed him and began punching him on the chest, head and stomach, the boy claimed.

Then Mr van der Westhuizen allegedly handed him over to the other four, who held him firmly, while the farmer "shocked" him with a cattle-shocking device.

## Flames

Mr van der Westhuizen then allegedly put a bent piece of iron around one of his wrists and welded it to a steel table, sprinkled petrol on the boy and set him alight with sparks from two weld-



Mutual admirers . . . pop musician and charity worker Sir Bob Geldof shares a joke

By Esmaré van der Merwe  
Political Reporter

Irish pop star Sir Bob Geldof would have liked to give Nelson Mandela a special 73rd birthday present on Thursday — a compilation of the approximately 50 songs that have been composed to honour the anti-apartheid

## Bob Geldof meets hero Mandela

out on Friday," the sleepy, off-beat Geldof said, to break

la, Geldof said: "I am still very nervous."

Mr Mandela quipped back: "I've always felt nervous (about meeting him)."

Replied Sir Bob: "Yeah, but he's a boxer."

The two then met behind closed doors for an exclusive interview filmed by an Italian film crew.



the court severe burn marks all over his body. He said he had not yet recovered from the injuries, despite being treated in hospital for four months.

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## Flames

Mr van der Westhuizen then allegedly put a bent piece of iron around one of his wrists and welded it to a steel table, sprinkled petrol on the boy and set him alight with sparks from two welding irons.

"I tried to take my jacket off, but let go of it when I felt my hand burning. The four others brought water and doused the flames. When I finally got the jacket half off, some of my flesh came with it," he said.

A man called Shamba cut the rest of the jacket off.

Meanwhile the farmer had left and returned with a white policeman, who kicked him in the stomach, the boy alleged.

During all these events, nobody told him why he was being treated so harshly, he added.

The policeman took him to his bakkie, handcuffed him to a heavy piece of iron, and drove him to the Messina police station. He was later transferred to the Messina Hospital from where he was moved to the Pietersburg Hospital and eventually to the Ga-Rankuwa Hospital.

During cross-examination of the witness, defence attorney J L C van Vuuren rejected his version of the day's events, claiming the boy had been on the run after being sought by the police in connection with a burglary. However, the complainant denied this, saying his evidence was true.

The hearing continues.



Mutual admirers . . . pop musician and charity worker Sir Bob Geldof shares a joke

By Esmaré van der Merwe  
Political Reporter

Irish pop star Sir Bob Geldof would have liked to give Nelson Mandela a special 73rd birthday present on Thursday — a compilation of the approximately 50 songs that have been composed to honour the anti-apartheid legend.

"But listening to that would be far worse than 27 years of solitary confinement," the world-renowned "Band Aid" artist said upon meeting his idol at the ANC head office in Johannesburg yesterday.

Shaking hands during their first meeting, the two men — celebrities in their own yet very differing ways — exchanged niceties under the glaring lights of television cameras and the flashes of photographers' cameras.

"My new record will be

## Bob Geldof meets hero Mandela

out on Friday," the sleepy, off-beat Geldof said, to break the ice.

On a more serious note, the Nobel Peace Prize nominee said he would love to talk to Mr Mandela for the entire afternoon if time permitted.

Mr Mandela was equally complimentary about the leader of legendary '70s punk rockers, the Boomtown Rats.

"I like everything that has got to do with him," Mr Mandela said.

Asked whether he was nervous to meet Mr Mande-

la, Geldof said: "I am still very nervous."

Mr Mandela quipped back: "I've always felt nervous (about meeting him)."

Replied Sir Bob: "Yeah, but he's a boxer."

The two then met behind closed doors for an exclusive interview filmed by an Italian film crew.

Geldof will also meet Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi while visiting SA.

● Mr Mandela is to undertake a three-week visit to Spain, the Caribbean and Latin America.

The trip, which starts on Friday, will include visits to Madrid, Kingston, Havana, Mexico City, Venezuela, Argentina and Brazil.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus yesterday said Mr Mandela would meet several heads of state, including President Castro of Cuba.

## Fight over VAT on essentials grows

By Paula Fray  
and Jacqueline Myburgh

Public resistance to the levying of value-added tax on essentials such as medical services and foodstuffs is growing as the vast scope of the VAT net becomes clearer.

Recent revelations that the switch-over from general sales tax to VAT would more than double the tax burden of low-income families have sparked off grassroots resistance.

VAT will replace GST on September 30.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions has

joined concerned consumer bodies in pointing out the heavy toll of VAT on certain services.

Cosatu is set to meet the Minister of Finance on July 23 to discuss the implications of levying the new tax on foodstuffs, medicines and medical services.

The meeting with the Minister precedes Cosatu's national congress on July 24, where the issue will be high on the agenda.

Cosatu spokesman Neil Coleman said: "I don't want to make threats, but at the end of the day, if the workers

have to take action they will do so."

Labour Research Services, in a recent study for Cosatu, calculated that with 12 per cent VAT, a low-income family would pay between R26 and R38 more sales tax than under GST.

"This, when workers are already living on the bread-line," Mr Coleman said.

The Housewives League has come out in support of a Consumer Council call for the public to resist VAT on medical services.

League president Lyn Morris called on consumers



# Youth tells of being set alight

LOUIS TRICHARDT. — A 15-year-old black youth yesterday told the Regional Court here that a white farmer welded his wrist to an iron table before dousing him with petrol and setting him alight.

The teenager, who cannot be named because he is under age, was giving evidence against Northern Transvaal farmer Mr Johan van der Westhuizen, who is standing trial for attempted murder.

Mr Van der Westhuizen has pleaded not guilty before magistrate Mr G J J van Deventer.

The youth was in hospital for 4½ months, allegedly as a result of the assault.

The teenager told the court that after Mr Van der Westhuizen took a piece of metal and welded his right wrist to the table, he doused him with petrol and set alight the jacket he was wearing.

The youth tried to take the burning jacket off with his free hand before one of the labourers poured water over him and extinguished the flames.

He remained welded to the table for several hours before being set free. The police then arrived, handcuffed him and took him to the Messina police station. He was later taken to hospital.

Under cross-examination, the youth said he had no idea why the farmer had assaulted him.

The case continues today. — Sapa

Monday July 15 1991

# Burnt boy - white farmer stands trial

298  
Sowetan 15/7/91

A MESSINA farmer who allegedly doused a 15-year-old black boy with petrol and later set him alight is to stand trial in the Louis Trichardt Regional Court today.

Court officials in Pietersburg confirmed that Mr Jan van der Westhuizen, of Hayoma farm in the Tshipise district, would be charged with assault.

The trial follows an incident on December 9 last year during which the farmer allegedly tied the boy to a steel table in his workshop, after accusing him of stealing a gun.

## Assaulted

The boy was allegedly assaulted and doused with petrol, then set on fire with a live welding rod, resulting in severe third-degree burns to his chest and abdomen, for which he had to undergo a skin graft.

The case aroused great controversy after police arrested the boy and kept him under police guard in

By  
MATHATA TSEDU

the Limpopo Hospital, saying the burning had been an accident. Investigations into the boy's version of events was only undertaken when *Sowetan* queried the police version.

## Headlines

The boy made further headlines when he was transferred from Limpopo hospital in the back of a police van swathed in bandages and unable to walk, after the superintendent, Dr JP van Zyl, prematurely discharged him, claiming that journalists were making "political capital" out of the case.

Van Zyl said, when asked about using a police van to transfer a patient that, as far as he was concerned, the police could have used "a wheelbarrow or something" because if the boy could give interviews and pose for Press photographs, "he must be fit to travel in a van".



School bombing: 'Highest priority' for safety of ANC pupils

# 'They are our children'...



Mr Robert  
van Tonder



16/12/51  
ARLMS 15/1/61

## Propaganda

"The problem of the right-wing is the problem of the government, which has, through its propaganda, produced this type of person."

Boerestaat Party leader Mr Robert van Tonder said the blast was a message to both the National Party and the ANC that the "Boers" would not allow their land to be handed to other people without striking a blow.

He said these people had no claim to live in the Boerestaat.

Mr Van Tonder said the government could be glad the school was not flattened.

Large sections of the school are still usable but it is not certain whether the government and the ANC will still use it to house the children.

Captain Craig Kotze of the ministry of Law and Order said this type of action had no place in the new South Africa.

Captain Kotze said police would "hunt those terrorists responsible relentlessly, as we have done in the past".

## The Argus Correspondent and Sapa

PRETORIA. — The safety of 700 exile children returning from an ANC school in Tanzania was the government's highest priority, the Minister of National Health, Dr Rina Venter, said today.

Reacting to the weekend blast at Hillview High School in central Pretoria, where the children were initially to be housed, she said they would definitely be accommodated.

"We will solve this very difficult problem — they are our children," she said.

Dr Venter said she would have a full report today on the extent of the damage caused by the explosion and would pursue the matter of where to place the children with interested parties, including the ANC.

She noted that their placement at Hillview had not been finalised. "There were requests from the ANC that they should go elsewhere. We were looking at that."

## Full investigation

Police have launched a full-scale investigation into the huge blast which ripped through the old Hillview High School premises early yesterday morning, causing damage estimated at R800 000.

The blast, which all but demolished the main building of the school and left glass and rubble strewn over a 50 m radius, occurred at 1.50 am yesterday.

Early estimates by police showed the bomb to have weighed at least 20 kg.

Officials from the Department of Local Government and Housing said the building would be examined today to determine the extent of the damage before a decision would be made on its future.

The department said a private security firm had been hired to guard the building while renovations were in progress.

Northern Transvaal police liaison officer Lieutenant Jan Crouse said police were still busy with the investigation "which could take some time".

"Forensic tests will be done to determine what kind of explosives were used. No arrests have been made," he added.

Two guards on duty at the school on Saturday night said they heard and saw nothing until the explosion.

While no-one has claimed responsibility for a blast, the ANC blamed right-wing radicals following last week's threat of "Boer resistance" by the Boere-Vryheidsbeweging.

BVB chairman Professor Alkmaar Swart said the movement had "nothing" to do with the incident.

"We maintain the viewpoint that the government committed a callous deed by awarding the school to anti-Christian revolutionaries through which it provoked resistance," he said.

ANC spokesman for the PWV region Mr Ronnie Mamoepa said this type of act was designed to destabilise the plan to take over the school.

Mr Mamoepa blamed the government for rightwing action.





Massacre . . . a wounded man is moved from the scene after the Sebokeng shootings in March last year. Police have appealed to witnesses — especially those who helped to move bodies from the scene — who have not yet made statements, to do so.

## Sebokeng shootings: search for witnesses

By Melody McDougal *Star*  
Vereeniging Bureau 15/7/91

Witnesses of the Sebokeng shootings on March 26 last year, who have not yet made statements in connection with the incident, have been asked to come forward and do so.

Police are particularly keen to obtain affidavits from those who helped remove the injured and bodies of dead from the scene.

The witnesses are needed to give evidence at the trial of nine policemen who will face various charges, including six counts of murder each, during the next session of the Circuit Court in Vereeniging in August.

(278) The charges follow a report by the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry which was appointed by the State President to investigate the shootings.

More than 10 people were killed on the day in question.

The shootings occurred after an estimated 50 000-strong UDF crowd, which intended marching to Vereeniging, was halted by police near the Sondela Brewery in Sebokeng.

The march had been banned by both the Vereeniging Town Council and the local Chief Magistrate.

More than 130 witnesses

are scheduled to testify at the hearing before Mr Justice Jack Strydom in Vereeniging on August 12.

It is expected that the hearing could last for about a month.

Witnesses who have not yet come forward, and who can now assist the police, are asked to contact Lieutenant Dries Coetzer at (016) 88-1551 or Colonel Paddy Mazibuko at (016) 88-1340.



## contravenes Act

By ELIAS MALULEKE

C/P news (14/7/91) 298

TWO brothers, aged 9 and 11 years, have been held in the Magaliesberg Blaauwbank police cells for more than a week awaiting trial on theft charges.

They allegedly stole a portable radio worth R50.

The bare-foot boys stood shivering in the dock in the Krugersdorp Magistrate's Court on Friday before magistrate Joseph Jassons sent them back to the police cells until next Tuesday when they will again appear in court.

According to lawyers and social welfare workers, keeping the children in custody is a contravention of the Childrens Act.

Children younger than 16 should be placed in the care of their parents or the social welfare department until their court appearance.

A police source said police had traced the boys' parents to a farm in Koster but they did not want anything to do with their children.

Magistrate Jassons is the same magistrate before whom right-winger Piet "Skiet" Rudolph appeared later in the day. He refused to plead because the magistrate was black.



EDUCATION

# Somafco pupils wait to come home

W/mw 12/7-18/7/91 298

**H**IGH-LEVEL negotiations between government and the African National Congress are continuing over resettlement from the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (Somafco) in Tanzania, while hundreds of pupils there eagerly await the next plane to South Africa.

ANC sources confirmed this week that the empty Hillview School, close to the centre of Pretoria, had been secured for the more than 600 students until March next year, amid right-wing protests. But, they said, the school was not entirely suitable because it had no dormitory facilities, and government was bickering over how much to contribute towards the pupils' return. "We can say categorically that the ANC has no money to contribute to airfares," a source said.

"The government owes it to everybody to foot the bill. After all, it is only because of them that these people left the country."

Somafco — which has pre-primary, primary and high school components — was established in 1979 to provide education for pupils forced by violence and repression to flee South Africa. The college was closed at the end of last month after pupils wrote mid-year exams.

An unusual school in Tanzania for South African refugees has recently closed. Pupils wait while the government and the African National Congress haggle over how to repatriate them.

**By PORTIA MAURICE**

Education at Somafco was of a fairly unique nature and, from all accounts, its pupils would find it difficult to adjust to conventional South African schooling.

They prepared for five 'O' level subjects, with English and mathematics as compulsory subjects learnt in secluded and peaceful conditions and the college was well-equipped with a library, science and biology laboratories and audio-visual equipment. Their teachers were either locally recruited Tanzanians or South African exiles, and most primary school pupils speak "SwaZulu" — a combination of Swahili and Zulu.

An early May assessment of the pupils' educational needs — commissioned by the education task force of the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) — says at least half of them would not cope with the demands of equivalent private school levels in South Africa. The re-

port stresses though that a very strong culture of learning exists at Somafco.

The report, say ANC sources, has been "distorted" by government officials to cast aspersions on the quality of education offered at Somafco and undermine its efforts. "They say we are always fighting for a better education system, but look at the school we had — pupils won't even fit into DET education."

But, the sources say, the report must be tempered by its context. The academic testing done was measured according to the standards of private schools like St Barnabas and Sacred Heart, the assessors were unfamiliar with the pupils, and spent only three days on their task.

"Most of the pupils who arrived had been messed up by Bantu Education, and we had to try and bridge all those years of academic waste," said the source. Ninety percent of pupils, he said, had to be put in lower standards when they arrived for assessment at the education orientation centre. So, for example, at Somafco there were 25-year-olds in the Form 2 class.

"The maturity and high levels of motivation of these pupils suggests they would make better use of a more informal adult-oriented type of preparation for school-leaving certification," says

the report.

"They have been treated largely as adults and would be ill-prepared for the authoritarian form of education in most South African schools."

A government/ANC delegation visited the school yesterday and a South African team — including social workers from both sides — is due to fly out to Tanzania to assess the situation. No fixed date has been set for the relocation, although two special jumbo jets have been arranged to fetch the pupils.

Disputes over funding for the returning pupils could be speedily resolved if the United Nations were to get involved, but its participation is hindered by government refusal to grant a general amnesty to political prisoners.

According to the ANC, administration at Hillview will be a joint affair, but it will determine syllabi and staffing. Good teachers with community concerns have been asked to avail their services.

The ANC is adamant though that the school not be regarded as divorced from the education crisis.

"These pupils need reorientation and special attention, but not at the expense of the education crisis," the spokesman said.

Government comment could not be obtained at the time of going to press.

# Aids to orphan 10-m by 2000

TEN million babies will be orphaned by the Aids epidemic sweeping through Africa by the end of this decade.

And a million women die every year in pregnancy-related deaths - with millions more left permanently disabled.

Health services mostly "remain inaccessible and unresponsive to women", said Dr Helga Morrow of the United States and formerly a nurse consultant at the International Council of Nurses.

Morrow was speaking at the 10th Epidemiology Conference at the University of the Western Cape on Wednesday, on the challenge facing nurses in Africa.

She said nurses in Africa need to form a strong, unified professional association and to educate its members.

Morrow said: "Enormous energy and resources are devoted to finding



methods to stop and control the transmission of Aids and into discovering drugs to bolster the immune system."

But she said the health-care and home-care of people affected by the disease are "severely neglected".

## Burden

And, especially in developing countries where resources are already scarce, the extra burden resulting from the Aids epidemic is already compromising other essential health programmes.

The World Health Organisation estimates that more than a million

women die every year as a result of complications associated with pregnancy.

Morrow compared these figures with one jumbo jet - filled with 270 pregnant or recently pregnant women - crashing every two hours.

"Almost all of these deaths and millions of disabilities from pregnancy-related illnesses are avoidable," said Morrow.

The risk of a woman in a developing country dying of a pregnancy-related illness is as high as one in 15 while that of a woman in the developed world is as low as one in

10 000, Morrow said.

"Perhaps so many children and mothers still suffer and die unnecessarily because nurses have not been adequately prepared educationally and politically to speak out about the inequalities that still exist.

"Or perhaps nurses have failed to recognise their responsibilities as health-care providers in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable populations."

## Policy

Nursing's challenges now are "how to harness its own resources and how to influence health policy makers in making health care accessible and affordable for everyone".

She said there are no easy or fast ways to change old traditions, the powerful medical and political machinery, and sexist bias and discrimination, but that change is "inevitable". - *Sowetan Correspondent*



# Victim of Aids is girl aged 12

A SURVEY done by the Medical Research Council has found that the youngest victim of Aids in Natal is a 12-year-old girl living on the North Coast. 12 7 191

The results of their on the prevalence of HIV infection in the north coast region of Natal/KwaZulu were announced yesterday.

According to the report HIV infection is now most common among women aged 15 to 30 and in men aged 20 to 25.

The MRC has expressed grave concern that this high prevalence of HIV in women of childbearing age will lead to an alarming increase in the number of children born with Aids.

Infection on the North Coast (Natal and KwaZulu) was extensive and reached into the most rural of areas while it was rife in more industrialised areas. - Sowetan Correspondent

# Parents told of abuse at child-care centres

HANS-PETER BAKKER  
Education Reporter

PARENTS have been urged to be more careful about where they place their pre-school children.

A Consumer Council statement said parents must be "on their guard against possible malpractices" at private nursery schools, day-mothers and playgroups.

Mr At Meyer, head of the council's consumer advisory service, said the council got many complaints.

Many cases of neglect and abuse of children under the care of unqualified and unregistered day-care supervisors had been reported.

He said there had been several cases of children given sedatives and others who were abused by child-care workers.

"In one case a single person was looking after nine children under the age of two."

In another a child was badly mauled by a dog and in yet another a child was found suffo-

cating in a plastic bag at an unsupervised playground.

Mr Meyer urged parents to observe their children closely for signs of abuse or sedation.

"It seems an unwholesome price war has already developed between nursery schools and day-mothers."

He said this could result in a general lowering of standards, including the provision of unbalanced meals and not enough qualified supervision.

Mrs Maritha Strydom of Pretoria, chairwoman of the 47-member Organisasie vir Privaat Kleuter Onderwys, said day-care centres were "shooting up like mushrooms".

Many women wanted to stay at home with their children, but were under pressure to earn money as well, and as a result set up child-care centres.

She said many groups were operating illegally since centres with more than six children were required by law to register with the Department of Social Welfare.



# Shock forecast for millions of African babies

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — By the end of this decade 10 million babies will be orphaned by the Aids epidemic sweeping through Africa.

And a million women die every year in pregnancy-related deaths — with millions more left permanently disabled.

Health services mostly "remain inaccessible and unresponsive to women", says Dr Helga Morrow of the United States and formerly a consultant at the International Council of Nurses.

Dr Morrow was speaking at the 10th Epidemiology Conference at the University of the Western Cape this week on the challenges of nursing in Africa.

She said nurses in Africa needed to form a strong, unified professional association and to educate their members.

Dr Morrow added: "Enormous energy and resources are devoted to finding methods to stop and control the transmission of Aids and to discovering drugs to bolster the immune system."

But, she said, the health and home care of people affected by Aids were severely neglected.

And, especially in developing countries where resources were already scarce, the extra bur-

den resulting from the Aids epidemic was already compromising other health programmes.

Dr Morrow compared the figure of a million women who die every year from pregnancy complications to one jumbo jet — filled with 270 pregnant or recently pregnant women — crashing every two hours.

"Almost all of these deaths and disabilities from pregnancy are avoidable," she said.

The risk of a woman in a developing country dying of a pregnancy-related illness was as high as one in 15 while that of a woman in the developed world was as low as one in 10 000, Dr Morrow said.

"Perhaps nurses have failed to recognise their responsibilities as health-care providers in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable populations."

Nursing's challenges now were "how to harness its own resources, and how to influence health-policy makers in making health care accessible and affordable for everyone".

She said there were no easy or fast ways to change old traditions, the powerful medical and political machinery, and discrimination, but change was inevitable.

"The more a profession can forecast demographic, social, scientific and economic trends, the more it can be in control of its own direction."

## Two youths *Star 12/7/91* punished for raping girls

Staff Reporter

(298)

Two youths were given suspended sentences yesterday for the statutory rape and indecent assault of two 15-year-old girls in a children's home.

The youths, who may not be named, stayed in the home with the girls.

They were sentenced to 30 months' jail, suspended for five years.

Magistrate C J van Heerden said: "This is not a prank, it is a very serious offence.

"Offences of this nature break down the prevailing norms of society."

Both the youths were first offenders and had pleaded guilty to the crimes, which indicated remorse, Mr van Heerden said.

"You have been punished by the head of the home, and you should be given a chance to stay out of prison."

The court did not make a finding on whether the teenage girls had consented.

However, it accepted that they had not suffered physical injuries.



Star 10/7/91 298

## Spend more on welfare, urges council

The SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare has called for a commission of inquiry to lay the foundations for better social welfare in South Africa.

In a discussion document on an alternative welfare policy, released yesterday, the council said a time limit should be set to dismantle the present fragmented and ineffective welfare system and that many superfluous structures needed redress.

The commission should assemble across-the-board viewpoints, and its report should be used to negotiate a future system.

The Government needed to afford higher national pri-

ority to welfare by bringing its budget in line with internationally accepted norms.

At least 9,6 percent of the gross national product should go to welfare, compared with the 1,6 percent of GNP spent at present.

The budget should be divorced from other social security schemes, as a joint and undifferentiated budget created a misleading impression of State spending.

A bill of rights for children and an integrated family court system to protect the interests of children should be introduced, the paper proposed.

At present, there was very little evidence of a supposed

partnership between the State and the private welfare sector. In future, their relation would have to be based on a clear division of functions, co-operation on policy-forming, and mutual principles.

Welfare in SA was handicapped by inadequate and unwise Government spending because of apartheid and by disorder among State and private welfare services.

Society was marked by a disintegration of family life, with high levels of unemployment, poverty, insufficient housing and infrastructure, uncontrolled population growth, illiteracy. — Sapa.

# Rightwingers warn of violence

*Sowetan 9/7/91*

PLANS to use the old Hillview school in Pretoria as temporary accommodation for children of ANC cadres returning from Tanzania, have run into renewed opposition from rightwingers, with the Boere-Vryheidsbeweging threatening to respond violently should the plan go ahead.

In a statement issued today, the organisation's chief secretary, Mr Jan Groenewald, said the decision to make the school available to the ANC was

## SOWETAN Correspondent

an "act of deliberate encroachment and occupation of historical Boer territory".

### Target

"The ANC school is an object of revulsion for the Boer nation and will be a target of Boer resistance from its inception.

Groenewald called on the Government to revoke

the decision "in the interests of stability, order and peace".

The plan, revealed last week, also came under fire from the Conservative Party's education spokesman Mr Daan van der Merwe. *(298)*

The children, numbering about 700, are expected to arrive in South Africa on July 18 following extensive negotiations between the ANC, the Department of Home Affairs and the Department of National Health.

They will be temporarily accommodated at the school before being transferred to other schools in the area, the Department of Home Affairs said.

your key to  
LOW



## Police warn BVB over ANC children

By Helen Granger  
Pretoria Bureau 9/7/91

Police have warned that action will be taken against the Boere Vryheidsbeweging (BVB) should it carry out threats of violence to prevent children of ANC cadres from being accommodated at Pretoria's old Hillview school.

BVB chief secretary Jan Groenewald yesterday said the decision to make the school available to the ANC was an "act of deliberate encroachment and occupa-

tion of historical Boer territory" and called on the Government to revoke the decision "in the interests of stability, order and peace".

Ministry of Law and Order spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said police would not allow anyone to take the law into his own hands.

The Government plans to temporarily accommodate about 700 children of ANC exiles returning from Tanzania. It is understood the children are at present being inoculated before leaving for South Africa.

## Two children die in AK-47 attack

TWO children were gunned down and a man seriously wounded when a gunman armed with an AK-47 assault rifle fired shots at a house at Mfume on the Natal South Coast on Monday night. *Sowetan 10/11/91*

Police said the incident occurred just after 5pm when a gunman fired several shots at the home of the Rev Benjamin Ngidi.

Ngidi's four-year-old child Sibiso and a relative, Sitabonga Duma (6), were killed instantly. Mr Nzuzwa Makwazi (16) was seriously wounded.

Police said the attack was not politically motivated and that no arrests had yet been made. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*



# Seminar to focus on child's needs

Sowetan 5/7/91

**NATION:** Building seminars on parenting, to be held at the Zenzele YWCA in Dube, Soweto, and Seshego in Pietersburg, will discuss children's socialisation and the education crisis.

These issues emerged as major concerns by representatives of various community groups, including the youth, parents and businessmen during workshops held in these areas last week to discuss the seminars.

The Soweto seminar will be held on Saturday July 27; the Seshego one on Sunday August 11.

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The youth at the Soweto workshop felt that most children went to school aimlessly and lacked motivation to learn.

They said while it was the responsibility of the parents to motivate the children, they had shifted

that responsibility to external agents. This, they said, caused confusion in black education.

At the Seshego workshop, the youth challenged parents and the church to resume the responsibility of socialising children.

A social worker from Venda, Miss Jane Bambo, focused on teenage pregnancy and its psychological and physical effects on the pregnant girl.

She cited experimentation and the lack of sex education as some of the factors contributing to the problem. She also cited lack of parental love and the girls' lack of self-esteem and confidence.

Parents' representative Mrs Norah Langa said child abuse, disobedience at schools, the use of violence to solve problems, unemployment and lack of communication were some of the problems facing the Seshego community.

# Police investigation into the notorious 'House of Horrors'

By PHILIPPA GARSON

AFTER numerous appeals by the press, human rights groups and lawyers, the South African Police have at last undertaken to investigate irregularities at Welverdiend police station, near Carletonville.

The *Weekly Mail* has published numerous articles on the alleged brutal activities of several police officers from the Welverdiend Police Investigation Unit. These officers are stationed at Welverdiend police station, a converted house — dubbed the "House of Horrors" where scores of youths from the neighbouring township of Khutsong have allegedly received shock treatment.

At least two detainees died after being interrogated at the police station:

●16-year-old Nixon Phiri, who died in the police cells in January last year after he was allegedly assaulted and administered electric shocks. At the time, police denied allegations of assault, claiming Phiri died while having an epileptic fit. *WMA 5/7-11/1991*

●15-year-old Eugene Mbulwana,

who died in hospital in July last year shortly after he was allegedly tortured at Welverdiend. Police claimed Mbulwana died after being pushed against a steel cupboard by a fellow detainee who had an argument with him.

Several witnesses to the alleged torture of both detainees, who gave sworn statements to lawyers, were subsequently gunned down by police in separate incidents.

A string of youths have been killed over the past 18 months in what police describe as "unrest action".

Local community leaders claim the security forces have fuelled gang warfare in the township by supplying a vigilante group with guns and money.

This week the SAP issued a statement announcing that a special investigation team had been formed to look into the "on-going allegations of irregularities at the Welverdiend Police Investigation Unit..."

The SAP appealed to the public to assist with the investigation by contacting a Lieutenant Viljoen, the newly appointed commander of the unit.



# Hope for the children as Rotarians step in to build day-care centres

Staff Reporter

ITHEMBA Labantwana means "hope for the children" — and with the help of Roggebaai Rotarians, this organisation of day-care teachers is more optimistic than ever.

The Rotarians, working through Ithemba Labantwana, is building "as many daycare centres in underprivileged areas as possible".

The first, called Lubabalo (we are blessed) opened in Guguletu in September last year to the delight of supervisor Mrs Annette Ndukwe.

It is an experimental unit made up of elements used in the construction of pre-fabricated garages, and including windows and insulation costs R16 170, or R260 a square metre.

The children have tables and

chairs and play with wooden toys made by the caring Rotarians. Their eyes light up when they see the photographer and they clap and sing for the visitors.

Lubabalo is in the grounds of a church and it is run by a committee.

Rotarians Mr Mike Challis and Mr Peter Worthington-Smith said daycare centre projects were passed on to them by Ithemba Labantwana in order of priority.

"They are temporary structures but they are better than corrugated iron or plastic sheeting," he said.

Mrs Anastasia Bulana, supervisor of the newest centre in Khayelitsha, is ecstatic. She had 40 children, aged two to six, crammed into the front room of her tiny shack. Now that they have a building they can move in.

Mr Challis said each daycare centre was designed to suit the needs of the community and parents were called on to help with construction and maintenance.

The Roggebaai Rotarians have a vision: "Children enter our hostile world without anger. It is the world around them that shapes their attitudes.

"If we can make their environment a little less threatening and more caring we could well be building for a more secure future for all of us."

# Jo'burg has plan to bring back lost youth

JOHANNESBURG could be in for a "big apple" flavour, with young people being attracted back to the CBD through an upmarket residential area.

This is the hope of city council planning and development committee chairman Eddie Magid.

"The timing has never been better for the continued development of the CBD," Magid says.

"I am determined to establish an up-market residential component, and bring young people back to the central city," Magid says.

PETER GALLI

The Newtown development — between Kerk Street and the Market Theatre — is geared towards improving the downtown area through pedestrian walkways, sidewalk cafes, live entertainment and a new conference centre.

"Can you imagine anything better than strolling to work through this European-type setting?" says Magid.

Security and parking facilities will have to be improved, and steps are already being taken in this direction, he says.

Magid says an announcement on the conference centre will probably be made in the next few weeks.

CBD development worth more than R580m is in progress, and the conference centre, the new taxi terminuses and the Newtown development will cost a further R1,58bn, he says.

The acquisition of land for phase two of the Newtown Turbine Square Development is being negotiated at local authority level.

If successful, it will increase the office, retail and parking space in the area.



Children, cane growers benefit

# IDT millions for range of new projects

B/day 11/7/91 (298)

CAPE TOWN — The Independent Development Trust (IDT) has allocated millions of rands for a range of new development projects which will reach 1,2-million pre-school children, 15 000 small sugar producers and thousands of underprivileged South Africans.

The trust has also initiated new development strategies and agencies, combining forces with the Urban Foundation, other organisations and private investors, to co-ordinate massive childcare and housing projects which have benefited from the R1,5bn it has allocated since last August.

In a campaign to reach at least 1,2-million of the estimated 3,5-million impoverished young children in SA, IDT trustees have voted R70m to upgrade and expand pre-school facilities around the country.

To sustain this campaign, the IDT has laid the foundations for a national strategy, agreed on by a wide range of organisations, to ensure the effective use of its funds and the mobilisation of additional funds for pre-school care. The strategy will be implemented by an elected national body, and government and the private sector will be approached to take over the funding responsibility.

The IDT also has allocated R17,5m to capitalise a non-profit development agency which will use the combined resources

LESLEY LAMBERT

of the IDT, the Urban Foundation and private sector investors to provide bulk quantities of serviced sites.

In practice, the operations of the Urban Foundation's housing utility companies will be consolidated in a single entity which will provide serviced sites and technical, financial and back-up services to communities and other low-cost housing developers.

In another significant development, the IDT has approved in principle an initial R42m loan to finance 15 000 small sugar cane producers over the next few years.

The funds will be channelled through the SA Sugar Association (SASA) and used to finance the first three years of a five-year development programme involving more than 45 000ha of sugar cane in Natal/Kwa-Zulu, KaNgwane and the Transkei. Subject to annual reviews of the project, the IDT will advance a further R25m in the remaining two years.

The IDT's investment in the small sugar farming sector is part of a project in which SASA's Small Sugar Cane Growers' Financial Aid Fund has advanced R53m in loans to small growers since 1973. This has increased the number of sugar farmers who would otherwise not have had access to

□ To Page 2

## IDT

(298)

agricultural land from 4 000 to 33 000.

Other organisations such as the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Kwa-Zulu Finance Corporation (KFC), the sugar mills and the private sector will become major participants in the project.

The Development Bank has already started investigating infrastructure such as roads, mechanisation services, haulage, land preparation and the supply of equipment for small irrigation schemes. It will also raise finance for the project, channeling it through the KFC, while SASA and the sugar mills will provide training in cane farming methods and administration.

Other allocations include:

□ R2,5m to the Valley Trust for the construction and equipping of a health care centre in Natal and the completion of five health subcentres in the area;

□ A R270 500 grant to the Elim Care Group movement in the northern Transvaal to fund efforts by voluntary community health workers to immunise children against disease, improve sanitation and chlorinate water; and

□ R189 000 for the purchase of a site in Mitchells Plain on which a senior care complex will be built.

□ From Page 1

SOCIAL SECURITY - CHILD CARE

1991

4/10/91

3/12/91



# Don't forget our children

Sowetan 4/10/91.

298

By BULI SIWANI

**THE South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare launched its 1992 Our Children's Day project this week at a breakfast function in Johannesburg.**

Our Children's Day was started in 1926. The council co-ordinates the activities of the 172 affiliated child and family welfare societies nationwide.

The project is one of the largest annual fund-raising drives to help South African children

## **Abuse**

In rapidly changing times the stable wellbeing of children becomes a pri-

ority. In such times children are increasingly exposed to abuse and consequently the child welfare movement needs to activate all available protective mechanisms to ensure that the child's environment is conducive to optimum development.

## **Opportunity**

Our Children's Day gives everyone the opportunity to focus on the important issue of child welfare as well as to support the movement financially through publicity on a nationwide scale ranging from concerts to charity matches, film shows and street collections

Apart from affiliated and non-affiliated child and family welfare societies,

any voluntary welfare organisation which has the interests of children at heart may take part.

The funds retained by the council are used to directly help child and family welfare societies and indirect services to all children and their families in South Africa.

Ms Ruda Landman of M-Net's Carte Blanche, who was present at the launch, said: "It is a shame that there is a world-wide breakdown in morality. We do not practise old-fashioned discipline as far as our children are concerned."

She cited Britain as an example. "It has the highest crime rate and half of the criminals are kids. They

do it for fun and their parents let them do it in the name of fun," she said.

Mr Arnold Bassarabie, group chief executive of Fedsure and managing director of Fedlife, said as he handed Ms Joan Olberholzer of Child and Family Welfare a cheque of R50 000:

## **Worthwhile**

"On behalf of Fedlife, it gives me great pleasure to announce our continued association with the South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare and in particular, our third successive sponsorship of Our Children's Day. This truly worthwhile fundraising programme enables us to enhance our activities into the social and public spheres."

Our Children's Day is on November 2 this year.

# Milk can do more harm than good

*Sowetan 4/10/91*  
MANY famine relief agencies regard milk as being an ideal nutrient for starving people, but it can do more harm than good. (298)

Milk is actually harmful to malnourished and undernourished children, especially if they are lactose-intolerant. It can cause diarrhoea, a major killer in the Third World, in such cases

A study conducted last year by Dr Francois de Villiers of the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of the Witwatersrand found that more than 62 percent of black South Africans were lactose-intolerant

A South African innovator, Mr Alan Winer, has developed a product which contains no lactose but has the same high protein content as milk. He said samples had been sent to the United Nations, who are interested in using it for relief in Mozambique.

The Institute of Child Caring Companies distribute a strawberry-flavoured version of the product, known as Creamy Top, to almost 500 creches in the Transvaal.



War in Mozambique has resulted in acute shortage of food. Relief organisations are using milk which does more harm than good.



# Apartheid alive in allocation of welfare funds

Southern 4/10/91 (298)

**APARTHEID** in welfare remains firmly in place despite the recent repeal of many discriminatory laws, the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society has warned.

In a statement released to the Press, the society says Government welfare services continue to be fragmented along racial lines. Twenty state, provincial and homeland welfare structures were still in place countrywide. Six of them were operative in Johannesburg.

## Restructure

"There have been moves to restructure the health services but no progress has been evident in welfare," the statement says.

"Johannesburg's social

service consumers are continuing to be short-changed because of the present wasteful and ineffective dispensation."

It says the most easily measurable symptoms of this state of affairs as it affects children is the discrimination which still occurs in grants paid to persons and facilities caring for them.

## Safety

People taking children into their homes on temporary "place of safety" orders receive: R11,26 a day for a white child; R5,41 for a coloured child; R4,28 for an Indian child and R2,55 for a black child.

Those taking children into foster care on a longer-term basis receive foster parent grants of: R212 a month for a white child; R190,50 for a coloured

child; R194,00 for an Indian child and R160 for a black child.

In the case of black children endless administrative problems result in black fosterparents waiting months on end for payment of their grants to commence.

Many are submitted to unexplained lapses in payment which sometimes take a year or more to correct.

## Childcare

Children's homes are remunerated as follows: R570,59 a month for a white child; R500 for a coloured child and R230 for a black child.

The society appealed for equal, realistic and efficient funding of childcare services from a single state welfare structure, for all the children

# Uproar over jailing of welding case boy

Star 4/10/91  
By Thabo Leshilo

The jailing of the Messina boy who suffered severe burns after being welded to a table, doused with petrol and set alight by a farmer has horrified his mother and political and human rights commentators.

The 16-year-old boy, who cannot be named, was sentenced to an unspecified period in a juvenile prison for stealing a television set.

He could stay there until he reaches the age of 21, unless prison authorities decide otherwise.

"Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) is appalled, but not surprised by the sentence imposed on the boy," national director Brian Currin said.

"Only two weeks ago, Johan van der Westhuizen, who had tortured and assaulted this young boy with unspeakable brutality, walked out of court a free man.

"Today his scarred and shattered victim starts an indeterminate sentence in a juvenile prison. What are we to assume — that his life is worth less than a television set?"

Mr Currin said the

case showed that racial discrimination was "still alive and well in the judicial system".

LHR called on Minister of Correctional Services Adriaan Vlok to put his statutory power to use and immediately release the boy on humanitarian grounds.

"The whole matter has vindictive and racist connotations. He is being punished simply because he is a black boy who had dared to challenge a white farmer's brutality," ANC regional media officer Stanley Motimele said in reaction.

## Raise

Khangale Makhado, Azapo's northern Transvaal spokesman, said the organisation would raise money to pay for a lawyer's fees to enable the boy to appeal.

"The boy does not belong in prison after all the brutality he has suffered. Azapo finds the whole thing abhorrent and shocking, and will apply all sorts of pressures to ensure that he goes home as early as possible."

"The contentious unfairness of the sentences is proof that the judicial system still underscores Verwoerdian principles," said PAC general-secre-

tary Benny Alexander.

Louis Trichardt magistrate Mr A G M Brouwer found the boy guilty of breaking into a house at Tshipise, Messina, in August 1989.

A television set was found missing at the house and the boy's fingerprints were found at the scene.

Mr van der Westhuizen was given a R5 000 fine or two years' jail. The sentence was suspended for five years. He was also ordered to pay the boy R40 000 damages.

Sapa reports that the boy's mother feared that her son would die in jail because he had suffered from asthma since the assault.

"He is always coughing and cannot walk long distances. Now he must be taken away from me," she said.

She had not been told where her son would be held or the length of the sentence.

Her life had been changed by the assault on her son, and a probation officer said in court that "she was an arm's length from being an alcoholic".

"I live for him. Now they are taking him away from me. My son lived through hell."

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# Outrage at jail for tortured lad

Sowetan 4/10/91.

By MATHATHA  
TSEDU

AN outcry has followed the sentencing of a teenager to a juvenile prison after he was tortured, then convicted of stealing a television set.

Azanian People's Organisation publicity director Mr Khangale Makhado said yesterday: "We are not going to allow the boy to go to prison. We are getting lawyers to appeal and, should the appeal fail, a campaign will be launched to free the boy."

Organisations and individuals yesterday compared the youth's jail sen-

tence with the suspended sentence given to the farm mechanic who welded the lad to a steel bench and set him alight.

The youth, who had three previous convictions, was sentenced to an unspecified period in juvenile prison with a maximum of five years.

Concern for the teenager's health has also been expressed, as he is a chronic asthma sufferer. Also, per-

sistent coughing has followed the second-degree burning of his chest and other parts of the body.

Northern Transvaal Council of Churches secretary the Rev LK Mabusela said the magistrate had failed to consider "the permanent physical and psychological damage caused by the man".

"The truth of the matter is that this youth has been sentenced twice, first by the farmer and then by the magistrate," he said.

The ANC Northern Transvaal branch said it

was hard to believe that "a young boy who has undergone a traumatic experience such as his should be subjected to yet another ordeal".

Lawyers for Human Rights said they were appalled by the sentence and appealed to Correctional Services Minister Adriaan Vlok to order the youth's immediate release.

The lawyers said Vlok was legally empowered to order the boy's release "and we urge him to put this to good use".

\*See page 11

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By MATHATHA  
TSEDU

FRANK (16) spent last night in a police cell in preparation for an indeterminate term at a reformatory while the man who scorched him with a welding torch goes about his daily business a free man.

Frank, with three previous convictions for theft, was found guilty of stealing a portable TV set in August 1989. He was still 14 at the time.

This crime led farm mechanic Johan van der Westhuisen to arrest him on December 8 last year and weld him to a steel table.

In what the court said was a cruel and horrific deed, Van der Westhuisen welded a chain round Frank's feet and doused him with petrol. He then set Frank alight, using sparks from the arc-welding machine.

Frank suffered second degree burns of the chest, ears, mouth chin and hands. He told the court that Van der Westhuisen laughed when he wriggled in pain as the nylon jacket he wore melted. When he tried to pull it off, his flesh came off.

view Frank.

He was then taken to Pretorius hospital and he spent the night before his admission to hospital in the Pietersburg prison.

Van der Westhuisen, on the other hand, was not arrested. The police initially cleared him, saying the burning was an accident. But, after persistent prodding by Sowetan, the police opened a docket and investigated the case. At no stage was he ever behind bars.

He was subpoenaed to appear in court, where he was at first charged with assault, a charge later changed to attempted murder. After the gruesome details of the case were heard, he was found guilty of attempted murder and sentenced to two years imprisonment or R5 000.

A further five years was suspended on condition he paid Frank R40 000 in an out-of-court settlement.

Van der Westhuisen, who was said to be a poor man whose only worldly possession amounted to a second-hand red motorbike, paid the money from a loan advanced by his employer and walked out of court a free man.

Frank appeared in the same court, but before a different magistrate, a week later; but his lot was quite different. In a classi-

# Boy's

# sentence

# a case of

# overkill?

Sowetan 4/10/91

Administration social worker and probation officer, Mr Joseph Victor Malebatja, told magistrate Mr AGH Bouver that Frank had left school at Standard 5 in 1988 due to poverty.

He said Frank lived with his mother at Tshtun in dilapidated and dirty conditions. He said Frank had been influenced by elders he had associated with who were themselves thieves.

Malebatja told Bouver that the "traumatic experience" of being burned by Van der Westhuisen had affected Frank and he was turning a new leaf. He recommended that he be sentenced to a suspended term. Frank's attorney, Mr Leon Klaff, said in mitigation that the magistrate was presiding over the case on behalf of the community who expected justice to prevail.

He said however the same community had already passed judgment and sentenced Frank to a fiery experience.

"Frank's experience at the hands of the white farmer cannot be divorced from this case."

"The black community in Venda, where Frank comes from, will find it difficult that a white farmer who took a youth and welded him and set him alight is walking free on the streets with a suspended sentence while the youth involved is sent to a youth or reformatory centre."

"The court can say that these are two different cases whose issues should not be mixed. But can we separate them?"

"When we sentence Frank we are not just dealing with another delinquent fourth offender. We are dealing with Frank, who

has suffered a traumatic experience which must be taken into account," Klaff argued.

He said the three previous convictions were for petty theft induced by hunger and poverty. The settlement of R40 000 meant his situation had improved and society, through the court, should give him a chance to start a new life.

Punishment, Klaff said, was pain induced for correctional purposes. If the pain surpasses the correction purpose, it loses its meaning.

"What greater pain can the court impose than what has already been done by society in the form of the fiery lynching of the boy?"

"In the previous convictions, Frank was sent back to his poverty. The situation is now different," he said. Bouver said the avail-

**'The court can say that these are two different cases whose issues should not be mixed'**

ability of the R40 000 did not guarantee that Frank would change. He had committed the crime only six months after being convicted. The sentence that should be passed should be in his own interest.

Bouver said a suspended sentence would not assist the process of reforming Frank and sentenced him to an indefinite stay at a youth

months. For now, until arrangements are made for his transfer to the centre, he will be at the police station, in a cell.

And so ends the saga of the welded youth, with the white welder walking the streets free without spending a night in a cell, while his victim and a thief of a R750 TV set, today sits in jail, the length of his stay

**'What greater pain can the court impose than what has already been done by society?'**

reformatory centre. He is to stay in the centre for as long as the centre authorities deem it fit for him to be there.

This means that he can be kept until he is 21 or can leave the centre after a few

dependent on the whims of other white officials.

It is no wonder that Frank broke down and cried when he was led away. It was also difficult to escape the feeling that one had witnessed a process of overkill.

**'Frank's experience at the hands of the white farmer cannot be divorced from the case'**

Frank spent four-and-a-half months in three hospitals receiving treatment after being prematurely discharged from the Messina hospital because the doctor in charge was angered by reporters who were frequenting the place to inter-

cal tale of two cases, he was found to be a victim of a broken family, where his father had divorced his unemployed mother, who herself was on the verge of being declared an alcoholic. A Transvaal Provincial



# Aids grips 1,5-m — a third of them children

Star 5/10/91.

GENEVA — About 1,5-million people, a third of them children, have now developed full-blown Aids, the World Health Organisation said yesterday.

Presenting its first quarterly update of Aids cases, WHO said 418 403 cases had been reported to date, an increase of 46 600 since July 1.

But taking into account under-reporting and delays in reporting, the Geneva-based body said it believed about 1,5 million people had already developed the disease.

Aids is a late stage of infection with the HIV virus,

taking an average of 10 years to reach. WHO estimates that between 9 million and 11 million people have been infected with the HIV virus, mainly through sexual intercourse.

Aids strips the body of its immunity, leaving it vulnerable to a host of dangerous illnesses from pneumonia to rare cancers.

"We need to step up our prevention campaigns if we are to slow the alarming

growth of the pandemic," said Dr Michael Merson, director of the WHO Global Programme on Aids.

"With every day that passes, 5 000 people worldwide become infected with the virus. Young people and adults alike need frank and clear information."

The United States, with 191 601 reported cases, accounts for almost half of the global Aids total. Uganda has the second-highest total

worldwide with 21 719 cases, but has not notified any new cases to WHO this year.

Brazil had notified 19 361 cases as of June 1, the highest total in Latin America. France, with 15 534 cases, has the most of any European country.

WHO estimates that between 30 million and 40 million people will have been infected with the HIV virus by the year 2000.

● The number of known

Aids cases in South Africa has risen to 893, with 235 cases diagnosed this year alone.

Of those, 21 are in the Pretoria area, according to statistics released by the Department of National Health and Population Development yesterday.

Heterosexual contact is now the most important mode of transmission of the disease, with 156 cases being

reported this year.

This has brought with it a corresponding rise in the rate of paediatric Aids cases, where 126 children have acquired Aids as a result of mother-to-child transmission since 1988.

The recently announced R5 million mass media campaign to combat the spread of Aids in South Africa, scheduled to start next month, will be supported by

a three-tiered information system.

The three stages include a toll-free telephone information service, which will supply people with information about Aids in the language of their choice.

More specific questions can be answered on another toll-free number, which will connect the caller to a specially trained Lifeline counsellor, while the third "tier" of the system involves person-to-person services available from the nine Aids training centres. — Sapa-  
Reuter, Own Correspondent.

# Boy welded to table sent to reformatory

THE boy who was welded to a table end set alight by a farmer has been sent to a reformatory for stealing a television set.

The scarred teenager who survived second-degree burns wept this week as he was led out of a court at Louis Trichardt in the Northern Transvaal.

Regional magistrate AGM Boucher had found him guilty of theft and sentenced him to an unspecified period in a juvenile institution, where he can be kept until he is 21.

Mr Boucher explained that the length of confinement would be at the discretion of authorities at the reformatory.

## Rich

Last Monday the boy, 16, who may not be named because of his age, left the same building with a broad smile on his face.

Another magistrate, Mr JG van Deventer, had awarded him R40 000 as part of a sentence he imposed on Johan van der Westhuizen, 31, who nearly killed him.

Van der Westhuizen was found guilty of attempted murder and sentenced to a R5 000 fine or two years suspended with a further five years suspended on condition he pays the R40 000.

The boy said he felt like a "rich man" and wanted to

By JOCELYN MAKER

go back to school in Venda. He hoped he would not be jailed over the television set, which he claimed he had not stolen.

But this week Mr Boucher found that he had broken into the home of a Tshipise restaurateur in August 1989.

A television set worth R750 was missing and the boy's fingerprints were found on a pane of glass at the scene.

He pleaded not guilty and denied knowledge of the incident. The TV set was never recovered.

The boy's lawyer, Mr Leon Klaff, made an impassioned plea before sentence was passed.

He said black people would compare any imprisonment of the boy, whether in a formal jail or a juvenile centre, with the suspended sentence imposed on the farmer who almost killed him.

Mr Klaff referred to a report by probation officer JVM Malebatja which said the traumatic experience of being burnt had changed the boy's behaviour. He added that the teenager would not be able to adjust to an institution.

The boy's three previous convictions, all for theft, had been motivated by poverty, but now that he

had been awarded R40 000 he did not expect him to continue pilfering, said Mr Klaff.

The probation officer found that the teenager was a hardened criminal and that after his previous convictions he had never been placed under the supervision of social workers.

The boy, he said, was brought up in a "decaying environment". His mother was an alcoholic who could not provide for him. Two of his five older brothers had convictions and the others had deserted the family years ago.

Only one family member provided the boy and his mother with mealie meal every day.

## Angrily

According to Mr Klaff, no definite decision had yet been reached on which institution the boy would be sent to.

The ANC reacted angrily to the sentence imposed on the boy, saying the whole affair had racial connotations and distracted attention from the brutality done to the boy.

ANC regional media officer Stanley Motimele said: "I cannot understand why a young boy who had already undergone a traumatic experience should be subjected to another ordeal."



# Boy's sentence slammed

By MONWABISI  
NOMADOLO

THE South African judicial system sparked off another outcry this week following the outcome of a Louis Trichardt case in which a 16-year-old black youth was sentenced to an indefinite term for theft.

The farmer who attempted to kill him for the same crime walked out of court a free man.



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The youth, who cannot be named because of his age, is from Tshituni village in Venda and was sentenced to an indefinite term of up to five years in a juvenile prison for stealing a television set worth R700.

Only two weeks ago, farmer John van der Westhuizen of Hayoma, in the Conservative Party-controlled town of Louis Trichardt, walked out of court a free man after having been sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with the option of a R5 000 fine. He paid the fine.

Van der Westhuizen faced a charge of at-

tempted murder for having chained the youth and welded the chain to a table. He also assaulted him, sprinkled him with petrol and set him alight by sparking the terminals of a welding machine.

The youth suffered second degree burns.

Van der Westhuizen offered in court to pay the youth R40 000 in damages, which was accepted by magistrate GJ van Deventer.

Lawyers for Human Rights national director Brian Currin said his organisation was "appalled - but not surprised - by the sentence".

ANC spokeswoman

Gill Marcus said the sentence was outrageous.

Human Rights Commission spokesman Eric Pelser said the sentence imposed on the youth was "highly inappropriate".

The Department of Justice said the implication that the youth was sent to jail for an indeterminate period was untrue.

The court had, in fact, ordered that he be sent to a reform school, which order lapsed after two years. "He could even be discharged earlier."

If the youth, his parents or his legal adviser were dissatisfied with the order, an appeal could be lodged.

8 OCT 1991

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SALDRU LIBRARY

# Behind

**Youth who was welded to table jailed for up to 5 years**

# BARS

(298)

Sowetan 3/10/91  
By MATHATHA TSEDU

**A YOUTH** who was welded to a table and set alight by a farmer near Messina was yesterday sentenced to an unspecified period in a juvenile prison for stealing a television set.

The sentence, passed by regional magistrate Mr AGM Brouwer in Louis Trichardt, means that the 16-year-old can be kept at the institution until he is 21.

Brouwer explained that the period of confinement would be at the discretion of prison authorities.

The youth, who cannot be named because of his age, was found to have broken into a house at Tshipise, near Messina in August 1989.

## Fingerprints

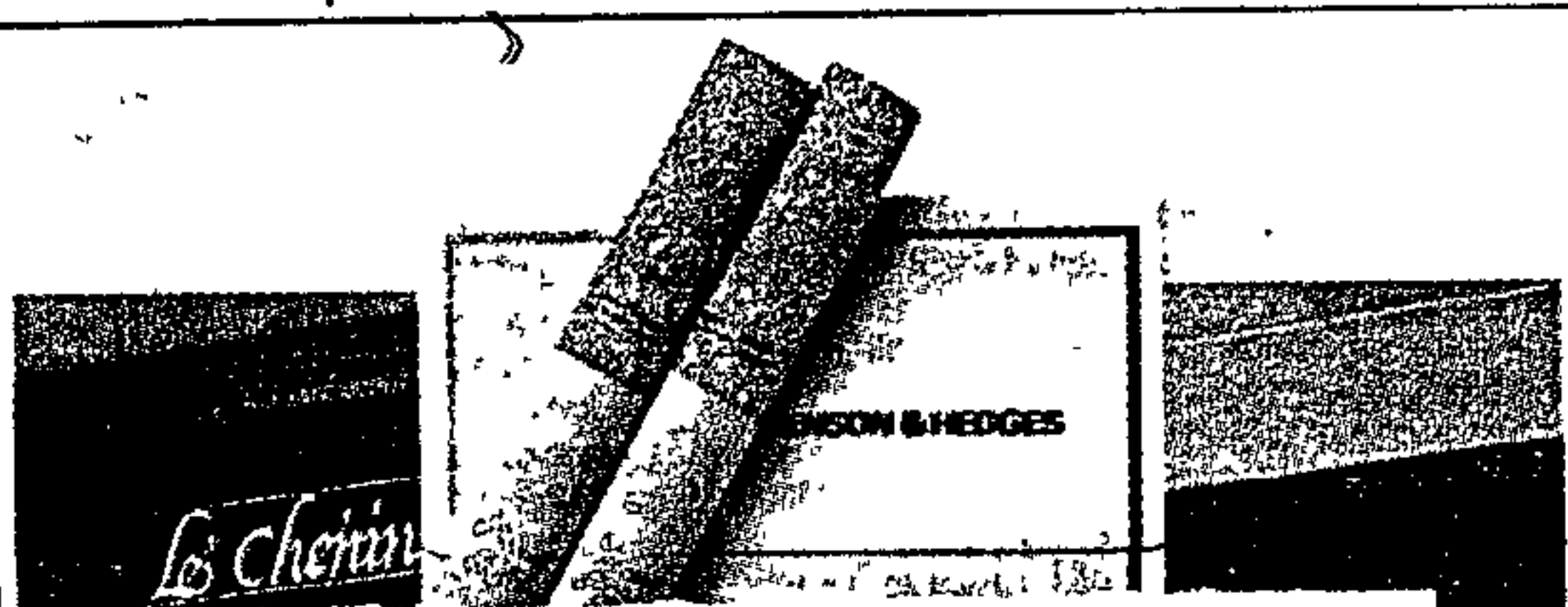
A television set worth R750 was found missing and the youth's fingerprints had been found at the scene, the court heard.

He pleaded not guilty and denied knowledge of the incident. The TV set was never recovered.

At the start of the proceedings yesterday, a radiologist's report was presented.

The youth's attorney, Mr Leon Klaff, made an impassioned plea before sentence was passed, saying black people would unfavourably view any imprisonment of the youth, whether in a formal prison or juvenile centre, after comparing it with the suspended sentence imposed on the farmer who killed him.

The farmer, Mr Johan van der Westhuisen, was found to have welded the youth to a steel table, doused him with petrol and set him alight. He was sen-



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SOWETAN Thursday

## Welded youth gets up to 5 years in jail

(298)

From Page 1

tenced to a R5 000 fine or two years, and a suspended sentence of five years. He paid the fine and walked out of court. Sowetan 3/10/91.

Klaff referred to a report by probation officer Mr JWM Malebatja, which said the traumatic experience of being burnt had changed the boy's behaviour. Malebatja had also told the court the youth would not be able to adjust to an institution.

Klaff said three previous convictions of the youth had been motivated by poverty. The lawyer added that the youth's material conditions had changed after being awarded R40 000 in damages by Van der Westhuisen, so he was not expected to continue pilfering.

He broke down and cried openly when police led him out of the court to fingerprint him.

te.

MAKIN 48131





Pre-school pupils from Alexandra, Johannesburg, demonstrate outside a Barlow Rand company yesterday. Picture ROBERT BOTHA

## Firm faces kiddy power

6/10/91 31/10/91 298  
FREEDOM songs and nursery rhymes filled the air yesterday as 70 youngsters marched from Alexandra township to neighbouring Kew to highlight the financial plight of their school.

Holding placards, some of which read "Companies must finance childcare" and "Why is the state not responsible for childcare?", the children of Khangelani Pre-School occasionally stopped traffic as they headed for Barlows Appliance Company where they presented a funding proposal to personnel manager Paul Haupt.

Teacher Juliette Palm said the school was in danger of closing unless it received funding from the corporate world.

It had written to 80 com-

THEO RAWANA

panies and received only three positive replies. Barlow Rand had been approached for funds as far back as 1989, but had refused to help, said Palm.

Haupt said the picket had taken his factory by surprise, because management had not known of the appeal for funds made to the mother company in Sandton.

However, he promised the marchers that he would go to the school and see the situation for himself, once a date had been agreed upon.

Barlow Rand PR John Cammell confirmed the company had considered an appeal in July last year, but had declined to fund the school.

# State should give free milk

South 31/10 - 6/11/91

(298) ~~298~~

By Heather Robertson

NATIONALISING the milk industry would be a solution to the problem of high prices, health professionals at the Child Health Priorities Conference of the Medical Research Council recommended this week.

Another option would be for the state to produce a low cost national milk powder, they said.

"If milk is seen as a medicine then the state should be responsible for buying milk and supplying it free," said Dr Marion Jacobs of Red Cross Children's Hospital.

Clinic sisters and doctors from around the country reported prices of milk formulas had increased beyond the means of poorer people, particu-

larly in rural areas like Venda and Lebowa.

A clinic sister from Hermanus disclosed she had not sold milk over the last two years as it was too expensive.

A Dr Martini of Inqualife, Johannesburg equivalent of Cape-based Manna which sells low cost food to the poor, said he believed milk formula companies "still have something up their sleeves".

"Their subsidies to us traders is a marketing method of getting more milk to people. In Venda and Gazankulu there are hardly any milk products at all because people cannot afford to buy them."

He reported most of the medical problems in these areas were pellagra (a disease caused by a vitamin deficiency) and related mental disabilities

due to malnutrition.

Mr Nick Partington, Nestle's representative at the conference, said Nestle's pricing structure was complex. He said higher prices to supermarkets subsidised low prices for government tenders like hospitals and clinics.

Mr Karriem Adams of Manna argued monopoly control of the infant formula business was the major cause of the exorbitant milk prices.

Dr David Harris of the Child Health Unit in Cape Town said: "In 1990 there was a R300-million surplus. Why is there a loss created?"

He asked why the state could not take responsibility for a national milkpowder scheme.

The seminar agreed research was needed to gauge the number of people affected by escalating milk prices.



# Children coughing, vomiting and fainting after attack on Khayelitsha shack

By Rehana Rossouw

A KHA YELITSHA child-minder alleges police fired teargas at her shack while 35 children were in the confined space. She claimed police had come to search the premises on Tuesday morning and arrest her husband.

"The children were coughing, vomiting and fainting when the smoke came into my house," said Mrs Doris Mpongwana, who runs a creche in her two-room shack in B Section.

Her husband, Mr Mkhokeli Mpongwana, was arrested for questioning and released without being charged three hours later.

Mpongwana said just before 10am more than 20 policemen arrived at her home and searched the premises. "They turned everything upside

## 'Police teargassed my kids' creche'

South 21/10 - 6/11/91

down in my bedroom and when I asked what they were looking for, they did not answer," she said.

"Then I saw smoke outside and it started to come into my house. At first, I thought it was a car burning but then I realised it was teargas.

"When the police left with my husband, one of them stopped to pick up

the empty canisters outside my house.

"All this hurts me very much — the police will never fire teargas at a white creche," said Mpongwana.

Mpongwana's neighbour, Mr Dumeze Zuma, said he returned from work to find police had searched his home as well.

They left a form behind, saying the

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premises had been searched in his absence by a warrant officer Viviers of the unrest unit for arms and ammunition. Viviers was accompanied by 25 members of the unrest unit.

"There are no guns in my house — the police took nothing," said Zuma. "Why are they treating us like criminals? We are innocent.

"Why don't they do something to stop the violence in our community instead of harassing innocent people?" "The criminals are running loose, burning taxis and peoples' homes," he lamented.

Shortly after 1.30pm, Mpongwana was brought home by police in two vehicles. When residents challenged them about teargas fired at the creche, they denied they were responsible, claiming it had been fired from behind a shack opposite the Mpongwana's.

However, they could not explain why some of the 26 policemen involved in the operation could not run across the street to arrest the people who allegedly fired the teargas.

The allegations were faxed to the police but at the time of going to press no response had been received.

# Children With Aids need care, love

NEW strategies for dealing with children with Aids and children orphaned by the disease need to be worked out, a conference on child health priorities has heard.

Issues facing South Africa include

confidentiality about the disease, care for Aids orphans, accommodation for families with HIV-positive children and the lack of community sympathy for people with Aids, it emerged during the conference organised by the Child Health Unit at the University of Cape Town.

About 14 percent of Aids cases in South Africa are small children who acquired the disease from their mothers. They invariably die before their fifth birthday, although in future they may survive for longer.

There were calls at the conference for increased funding for foster care, for additional community-based centres providing care and more all-around compassion for patients.

Dr Malcolm Steinberg, co-ordinator of the Medical Research Council's Aids research programme, said if people did

not change their sexual behaviour to avoid Aids, there were likely to be about 31 000 Aids orphans in South Africa by 2010.

Yet there are at present only 3 240 places in homes for black children, including reformatories, according to the Department of Co-operation and Development. There is currently a need for 17 250 places.

Steinberg said by 2010 almost a million South African children might have died of Aids.

Ms Jan Hollingshead, chief social

worker at the Red Cross Children's Hospital, told of several cases of families being forced to move from lodging to lodging.

In one case, employers of the child's mother, a domestic worker, threatened to fire her and disclose the child's illness to potential employers if she spent more time with her child.

In another case a child was cared for by his grandmother in Cape Town while his mother worked as a teacher out of town.

"The grandmother battles for money

to bring the child in for treatment, yet she does not know the child has Aids," said Hollingshead.

Ms Jackie Loffel of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society said money needed to be poured into foster-care facilities and the recruiting of families to take on abandoned children with Aids.

Professor Dan Knobel, professor of forensic pathology at UCT, said: "No child with Aids should die without love." - Sowetan Correspondent



# Paroled killer placed in the care of 'racist model' father

Sunday Times Reporter

**A TEENAGER convicted of beating a vagrant to death while still at school has been released from prison into the care of his father — the man whose own racism influenced the boy's behaviour.**

Former Dale College pupil Richard Bester, 18, was paroled from East London's Fort Glamorgan Prison on September 9 after serving just three months of his two-year sentence.

One of his parole conditions is that he lives with his father, Mr Richard Bester snr. During the trial, the court heard that the son's racist attitude was modelled on that of his father.

This week, an unrepentant Mr Bester —

a groundsman at the Bridle Drift Dam near East London — lashed out at his son's victim, Tom Ruiters, 70, saying he was "a drunk and the biggest thief out".

"My son is getting all the support and guidance from his family that he needs," said a bitter and angry Mr Bester, who is a known right-wing sympathiser.

"He has served his sentence, he's a free man. Why must you keep hammering him?"

"When blacks murder defenceless whites on farms, you hear about it only once. How come Richard's story has to go on and on?"

"We have done some digging into Tom Ruiters's background and we can prove that he was the biggest thief out."

"We spoke to his family and not even they want to know anything about him. Why the big upheaval? Tom Ruiters was a drunk and a thief — a burden on society," said Mr Bester, former owner of a black trading store that was once boycotted for nine months.

Despite the fact that Mr Bester was identified during his son's trial as having had a crucial influence on the boy's attitudes, he blames Dale College for encouraging "kaffir-bashing", the courts for making his son a scapegoat because he was older than the three other pupils involved in the murder, and the media for "blowing it up out of all proportion".

Richard and three minors were found guilty in March of beating Mr Ruiters to death on February 28 last year, when they found him sleeping on school property.

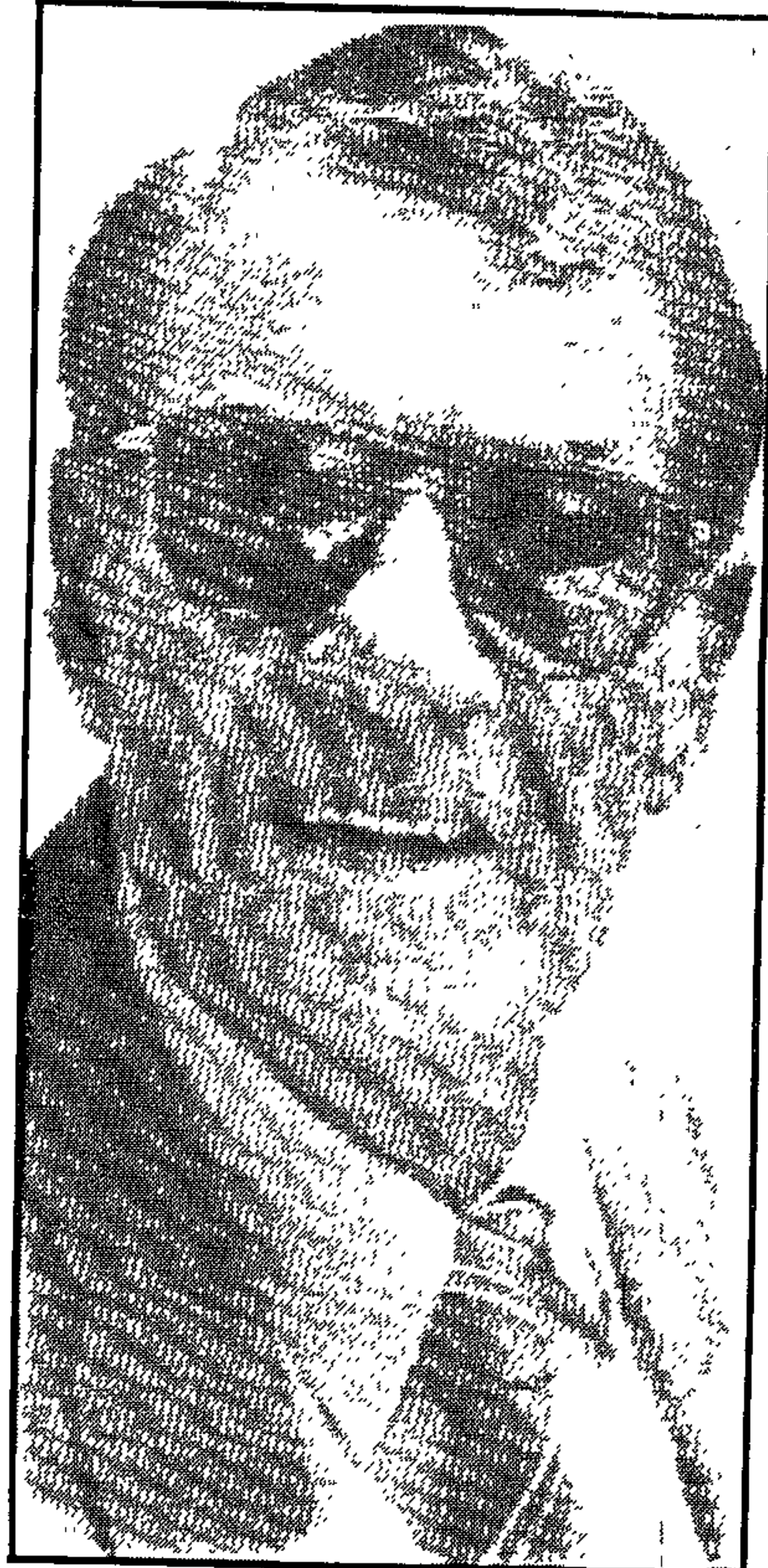
## Service

Richard — a stocky youth whose dream was to become a policeman — was branded the leader of the "Joubert Kaffir-Bashing Society" — a group of pupils who prowled the school grounds seeking blacks to beat up.

The court heard that Richard had told the man that he hated all blacks and that Richard had one of the other boys stand on Mr Ruiters's arm so that he could smash his fingers.

The boys were armed with a variety of weapons, including a cricket wicket, a hockey stick and a rubber truncheon.

Richard's co-accused



**UNREPENTANT ... Richard Bester snr, who says the matter has been blown out of proportion**



**FREE AGAIN ... Richard Bester jnr, who served only three months**

## VICTIM WAS A 'DRUNK AND A THIEF'

were sentenced to two years of community service for their part in the brutal assault.

Richard went to prison on May 30, but his two-year sentence was reduced in terms of the April 1 general amnesty and the July 1 special one-third remission of sentence for first offenders.

At his trial, clinical psychologist Jean Fielding described his father as "demanding and unsupportive" and said Richard idolised him.

She said Mr Bester had passed his anti-black sentiments on to his son and Mr Bester testified that Rich-

ard had seen him assault a black person.

Richard's legal representatives, arguing in mitigation of sentence that his racist views were modelled on those of his father, asked the court to give him a suspended sentence, coupled with 1,000 hours of community service at a coloured old-age home.

Richard was ordered to undergo psychotherapy while in prison, but his parole conditions do not make provision for further treatment. The three minors on trial with him were also ordered by the judge to undergo psychotherapy.

Richard's release from prison on September 9 has angered the parents of his three co-accused, who spend their weekends scrubbing floors at the East London SPCA and at a clinic.

## Paying

"It is not fair," said the parent of one of the boys. "Bester was the ringleader and now he is free while my boy, who was bullied into the group, is still paying the price."

Parents of the other boys have tried without success to have their sons' sentences reduced.

Lawyers for Human Rights said Richard's early release was "inappropriate for a very brutal crime".

LHR spokesman Reeves Mabitsi said the amnesty under which he was released was being implemented in a blatantly unfair and discriminatory



# Inquest soon into 13 drip babies' deaths

By JOCEYLN MAKER

INQUESTS into the deaths of 13 babies who allegedly died from contaminated drips supplied by the Johannesburg pharmaceutical company Sabax will begin in January next year.

Transvaal regional magistrate Mr TJ la Grange has been appointed to conduct the inquests which will be held over 13 days starting on January 13.

He will sit with two assessors, Dr G Coetzee, regional director of the South African Institute of Medical Research Laboratories in the Western Cape, and Dr Fanie Naude, lecturer in paediatrics at Pretoria University.

The death of the first baby occurred in January last year. Nine months later 13 infants had died after allegedly contaminated drips were used in the Park Lane, Morningside and Sandton clinics. The inquests will be held into the deaths of

the following infants, all of whom died from Klebsiella septicaemia:

- Rudy Zane Hoffman who died 23 days after birth, Ashley Pritchard who died 17 days after birth, Robbie Flocchi, one of triplets, who died in August.
- Jonathan Patricio who died 10 days after birth; Heinrich Hamel who died nine days after birth; Baby Webb who died at the Park Lane clinic after being transferred from the Johannesburg hospital in September.
- Baby Hein who died at the Morningside clinic in February; four-day-old Christopher Naismith who died in March at the Morningside clinic; Baby Fairweather, one of twins who died three days after birth in April.
- Brandon Stapelberg, who died three days after birth in August; Davie Pearce who died in April and Baby Hamilton and Baby Dela.



# Shock illiteracy forecast

**MORE than 62 000 black children between the ages of six and 14 in the Eastern Cape, the Ciskei and the Transkei are not attending school.**

This alarming figure was released on Thursday by Mr Johan Grobbelaar, a demographer of the University of Stellenbosch and a member of the Council for Population Development at the Regional Development Action Committee at King William's Town yesterday.

The school attendance figures were also strongly reflected in the literacy lev-

## Expert links fertility to community education

els in this region, Grobbelaar said.

He explained that the literacy level of a community was derived from the percentage of the population older than 14 years who

have past at least Standard 5.

"In the Eastern Cape only 57 percent of black people passed this mark, against 56 percent in the Ciskei and 51 percent in the

Transkei. The figure for coloureds in this region as a whole is 64 percent."

Grobbelaar pointed out that a direct relationship existed between the number of children a woman would have and her level of literacy.

It had been established that women who had at least seven years' formal education had fewer children than their less educated counterparts.

"In fact statistics show that the further a woman has progressed beyond Standard 5 the lower her fertility is. This is the reason why so much emphasis is placed on education by the Population Development

Programme."

The Population Development Programme had as its main aim the creation and maintenance of a balance between the population growth and the country's natural resources and socio-economic capabilities, Grobbelaar said.

"The programme also endeavours to create a climate to facilitate the change of fertility perceptions in favour of a small family norm."

He noted that in the region some women had as many as six children each. In addition the black population in this region, especially in the Transkei and the Ciskei, was on average very young.

"More than half of the population of the Transkei is less than 50 years old. In the Ciskei the figure of under 15-year-olds is 44 percent and in the Eastern Cape 36 percent."

Grobbelaar pointed out that the youthful composition of the population in this region held serious implications for the future.

"The many youths will demand education and training and thousands of job opportunities will have to be created."

"Although a decrease in the total fertility rate has been notable recently it remains alarming when one realises that more than 430 000 females in the Transkei are still in their fertile

years."

Of these, more than half were between the ages of 16 and 25. Apart from the children these women already had, they could give birth to another 1.5 million children in their life-span.

This figure could be 750 000 in the Eastern Cape and another 500 000 in the Ciskei which meant total of 2.75 million for the region.

Of this figure more than half could be girls who in turn could give birth to their own children.

This could lead to an increase in the population in the region, to reach a figure of seven million in one generation, Grobbelaar said. *South African Press Association.*

# Children's safety week

**SOUTH Africa's children have been targeted for extra safety measures during a "Children's Week" organised by the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa.**

Children's Week starts this Saturday and ends on November 1.

Foundation spokesman Debbie Melmed said yesterday her organisation had encountered frustrating obstacles to child safety campaigns.

Foundation workers were trying to pinpoint major hazards to children while working from Government statistics, which already were two years old by the time they were published.

The foundation was only recently able to ob-

tain Government's 1989 mortality statistics for children up to the age of 14 years - and has now started to look into creating its own computer statistics network among hospitals countrywide to draw up its own injury statistics.

At only one hospital - the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Rondebosch, Cape Town - 12 650 children were treated for injuries between April 1 1989 to March 31 this year, she said.

Of those accidental injuries, the largest number - 5 382 - were hurt by falls, while 1 070 were injured in pedestrian/traffic accidents, and 228 were injured while riding as passengers in motor vehicles.

The Government's 1989 accident death statistics showed that road

accidents accounted for the majority of accidental deaths - 969 out of the total of 3 350 accidental child deaths. Deaths due to accidents involving firearms caused the least number of deaths (three) that year.

The cause of a total of 652 fatal accidents remained undetermined, while drowning was the third biggest cause of accidental deaths in 1989, when 594 children drowned.

Burns accounted for 397 child deaths, 224 were so badly assaulted that they died from their injuries, 144 choked to death, 132 were poisoned fatally.

A total of 84 children died from "nature and environmental" factors, 34 from falls, 31 from accidents with machinery, and 26 died due to "misadventure during basic medical care" in 1989.

A total of 18 children committed suicide in 1989, 11 children died in accidents involving "other transport" and five died in accidents resulting from "other accidents".

In 1989, a total of 30 339 children died in South Africa, of which 3 350 (11 percent) were

due to accidents.

The foundation issues regular child-safety guidelines to help protect the country's children from such accidental deaths, which often are easily preventable.

This week, the foundation highlighted the need to protect children especially when travelling on roads - and emphasised that children should always be buckled up or seated in children's travel seats which were approved by the SA Bureau of Standards.

## Emphasised

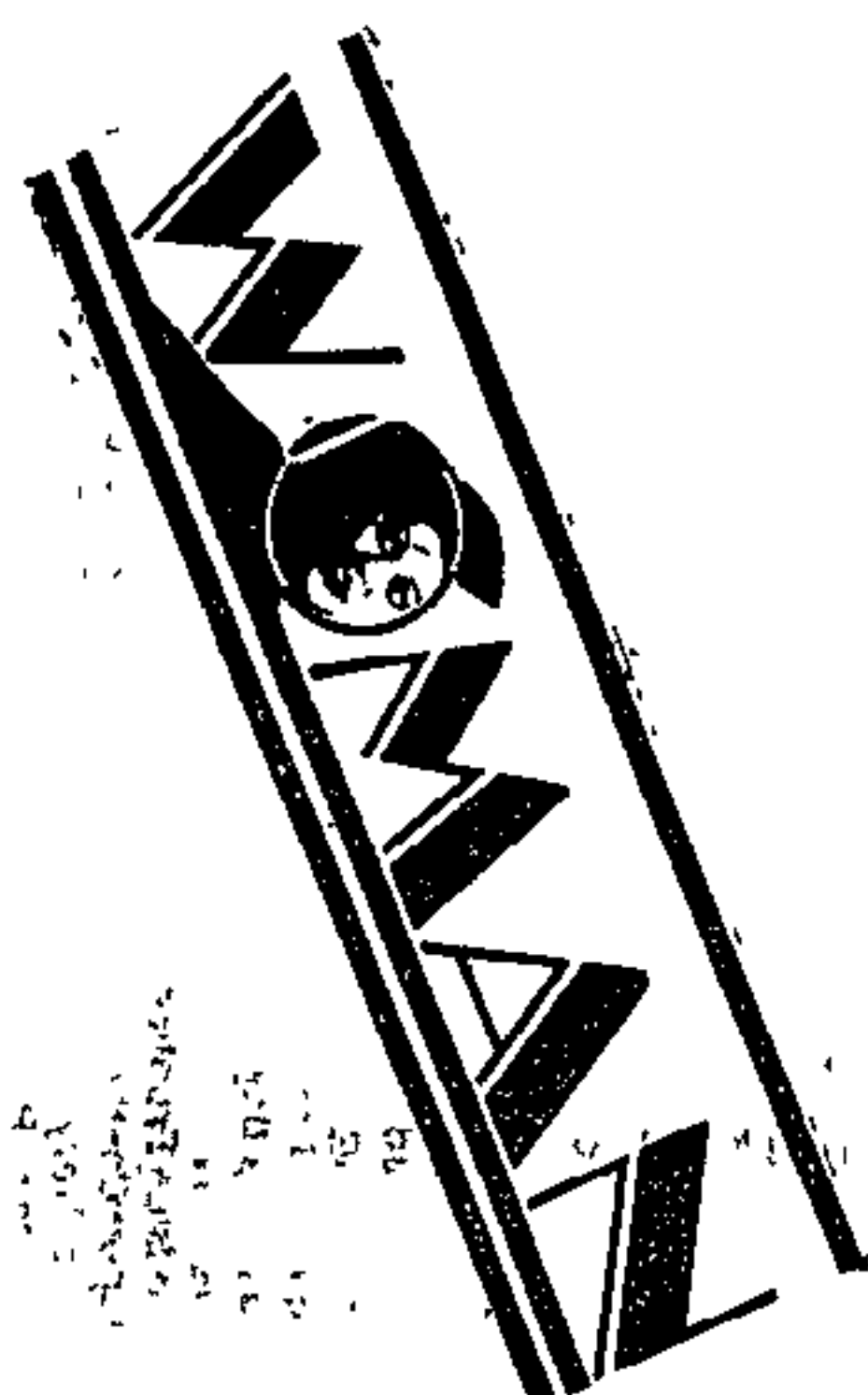
Babies should never travel on the front seat of cars or on the laps of passengers.

And children should never play on any roads. If they have to be on roads temporarily, they should always be highly visible by using reflective material on their clothing, for example.

"The road is not a playground. Make sure that there is a safe place where children can play," Melmed noted.

Drowning, the third-largest cause of accidental deaths among children in 1989, was easily preventable. A great number of drownings could be avoided simply by always

supervising children near water, teaching them to swim at an early age, using security nets over swimming pools, and keeping the lids on on nappy buckets. - Sapa





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on their way to the negotiating table.

"The violence could be turned off at times when it would damage the government; when F W de Klerk left for Europe in October 1990, the violence diminished dramatically. The same happened when Parliament opened in January 1991."

Our Durban Correspondent reports the SAP and Inkatha both rejected the report.

## Help for alienated youth

B10ay 25/10/91 WILSON ZWANE (298)

THE church-sponsored Joint Enrichment Project is to launch a programme aimed at addressing problems of the "alienated or marginalised" black youth.

Project director Sheila Sisulu said yesterday there was no doubt about the urgency, complexity and magnitude of the problems faced by "marginalised" youth.

"Marginalised youth form the focus of the major structural problems caused by apartheid and underdevelopment... permanent unemployment, a collapsing education system, deteriorating family life, violence and political uncertainty," Sisulu said.

She said Joint Enrichment Project was working on a project to reintegrate "marginalised" youth into mainstream social life. The programme would be launched early next year after consultations with "relevant bodies and regions to facilitate a youth forum in which existing youth structures can work together towards addressing the... problems of marginalised youth".

"It will include national research into youth issues, a skills training project and programmes towards education and social reconstruction," Sisulu said.

The project is a venture of the SA Council of Churches and the SA Catholic Bishops' Conference.

By Charles Schulz



## Ex-policeman's story challenged

MARITZBURG — Testimony by a former policeman was challenged in the Maritzburg Supreme Court yesterday during evidence in the inquest into the killing of Chief Mhlabanzima Maphumulo.

Details about witness Lucky Mntambo's career in the police force as well as his version of attacks on Maphumulo's house and car were disputed when he was cross-examined by the lawyer acting for the SA Police.

Mntambo, 22, denied he was ever a KwaZulu Police member.

He said he was trained in the Cape for three months and then returned to Maritzburg where he joined the Security Branch as a special constable.

He said he was eventually told by a Lt Pieterse that he was a permanent member of the SAP.

In his earlier evidence, Mntambo claimed he was part of a police hit squad which attacked what they thought was Maphumulo's car in the Table Mountain area between April and July 1990. He also said he shot one of the occupants three times.

Yesterday counsel for the police, Kobus Booyens, said there was in fact an attack on Maphumulo's car on June 10 last year in which two people died.

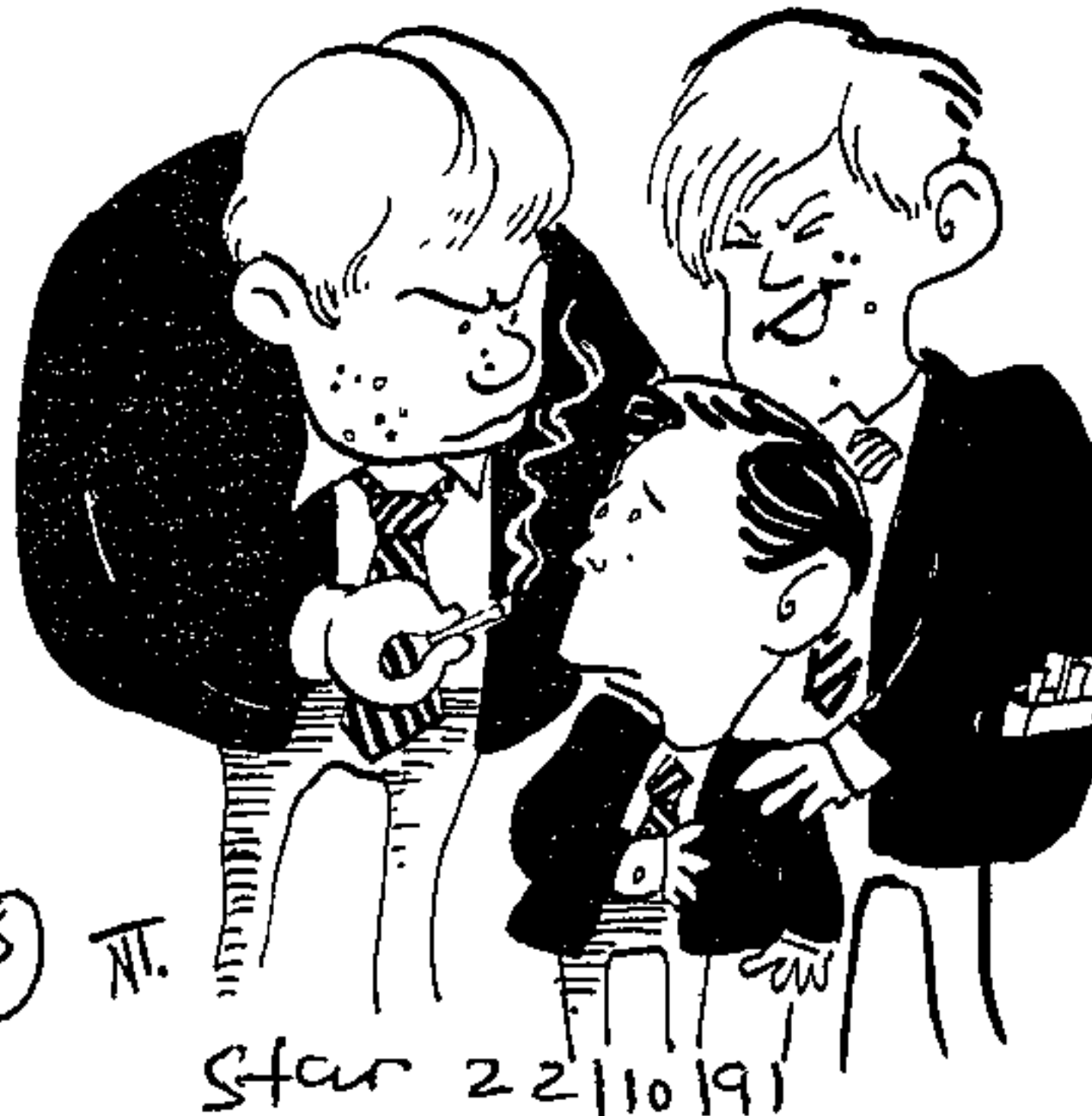
Booyens said information in an affidavit from the driver, Dede Cyprian Hlope, who survived the attack, differed from details given by Mntambo.

Asked to comment on this, Mntambo said this was a different attack and not the one in which he had participated. — Sapa.

## EDUCATION

# Drugs: guide kids by helping them say 'no'

A unique programme which gives children the knowledge and experience to be able to take a mature decision about drugs, is about to be launched in South Africa.



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Star 22/10/91

Is there a child out there who needs another high-handed moralising lecture on the dangers of drug abuse? Not likely.

But what if children had a chance to learn about their bodies and their friends, ask questions, participate in group discussions, and then everyone butted out of their lives and left them to make up their own minds?

That sounds like it might work and probably explains why the anti-drug Life Education Programme, developed in Australia 12 years ago, now has the support of hundreds of thousands of children and parents in Britain, the US, New Zealand and Thailand and is growing all over the world.

The unique not-for-profit education project, which counts Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Di amongst its famous patrons, is expected to be up and running here in 1992.

Australian Life Education development manager Garth Jones arrived recently in South Africa to pitch the programme at government, business and community representatives here and set up fundraising networks.

Life Education is a seven-year course aimed at very young children — between the ages of five and 12 — and normally runs alongside their normal primary school curriculum.

"We aim to get in before children have their first contact with drugs. Anyway by nine or 10 most kids have had some experience of drink or tobacco and by 12 many behaviour patterns are set," Mr Jones says.

The course is different from other drug prevention campaigns,

he says, in that it is "not a whole lot of fingerwagging do's and don'ts".

"We are fighting ignorance, mostly. Most children get into drugs through ignorance and peer pressure, which are difficult to resist," he says.

"One of the messages we try to get across is that it is okay to be different, okay to say no. We do role playing, say, for example, a group pressurising one of the members to have a cigarette.

"Afterwards we analyse what each child said and felt, teach them refusal skills and boost their self-esteem.

"The idea is to expose them to peer pressure — to get them used to thinking for themselves, being strong and making difficult decisions under pressure so they are ready when the real thing happens — and it will."

The programme, originally designed for white Australians, has just been transformed for kids in the street slums of Bangkok. Thai teachers use different photographs, speak about different types of food, but the essence of the course remains.

It is expected that the South African Life Education centres will operate similarly to those overseas — as a community project, with each centre initiated, owned and operated by local volunteers under the guidance of Life Education headquarters.

The project will begin next year in the Free State, as the Free State Provincial Administration has allocated R6,5 million to it.

Volunteers or donors can call Daleen Anderson at (012) 343-3288.

ADAM GORDON



# Welded youth: Lawyers to appeal

LAWYERS, acting for the welded youth who was last week sentenced to an unspecified period in a juvenile court, are to appeal against the sentence.

Mr Mike Mashego confirmed that the Azanian Peoples Organisation had instructed him to file appeal papers against the sentence.

He said papers were being drafted and would be filed in Louis Trichardt today.

The youth is presently being held at the Louis Trichardt police cells, awaiting transfer to a reform centre.

The sentence has aroused a lot controversy,

By MATHATHA  
TSEDU

with political and professional organisations describing it as severe and racist.

Comparison has been made with the sentence passed a week earlier on a white farmer who welded the youth to a table and set him alight for the same theft.

The farmer, Mr Johan van der Westhuizen, was fined R5 000 or two years' jail.

Bophelong Hospital - both in Mafikeng - have resolved to embark on another hunger strike from today.

The question of political prisoners in the territory is a thorny issue, with fears that hunger striker Mr Johannes Simelane, on his 50th day, could die.

He paid the fine and a R40 000 out-of-court settlement.

The Department of Justice, responding to the outcry over the jailing of the youth, said comparison of the two cases "makes no legal sense".

It said the youth would be released when the sentence expired in two years' time.

"He could even be discharged earlier," the department said.

# Groote Schuur's Apartheid



PICS: YUNUS MOHAMED

**PICTURES OF SHAME:** White and black children are confined to separate ends of their playroom at Groote Schuur's creche

*'So, what did you learn in creche today?'*

By Rehana Rossouw

**A** DIVIDING LINE separates children at the pre-school at Groote Schuur hospital, despite desegregation moves by most childcare centres in South Africa. The partition between black and white has been removed, but the children are still segregated along apartheid lines.

Groote Schuur senior superintendent Dr B A Brandt confirmed that children aged between three and five were separated according to race at the creche in Mowbray, but said this was not the hospital's policy.

"The pre-school programme is funded and run by the coloured and white departments of education and it is their policy to divide children," said Brandt. "If we had our way the creche would be integrated but we just don't have the funding to run it ourselves. So we have decided not to rock the boat because the children will not benefit if the funding is withdrawn."



Children younger than three and those in the after-care programme are mixed, but they are divided when they enter the pre-school programme. Because of the racial divisions at the pre-school, more white children can be accommodated next year. At present, there are 14 white children in the group for children of five to six and 34 black children.

"There is a bigger demand from parents of black children at the creche but unfortunately, we cannot take more and mix them with the white children at present," said Brandt. Although the children are allowed to mix freely in the playground, there is a tendency for them to group according to race in what was previously known as the north and south ends of the playground — the white and black sections.

Groote Schuur senior specialist Dr Errol Holland said he found it "unbelievable" that segregation still occurred at the hospital. "At the least, one would expect a commitment from the hospital to destroy this kind of racism," Holland said. He had the impression that although some staff members were unhappy with the segregation, they were unwilling to speak out as most were grateful for the opportunity to have a workplace creche.

Most workplace creches in Cape Town were non-racial, according to the Vunani Pre-school Project. "There is no real legislation enforcing that children be kept sepa-

rate," said a Vunani spokesperson. "What has to be taken into account is that separate departments of education still exist." To overcome this problem, most private pre-schools have registered with the department of the majority of the children at the school, then opened their doors to all. Registering the school with all three departments could be a tedious, complicated process, said the Vunani spokesperson. "But ultimately, it is up to the organisation running the school to decide whether they want to divide the children or whether they want to foster nonracism."

A spokesperson for the Department of Education and Culture claimed that the department's schools "have been declared open to all race groups as from February 12, 1986". He said the pre-primary creche at Groote Schuur "is autonomous and is controlled by a management with its own constitution".





# Father found guilty of killing baby

Star  
By Susan Smuts (6/10/91)

Instead of protecting her like a responsible father should, a policeman seriously assaulted his beautiful, fragile baby daughter, a Rand Supreme Court judge said yesterday as he found Brett David Allen guilty of murder.

Mr Justice J J Labuschagne acquitted Allen (24) of Norwood, Johannesburg, of grievously assaulting his six-week-old daughter Caylin on March 2 last year.

The nature and extent of Caylin's injuries (sustained on March 29 and leading to her death the same day) was apparent from photographs taken of her corpse, the judge said.

"The injuries were certainly of a serious nature, but Allen left the flat to go to the post office. Then he drank beers at the local hotel. When he returned he listened to tapes."

Later, Allen found his daughter was limp and shook her roughly. He conceded through

his lawyer, J A C van Eck, that he had hit her numerous times with his fists, the judge said.

Mr van Eck had argued that a "butterfly-shaped mark" on her face, which was probably caused by repeatedly pushing her face over rough fabric, could have happened in "the heat of the moment".

The judge rejected this argument, saying: "It is not the court's duty to speculate in favour of the accused."

In his statement, Allen claimed to have been irritated by Caylin's crying and said he "started to crack up".

"The court does not find this impressive or helpful to determine his state of mind at the time of the offence. He is the only one who could give evidence about his state of mind and he declined to do so," the judge said.

(Allen did not give evidence during the trial, and admissions made in the statement were not made under oath.)

He should have foreseen Caylin's death, the judge concluded.

Giving evidence in mitigation of sentence, clinical psychologist Michael Schauder said Allen had only recently come to terms with the fact he had caused his daughter's death.

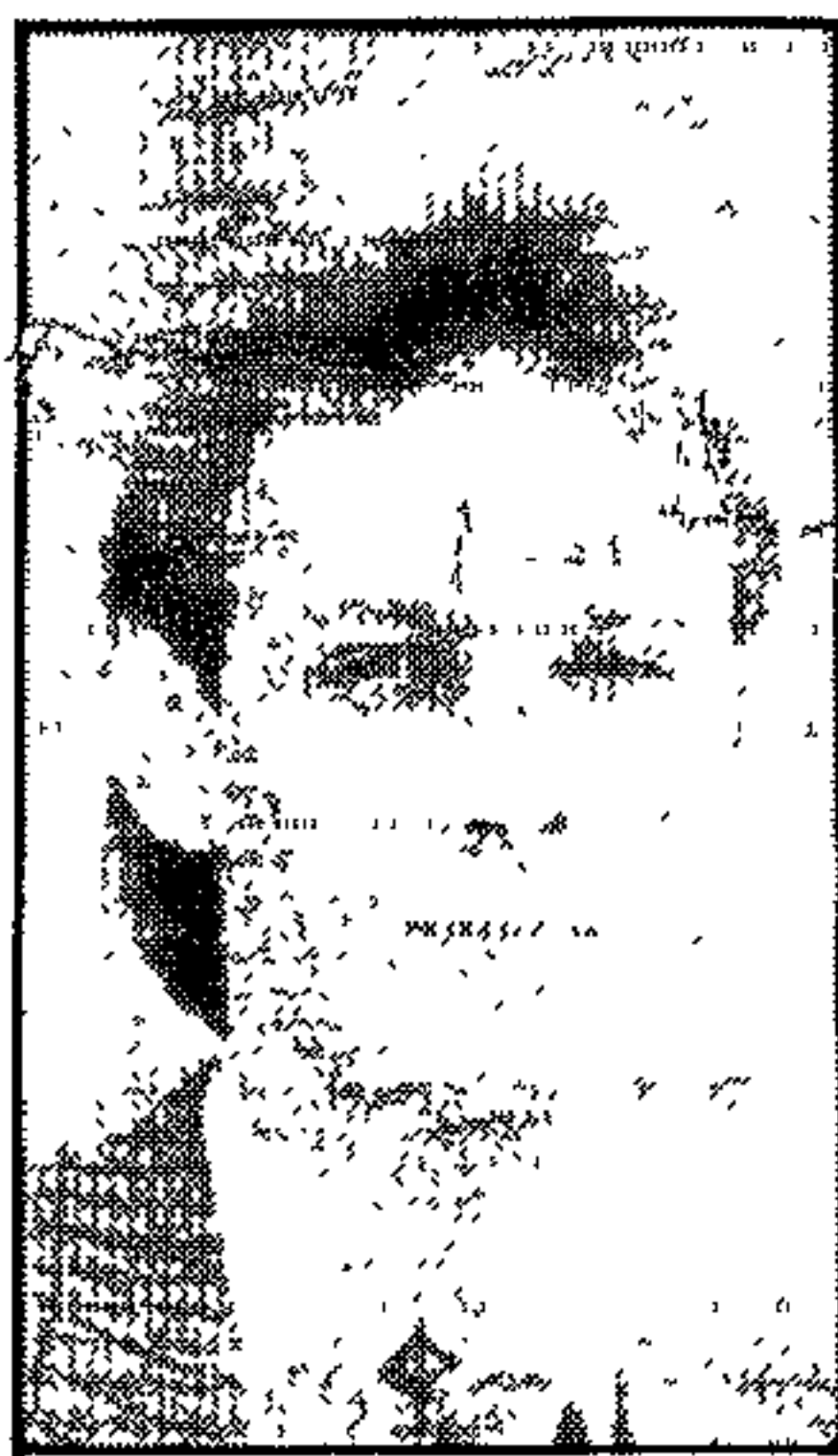
Allen was unable to cope with mature relationships and had a concrete, uncreative way of solving problems. He did not respect women, and had suffered a blow to his ego when he was demoted by a woman.

He and his wife were too young to cope with a child born of a shot-gun marriage, Mr Schauder said.

Allen had been under great stress at the time. His daughter became the symbol of everything which had gone wrong and had he let out all his pent-up emotions on her when he assaulted her, he said.

His crime was unpremeditated and he was no danger to society, Mr Schauder concluded.

The trial continues tomorrow.



Brett Allen . . . let out pent-up emotions when he assaulted infant, says psychologist.

# 'Welded' youth gets R200 bail

THERE was jubilation in the Louis Trichardt Regional Court yesterday when the "welding victim" youth was given R200 bail pending his appeal.

The youth, who was sentenced to an indeterminate period in a juvenile centre for allegedly stealing a TV

By MATHATHA  
TSEDU

set, cannot be named because of his age

Regional magistrate Mr W Fourie presided over the hearing, which was preceded by drama after the attorney who had represented the youth in the

criminal case, Mr Leon Klaff, appeared in court to ask for the bail without filing appeal papers.

The appeal papers were filed by Mr Mike Mashego of Pietersburg, who was instructed by the boy's mother and Azapo.

The hearing was stopped for a while yesterday and Mashego was contacted. He gave Klaff authority to

move the bail application.

The youth suffered extensive burns after being set alight by a white farmer, who also welded him to a steel table and doused him with petrol.

The sentence on the youth triggered a wave of protests after the farmer was given a suspended sentence for attempted murder.





# Former activist dies in grenade blast

A 19-YEAR-OLD former Congress of South African Students' activist died yesterday when a handgrenade exploded in his hands at his home in Rockville, Soweto

Mr Kgomotso "AK" Pule, of Rubusha Street, was killed in what Soweto police described as a suicide about 2pm in a backroom at his parents home

His father, Mr Tony Pule, said yesterday that he was standing at the kitchen door calling his son to come and have his lunch when the blast occurred

"There was this sudden explosion which rocked the room. And the next minute his body was sprawled near the

*Sowetan 16/10/91*  
By KENOSI MODISANE

backroom door," Pule said.

He could, however, not confirm that his son's death was a suicide

"All I can say is that police took away two letters and a notepad whose contents I had not read," he said

Speaking at the scene of the incident, Soweto police spokesman Colonel Tienie Halgryn said: "We have in our possession a suicide note, the contents of which we cannot reveal at this stage."

(298)

Star 1/11/91

## 'Adopt over colour line'

By Shirley Woodgate

The unanimous rejection of inter-race adoptions at a recent international conference at the University of Edinburgh, has been condemned by Johannesburg Child Welfare Society director Adele Thomas.

Warning that it would be a grave mistake to slavishly follow the experience of the United Kingdom or America, Dr Thomas said the local situation was radically different.

Faced with the reality of thousands of black children being cared for in institutions throughout South Africa, it was vital that an indigenous social work practice for inter-racial adoptions should be developed.

"Although our stance is that it is ideal to place a child in its own culture, unlike overseas, we are faced with the problem of finding homes for far more institutionalised black children.

"Unlike South Africa, the UK is a welfare state where blacks can more easily adopt."

Dr Thomas said her society had lobbied for at least five years via the National Council for Child and Family Welfare, for the State to provide subsidies for adoptive parents.



## SA youngsters influence United Nations hardliners

# Let the children be heard

Star 2/11/91.

(298)

**CHILDREN** must be listened to. That was one of the messages that came across at this week's packed international conference for businessmen on environment held in the Cape.

### Name removed

Chief executives of South Africa's biggest firms, and international delegates listened with rapt attention as deputy Director General of Foreign Affairs Jeremy Shearer told of the influence SA children had on hardliners within the United Nations.

He was at the UN last September when Canadian Prime Minister Brian

### JAMES CLARKE

Mulroney personally had President F W de Klerk's name removed from the guest list at the UN World Summit for Children in New York.

Mr Shearer recounted the incident: "Although the Government was not invited to the World Children's Summit, we were asked, as were all member states, to send a delegation of young children to attend the World Children's Day Meeting, which in 1990, was devoted to environmental issues."

A week before the SA children were due to arrive they were told that, because of objections from certain UN bodies they could no longer participate, he said.

"On our expression of amazement, the instruction was changed to allow the

*In silence I must take my seat  
I must not speak a useless word,  
For children must be seen, not heard.*  
— B W Bellamy, "Open Sesame".

South African delegation to attend provided they sat on the side of the hall as observers — and that they did not speak.

### Chosen

"Fortunately this drama was satisfactory resolved and after the issue was taken up by the mission at high level, it was agreed that the South African team would participate."

There were children's teams from 130 nations at the Children's Day gathering and the best 10 were to be chosen to address the UN General Assembly. The South Africans did so well

they were included in the 10.

"The result was a stimulation of interest among organisers of the World Children's Day and within the (Nairobi) secretariat of UN's Environmental Project.

"Although the children had already left New York, they were asked to return immediately from London to take part in an older seminar on environmental issues.

"The evident preparation was such that the leader of the delegation, Mrs J Lister, was invited to attend workshops in Nairobi as co-ordinator, and South Africa was asked to send a team of older children to this year's Unep Children's Conference.

"Again the children were invited to address the assembly and did so with success, so much so that we are now hopefully accepted as an integral part of the Unep Youth Programme."

To demonstrate the wisdom children can sometimes show, he read out a letter from a 17-year-old Australian girl, among teenagers invited to attend last year's London conference on the earth's damaged ozone layer:

"Over the past week of negotiations we have been watching you.

"It has been at times fascinating, at times confusing, at times horrifying. We have had to keep reminding each other that what is actually being debated here is the future of the ozone layer.

"This debate has been largely guided by shortsighted commercial gains and national self interest.

"The scientific imperatives are clear: only an immediate end to the use of ozone depleting chemicals will truly reflect the urgency of the situation

"Even if we do this, it will be 50 years before the Antarctic ozone hole closes. WE came to the conference with this knowledge, but it seems that you have not.

### Future

"Your pursuit of diplomatic compromise is compromising our future.

"History will judge you harshly if you fail to act with the necessary vision and foresight. Have the courage to put aside short-term national concerns and act in the interests of common global well being.

"Our future is in your hands; will you protect our future?"

# We stole just to survive, say 3 youths

Star 4/11/91  
(298)

By Zingisa Mkhuma

Three Alexandra and Soweto youths who have been jailed for housebreaking and car theft say they stole simply to survive.

All came from families where one or both parents were out of work.

One such person is Mandla (20), not his real name, a Standard 8 pupil in Alexandra who is out on bail on house-breaking and theft charges.

Mandla stays with his mother who works as a domestic worker, his two sisters and a brother who had passed matric and "is idling because there is no money to send him to university", he said.

## Proud

Mandla proudly admitted to stealing because he saw no other way to help his mother buy food and clothe four school-going children.

"Our father passed away in 1986 and my mother struggled to raise us. She gets about half the money and it helps the family to survive. I also pay monthly instalments to my lawyer and the rest goes into my savings account.

"I would like to go to university when I pass matric but I know that she can't afford the fees. I don't feel guilty about stealing from the rich because if I were to ask them for money they wouldn't give it to me," he added.

Mandla knows that he might get shot while stealing but he

vowed that that won't stop him from doing his "job". "How will I survive if I stopped?" he asked.

But for Roby Soko (21) also from Alexandra, being shot, arrested and having to serve two years in jail for "huisbraak" is more than he can handle.

A reformed Soko said he was forced to steal while still at school because his parents could not afford to buy him books and he attended school barefooted.

By the age of 11 he had graduated from shoplifting to housebreaking and had financially supported his unemployed parents, two sisters and a brother.

"I stole because my parents were unemployed and we had no food in the house most of the time. My father had a stroke nine years ago and someone had to feed the family.

"Now I've had it with prison and I am staying away from crime and I am desperately looking for a job — any job," he pleaded.

For Lennie Makola of Soweto being brought up in a matchbox house by a unemployed mother who struggled to give them food, drove him to steal cars to make a living.

Makola served two prison terms totalling five years for car theft and has spent the last year out of prison, looking for employment.

He threatened to go back to stealing if he doesn't get a job soon.

Makola said stealing one car netted him about R900 or more in a week



# Rape victim (11) dying of Aids

CAPE TOWN — An 11-year-old rape victim is dying of Aids in the Conradie Hospital.

This was evidence in the Kuils River Magistrate's Court yesterday when two men — one of whom has tested HIV-positive — were refused bail following their recent arrest in connection with the alleged rape in 1990.

Phillip van Rheede (23) of Alabama Street, Belhar, and Martin Jooste (24), address unknown, both pleaded not guilty to raping the then 10-year-old

child. They were arrested on October 23 and 25 this year.

In opposing bail, prosecutor Mrs T E Theron said the child was at risk of dying soon.

The State wished the matter to be finalised as a matter of urgency. She said both men were unemployed and Mr Jooste had no fixed address.

"If they fail to make their court appearances the police may not be able to retrace them before the imminent death of the child," she said.

Mr van Rheede said he knew of no physical evidence tying him to the alleged rape and did not know why he had been arrested.

Mrs Theron said his HIV test results were still awaited, but Mr Jooste had tested HIV-positive.

Mr Jooste told the court he had witnesses to the rape who had seen the culprits and he denied involvement.

The case was postponed to November 22. — Sapa.

# Parents to vote on open creche

South 4/11-13/11/91

By Rehana Rossouw

PARENTS of white children at the segregated preschool at Groote Schuur Hospital are to vote whether to open the facility to all races.

However, even if parents respond positively, the school is unlikely to cater for many African children.

SOUTH recently exposed the Mowbray preschool where white and coloured children aged between three and five are separated. African children are not accommodated at present.

In an "unofficial" poll last year, over 80 percent of the white parents voted to open their side of the school to all.

The chairperson of the white preschool committee, Mr Michael Page, said the committee had been informed last week by the Department of Education and Culture (DEC) in the House of Assembly that they could now vote to open the preschool to children of all races.

He said parents had been trying for some time to open the facility to all, but had been blocked by the DEC.

"But the vote will take place at the earliest opportunity and we are urging parents to participate."

In the near future the white section would probably have to take the overflow from the coloured one and it was unlikely that many African children would be accommodated.

"We are probably not going to make even a dent in the need from African employees at Groote Schuur," Mr Page said.



# Boy, 10, molested girl - claim

Sowetan 7/11/91

298

ALLEGATIONS of sexual molestation by a 10-year-old boy on a six-year-old

girl have come to light at a Soweto primary school following complaints from angry teachers.

Teachers brought this to light yesterday after fearing nothing was being done to help the girl or punish the boy.

They alleged the boy followed the girl and a friend into the school toilets where he held his hand over her mouth to prevent her from screaming.

They said teachers only got to know about the incident after the girl's mother had noticed that she had difficulty in walking. She then took the child to a clinic where it was confirmed that she had been molested.

Teachers then arranged a meeting between the parents of both children. A teacher who was present during the meeting confirmed yesterday that the

incident had happened, but refused to give further details.

Asked if the matter had been handed over to the police and education authorities the teacher said this was "a community matter" - between the school and the parents.

When the school was approached yesterday the children had not been seen by social welfare workers even though the incident happened two weeks ago.

A spokesman for the DET, Mr Lawrence Moletsane, said it was standard procedure to get both parties together to sort out problems between their children.

But he criticised the teacher for not reporting the incident to the relevant authorities.

BAÑNER headlines in the Natal press exactly a year ago screamed "House of Horrors", referring to allegations of child sexual abuse at a home for the mentally handicapped.

The accused in the case were finally acquitted of 190 charges last month — but the home had already been closed by the authorities and the children dispersed.

Parents are still searching for their children. Health and social workers responsible for relocating them say only a quarter of the children have been found.

Thembaletu Home, near Harding, was home to 200 mentally handicapped black children, who were removed abruptly by police after the director and staff were accused of ill-treating their charges.

The chain of events was sparked off by the concern of a social worker, Jeanne Rogers, from the South African National Council for Child Welfare, and the head of the University of Natal's Maternal and Childcare Department, Professor Walter Loening. James and Dorothy Sarjou own the farm on which Thembaletu Home and a school called Enkazimulweni are situated. They established the home and the school for mentally and physically handicapped children in 1979.

Rogers visited Thembaletu on August 21 last year. She stayed "no longer than half an hour", according to court evidence. Several health workers had visited the home over the years and found nothing wrong. But after her visit Rogers wrote a "secret" report, the contents of which were revealed publicly a month ago, after the trial. It described "inhuman" conditions at the home and contained allegations implicating staff members in the sexual abuse and ill-treatment of children, misappropriation of funds and neglect.

On September 6 1990, the Natal Provincial Administration decided to withdraw Thembaletu's licence "without further investigation", but agreed that "further documentation was needed" before anything further was done.

So on October 11 the South African Police Child Protection Unit searched the

# 'House of Horror' children who vanished

Natal's 'House of Horrors' was closed down amid charges of abuse. Now the staff have been acquitted but, **BEATHUR BAKER** reports, scores of the handicapped children have gone missing

Sarjou family home, removing files and documents, and took eight of the children from the home with them. The same day James Sarjou was arrested.

The SAP said: "At this stage the SAP CPU received complaints, but they were mainly hearsay evidence. The unit removed eight children who were complainants or witnesses in the sexual-abuse cases. These children were all petrified to stay at Thembaletu after they made statements and were therefore removed for their own safety and protection against abuse and intimidation."

Two days after Sarjou's arrest, Loening, Rogers and the NPA representatives decided the children needed medical examination. Loening found "strong indications" that some of the girls "had been sexually abused by James Sarjou".

On October 17 and 19, soldiers and police rounded up the children, loaded them into patrol vans and transported them to "places of safekeeping".

According to the Sarjous, the children

were all crowded into Bayhead Place of Safety — a reform school surrounded by barbed-wire fencing — and kept in isolation until health workers could rescue them. When the parents learnt the Thembaletu children had been removed without their consent, they joined residents of the area in a 600-signature petition demanding the return of their children.

The Sarjous say none of the children's acquaintances were allowed to see them after they were removed. The NPA denies the charge.

In March this year Sarjou and seven staff members stood trial on charges which covered 190 counts of ill-treatment or allowing the children in their custody to be ill-treated, and failing to provide them with adequate food, clothing, lodging and medical aid. In the course of the trial, the charges were reduced until there was only one left: ill-treatment. They were acquitted of this charge on the grounds of insufficient evidence. During the trial, Loening admitted that he had spent no more than five hours examining the 200 children — five minutes per child.

Thembaletu's Norwegian funders, the Stromme Foundation, sent an investigator, Ragnild Sodahl, to South Africa. Without anyone knowing the aim of her visit, she spoke to the children and staff and gave Thembaletu a clean bill of health.

But by the time she completed her report, the home was closed and the school transferred to new ownership.

According to the NPA source, "36 handicapped children are at Ekulengeni Sanatorium and eight are still at Bayhead. The others have all been placed in the care of their parents or families".

The parents contradict this claim. They had to conduct their own search with the help of the school staff. They say they found 40 at the Pisgah Mission in Harding, where there are no toilets or running water and where both sexes work, eat and sleep in one classroom. A few were found in Jali location in Natal and 20 were being kept in private homes with people as poverty-stricken as their own parents.

ON THE SOUTH



# Sleeping street kids brutally beaten up

298 CT 8/11/91

**PORT ELIZABETH.** — Three sleeping street children were brutally attacked near the town centre just after midnight yesterday with what police believe to have been a pick-axe handle.

Two Uitenhage men, aged 27 and 31, were arrested minutes after police on patrol found the children unconscious.

The men have been held in custody and are expected to appear in the Uitenhage Magistrate's Court today to face attempted murder charges.

The police spokesman in Uitenhage could not give a motive for the brutal attack.

They could also not say whether the arrested men were connected with the Afrikaner Weerstandbeweging (AWB).

Two boys, aged 14 and 16, and a girl, 13, were all unconscious with serious head injuries when they were admitted to the Provincial Hospital in Uitenhage early yesterday morning.

By lunchtime yesterday they had regained consciousness, but were in pain.

Hospital staff last night awaited the results of X-rays.

## Street kids problem grows with violence

**KADOMA, Zimbabwe.** — As township violence continues in South Africa, the number of street children is rising at an alarming rate and non-governmental organisations involved in the welfare of children are finding it difficult to cope.

Ms Jill Swart-Kruger, a founder of Street Wise, an organisation which looks after street children, said yesterday that before violence erupted, most of the children they dealt with came from farms.

Ms Swart-Kruger, in Kadoma for a Forum on Children, said apartheid made things worse.

Street Wise tried to place the children in foster care. But white families who were willing to look after black children were discouraged by the small government subsidies allocated.

A foster family looking after a white child is allocated R211 a month while one fostering a coloured child is allocated R190 and just R160 is allocated to those caring for a black child. — Sapa

The spokesman said the children had eaten and were reacting well to stimuli.

Police said their men on patrol had called an ambulance when they found the children.

A report from a witness who allegedly saw the attack led to the arrest of the men, who were found in a house in the vicinity. A pick-axe handle was also found in the house.

## Street children assaulted

PORT ELIZABETH 9/11/91 Two Uitenhage men have been arrested after three sleeping street children were brutally beaten with a pickaxe handle. The unconscious children were admitted to the Uitenhage Provincial Hospital yesterday after being attacked while sleeping on a street corner. Two men, aged 27 and 31, have been arrested and will appear in court on charges of attempted murder. Police discovered the children minutes after the attack. They are still in hospital. — Own Correspondent.



## Two in <sup>298</sup> court for *C.P.N.* beating <sup>10/11/91</sup> children

TWO men appeared in the Uitenhage Magistrate's Court on Friday on charges of attempted murder for allegedly beating three street children with a pick handle.

Christiaan Arnoldus Jacobus Els, 31, and Ludwig Johannes Beer, 27, were not asked to plead. They were remanded until November 22.

It was alleged that Els and Beer beat the three children where they slept in Uitenhage's town centre early on Thursday.

The children were a 13-year-old girl and boys of 14 and 16 years old.

The unconscious youngsters were discovered by police. They were admitted to Uitenhage Provincial Hospital.

Hospital medical superintendent Dr Philip Botham said one of the three children was transferred to Livingstone Hospital in Port Elizabeth because of "serious brain injury". All three had been severely beaten, he said.

Hospital authorities were trying to trace their parents. — PEN

# Gift of hope for children

THE lives of deprived children are to be enriched by a centre that is to open in the Western Cape's oldest township, Langa, before the end of the year

Knowledge and growth are the chief aims of the Ulwazi Centre, which had its roof-wetting this week

The centre is the realisation of a dream for community worker Mrs Mpumi Ngoqo who has long wanted a haven that offers recreational, educational and drug-counselling programmes

Mrs Ngoqo began working with children several years ago and the small wooden building she used became known as the Langa Drug Centre. As word of her work with 270 children spread, increasing numbers turned to her for help

In 1989 the Cape Town Drug Counselling Centre and Sanca joined the project

As the idea for Ulwazi evolved, anti-drug campaigner Mrs Adele Searll led a fundraising drive and building began in June



**DELIGHTED . .** Mpumi Ngoqo and Adele Searll with some of the children whose lives will be changed by the Ulwazi Centre

Picture: TERRY SHEAN



# Girl burnt 'at work' 298

By S'BU MNGADI

ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD Stella Mbothwe was visiting her mother in Durban from the rural South Coast when her mother's employer offered her a job.

Stella's domestic-worker mother, Zandile Mbothwe, gave her consent, not knowing it was illegal to employ children under the age of 15.

Stella said the employer, known only as Sheila, also employed Sibongile Dlamini, 10; and another girl known as Lihleli, 11, both from Harding.

Stella, a former Std 3 pupil at Port Shepstone's Petros Jozana Higher Primary school, started working for Sheila in February cleaning sheep offal.

She said she and a fellow worker were asked to fill in for absent workers, removing hair from sheep heads and feet with a paraffin-operated blowlamp. It exploded as she was pumping it.

Stella suffered severe burns on her body and right arm. Her fellow worker was also burnt. Sheila took them to hospital.

The employer allegedly refused to pay the medical bills and compensation for the two

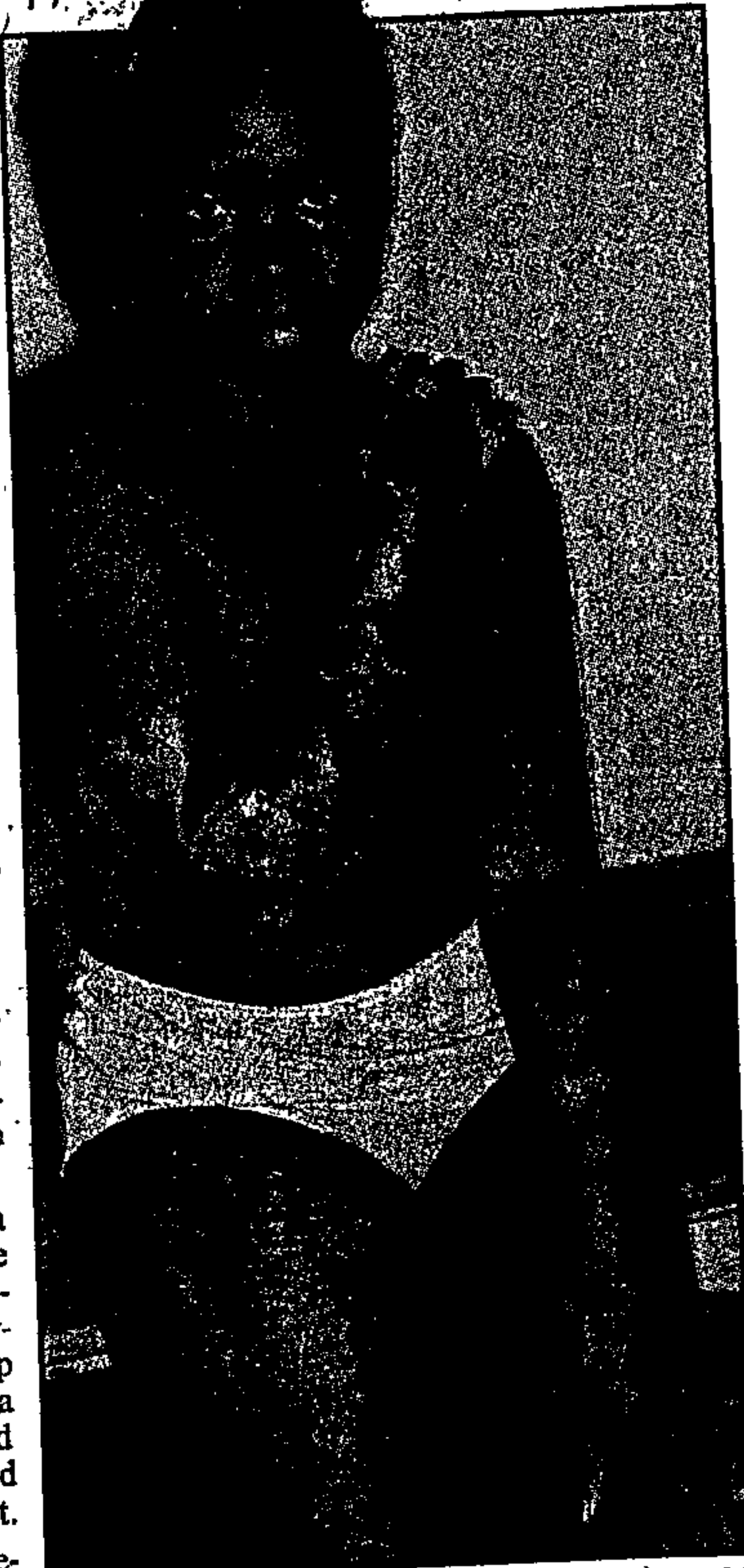
**STELLA MBOTHWE ... Her mother is seeking compensation for her accident.**

young workers.

Stella's family is considering suing Sheila through the Lawyers for Human Rights for damages and payment of Stel-

la's medical bills.

A man who answered the telephone at Sheila's home threatened legal action if a story about Stella was published.



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# JOHANNESBURG CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY

## TWILIGHT CHILDREN

Star  
13/11/91.

(298)

It is with regret and concern that the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society has to announce its decision to withdraw from the Twilight Children project in Hillbrow from 1 January, 1992.

It will be recalled that the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society took over the management of the Twilight Children project in Hillbrow in 1989, at the request of the Johannesburg City Health Department, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

Problems relating to an excessively high number of children in relation to professional staff numbers, ongoing daily involvement of volunteers from the previous controlling body and disciplinary problems with older boys which have endangered Society staff, have made it impossible for the Society to exercise management control over the shelter and to fulfil its professional obligations and responsibilities, including rehabilitation work among the children, as it does in its other children's facilities.

The Twilight Children project will continue to be operated and managed by the previous committee from 1 January, 1992.

The Johannesburg Child Welfare Society however remains committed to its work with street children in Hillbrow and surrounding areas and is confident that it has the professional expertise, staff and community commitment to do so. It will continue its work with street children in 1992, as soon as appropriate arrangements can be made. Emphasis will be placed on children in the eight to twelve year age group.

Should members of the public have any queries they are invited to discuss them with the Director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, Dr Adele Thomas, or in her absence, Mrs Lyn Perry, Assistant Director on 331-0171.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT  
JOHANNESBURG CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY

November, 1991

D801135



Threats of violence and interference led to decision, says society

# Welfare quits Twilight centre

Star 16/11/91.

298

## STAFF REPORTER

AFTER just two years' involvement in the Twilight Children project in Hillbrow, the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society has decided to pull out.

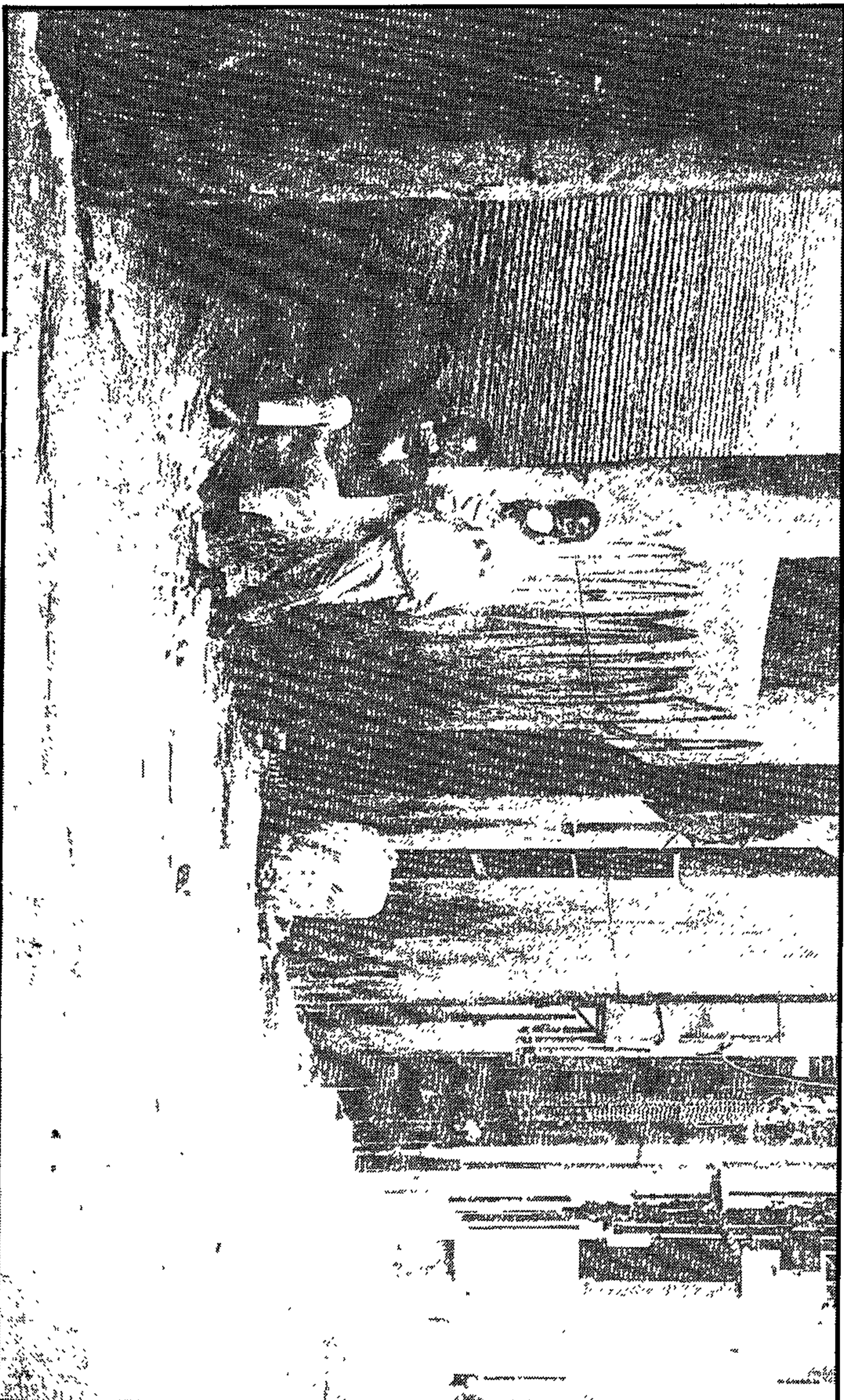
Amid accusations and counter-accusations about mismanagement, personality clashes and concern about the safety of social workers, the society announced this week that it would hand back the project entirely to the original Twilight Children Committee.

Assistant Director of the Society Bongel Lerole said the decision had been reached with "great regret" and "after much soul-searching".

A number of problems with the running of the Twilight Children centre had influenced the decision to quit, including:

- Threats of violence and assault to social workers and centre management, arising out of "discipline" problems with older boys. Staffers had been threatened with knives by older boys and, in one case, a manager had been locked in his office.
- There were an "excessively high number of children" in relation to the number of social workers available.
- Members of the previous committee had been "interfering" in the running of the centre.

But, the chairman of the original committee which started up Twilight Children, Peter Fitzgerald, said he believed the society's decision was "just a smoke-screen" to cover up "inade-



INNER CITY BLUES: running the Twilight Centre for street children, like these seen sniffing glue in a Hillbrow alley, has proved too much for the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, which is pulling out after two years of running the centre.

● Photograph: Jaco Silva.

quate management".

"I think they bit off more than they could chew. They didn't realise what the problems were and when things didn't work out the way they wanted, they turned their backs," said Mr Fitzgerald.

Twilight Children began in the mid 1980s, and was adopted by the Child Welfare Society in 1989, after discussion between it, the

original committee, the Johannesburg City Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

In a run-down building in Johannesburg's "inner city", Twilight Children provides a home for about 60 children, mostly boys, who range in age from about five or six right up to 20.

Mrs Lerole claimed the

original committee had not seemed "able to let go of something which they regarded as their property".

"Because of interference, we were not able to carry out our jobs of looking after the children and, more importantly, preparing them for re-integration into society."

Many of the people in-

volved in the original committee, although they were enthusiastic volunteers, were nevertheless "untrained" for the type of work which was being undertaken at Twilight Children, she added.

Mr Fitzgerald claimed, however, that Child Welfare "simply didn't put enough resources into the project", and that the original com-

mittee members had been "very disappointed" by the lack of progress in programme development.

"The place just seemed to run all the time on emergency management" he said.

Mr Fitzgerald admitted there had been incidents of threatened violence on a number of occasions, but said they could have been

precipitated by the "hard and unyielding" attitude of Child Welfare staffers towards the boys.

When an acting manager had been locked in his office, he had refused to talk to the boys about plans Child Welfare had to remove the entire original committee, claimed Mr Fitzgerald.

"A lot of them are very close to some of us, and they couldn't accept that Child Welfare wanted to remove us all from the place. There was something like a mini-rebellion which ended up with the police and army being called in."

Mrs Lerole said the wrangles with the original committee had proved to be beyond resolution, and that the decision to pull out of the project was taken only "as a last resort".

"But I must say that we are not abandoning these children. We will still be involved in working with street children. When we hear from the community that there is a problem, we will step in, and we will be working with other agencies to ensure the children are helped."

Mrs Lerole said Child Welfare was willing to work with Twilight Children "if they need our assistance".

She said she did not envisage that the society would be setting up a new centre like the one at Twilight Children, but that this would be considered "if the need arises".

Mr Fitzgerald said he was not aware that Child Welfare intended to remain involved in caring for street children.

"It seems odd, doesn't it? They couldn't handle it before, why should they want to become involved again?"



# Street-children: what will happen?

Star 19/11/91

298

I see that Dr Adele Thomas announced the withdrawal of Johannesburg Child Welfare Society from the Twilight Children Project in Hillbrow (The Star, November 13).

For those of us concerned with the welfare of street-children this announcement comes as no surprise: Johannesburg Child Welfare has long been suspected of being less than enthusiastically committed to the cause of uplifting street-children.

There are various estimates of the number of street-children in Johannesburg — up to five thousand: of these the Twilight Project coped with (or, perhaps, failed to cope with) around one hundred — a very small proportion of street-children.

If, as claimed in the advertisement in your paper, this was an "excessively high number in relation to professional staff", then what was done about the fact? Where were the additional staff? Indeed, where is the evidence of a commitment to effective child care?

Reference (was) made in the advertisement to "fulfilling professional obligations and responsibilities ... as (Johannes-

burg Child Welfare) does in its other children's facilities".

Perhaps Dr Thomas wouldn't mind also telling us what proportion of these other children are street-children, and how this compares to the proportion of homeless children in Johannesburg — then readers could decide for themselves the accuracy of the above statement.

Your readers would be entirely justified in any concern they may have for the 100 or so children once entrusted to Johannesburg Child Welfare by the Johannesburg City Health Department, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, and the National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

Such "professional" care as they may have had access to is now to be withdrawn, and it will be left to caring individuals to pick up the pieces. Traditionally this has always been the way with the street-children.

Finally, I look forward to an equally bold announcement in the early new year as to what Johannesburg Child Welfare does intend to do about the welfare of street-children.

James Cathels

Lombardy West



# BABIES TO BE SOLD IN CISKE

9/11/91

298

A PLAN to turn Bisho into the baby-trade capital of the world was being touted at high levels in Ciskei's government, it was disclosed this week.

Well-placed sources said senior Ciskei Government officials appeared ready to launch a massive international adoption agency that would place thousands of foreign orphans with rich Western couples.

City Press has established that the scheme is in its final stage of planning.

CP Correspondent

Financial assistance for the project was secured three months ago, sources said.

Efforts to get comment from the Ciskei Government failed this week.

The baby trade could bring important foreign exchange to the impoverished

However, the proposal's impact on the children's welfare is likely to spark an outcry from child protection

City Press has established that the system of screening potential parents is dangerously inadequate and that sums of cash will be in the hands

"Buying" children, banned in many countries, is common internationally.

## Market

Behind the plan is British businessman Doug Turvey, mastermind of a failed attempt last year to import a load of Romanian children to Johannesburg.

Turvey aims to market up to 2000 homeless boys and girls, mostly toddlers, through Ciskei every month.

The children would be obtained from Third World countries. They would be airlifted from their native countries on flights returning from mercy missions to disaster-struck nations, sources said.

The children would be taken to Ciskei's Bulembu Airport to be collected by their new parents.

It is understood that childless couples in Britain, Australia, Scandinavia and the United States and Canada will be solicited.

The plan was first broached with senior Ciskei government officials late last year. Sources said homeland officials secured initial capital for the programme in July, giving the project their blessing on condition that a public relations professional be appointed to deal with it.

It is understood that Turvey had difficulty finding someone to take on the job.

Ciskei's new communications consultant, Johannesburg-based PR specialist Denise Bjorkman, denied any knowledge of the homeland's adoption agency plans.

"I know nothing about this," she said. "I'm as fascinated as you are. This is propaganda. Ciskei has enough homeless children of its own."

A document leaked to City Press this week showed the Ciskei adoption plan to be open to abuse.

While prospective parents would be screened before being allowed to adopt, this process was likely to fall short of recognised procedures.

A high-level source said would-be adopters would not have to be checked out by a qualified social worker — a step designed to avoid abuse by underworld connections.

No attempt would be made to assist children and their new parents cope with the trauma of adoption.

The children would have no contact whatsoever with their new guardians prior to their arrival in Ciskei.

Despite its inadequacies, the adoption bureau was expected to attract thousands of desperate couples willing to fork out for a child.

One of the Ciskei baby bureau's drawbacks is that it will reduce much of the red tape usually experienced with international adoptions.

Childless couples often wait for weeks in foreign countries for their adoptions to be approved. The Ciskei scheme is to handle the formalities so that instant families will be able to head home in a matter of hours.

Adopters will have to pay the agency a service fee and cover the costs of the flights to Ciskei.



SEA BELLE ... Ngabisa Mcata was a sight for shore eyes on Cape Town's beach recently.

Photo: FANIE JASON



# Foster mothers queue in vain

By Shirley Woodgate

The black foster care system yesterday reached what social workers termed crisis point, as more than 90 elderly women who queued for hours for their R160 monthly grants, were sent away empty-handed from the TPA payout offices in central Johannesburg because of "computer problems".

"In the present economic climate when there is a desperate need for foster mothers to care for the increasing number of destitute children, the authorities are undermining our efforts by failing to pay the meagre monthly grants on time," claimed Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) consultant Jackie Lofell.

The latest debacle follows a JCWS appeal two months ago to the auditor-general for a total shake-up of the pay-out system after about 19 foster parents, who had allegedly been overpaid, were told their grants would be reduced for up to six months.

Attributing the problem to a TPA administrative error, JCWS director Adele Thomas claimed the payment system was not only inefficient but open to fraud.

## Lapses

She listed as frequent contraventions of the Child Care Act, delays of up to a year for the initial payment and lapses in payment.

Among the women queuing at 80 Albert Street yesterday was pensioner Nobantu Jolozza (66) who waited in vain from 8 am to noon for the grant for her two foster children. She had shuttled back and forth between the Pimville payout office and 80 Al-



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Lilian Mlonzi, who has six foster children of whom two are eligible for grants, was told she would "probably get her money by December, or next year".

Audrey Nkosi (64) has cared for her 10-year-old foster child since birth, but despite submitting her renewal forms on time, she claimed she had not been paid.

A TPA spokesman said renewal applications had not been processed in time but cheques would be handed over in the near future. Women forced to queue in vain had been given food parcels.

She urged foster care parents to sign forms authorising the TPA to pay their grants into their bank or building society accounts.

# Street-children project planning R3 m centre

1988 20/11/91

By JILYAN PITMAN

A PIECE of land is needed by Molo Songololo, a community-based organisation operating from Salt River, to house, educate and train street children.

In the meantime an innovative programme for street children is being run by the organisation in the Rondebosch United Congregational Church hall.

Molo Songololo is a children's magazine project which has been running for 11 years.

## Funding

Its street-children project comprises workshops in the church hall Mondays-Thursdays from 10.30-12.30pm, for the age group 8-21 years.

Activities include cre-

ating art and crafts, drama, dance and movement, health education, music and making musical instruments, co-operative games and life skills and conflict resolution programmes.

Mr David Fortune, project co-ordinator, said: "We are trying to get funding for a new centre where all these courses can be run.

"It will include a day-care centre, skills training and residential centre to house 50 children and youths.

"This will be a service model which can be duplicated in any community.

"We have applied to the city council for land in Copperfield Road, Salt River, on which to build this facility, which will cost R3 m

"We would like the council to either donate the land or we will lease it from them for a nominal sum. Negotiations are under way."

## 'Productive'

Mr Fortune said his organisation was busy with corporate fund-raising nationally and internationally.

"We have had money from certain funders overseas for many years but we are looking for funding inside South Africa.

"The idea is for these children eventually to become productive members of society, without constantly asking for handouts."

At the moment street children are being picked up by minibus from the streets and tak-

en to the church hall where the programmes are run.

"Most of the children find their own way to the hall. They are delighted to participate in these programmes.

"They also receive breakfast porridge and a hot lunch every day. These are donated by small traders in the community and prepared by volunteers.

## Donations

Mrs Lorna Dramat, workshop co-ordinator, said: "We provide them with clothing which we receive as donations from schools and churches.

"The police often arrest these children for various crimes such as loitering, which influences attendance at these workshops

"More than 200 street children and youths have come through this programme since it started in May this year."

Mr Fortune said his organisation would like to run these programmes all day and every day but it was impossible at present only because of the lack of a venue.

Donations of food, clothing and blankets will be welcome as will help from community workers.

Contact David Fortune or Lorna Dramat at (021) 47-8820/1.



## Hospital creche votes to open <sup>(298)</sup>

<sup>South 21/11-27/11/91</sup>  
PARENTS of white children at the segregated preschool at Groote Schuur Hospital have voted to open the facility to all races.

SOUTH recently exposed the Mowbray preschool where white and coloured children aged between three and five are separated. African children are not accommodated.

"We had the vote this week, and after counting, discovered that 100 percent of the parents had voted to open the school," said the chairperson of the white preschool committee, Mr Michael Page.

"We now have to request the Department to open the school, which I understand is just a formality.

"The creche will be open in time for next year."

# Bring some cheer and <sup>(298)</sup> hope into their lives



## The Star Christmas Hamper

By Rochelle Gosling-  
Hughes

Late last night while you were tucked away beneath the covers, content after a good dinner, children were roaming the streets looking for a place to sleep.

Their parents may have been drunk at home, at each other's throats, or perhaps they were in search of food.

For the rural children of Honeydew, Weltevreden Park, Pinehaven and Cresta life smacks of hunger and insecurity. One place which affords them some stability is the Kingsway Centre of Concern.

The centre is based at the Honeydew Methodist Church and has a staff of seven untrained teachers who spend each afternoon trying to help these children.

Children, who suffer severely from malnutrition, or who are experiencing problems at home, are looked after in a home owned by the House of Refuge Trust, a trust not directly related to the centre.

Donations come from the corporate sector, individuals and World Vision.

Parents are requested to pay R3 a month towards school fees in an effort to involve them, says centre co-ordinator Joan de Smidt. But these are rarely received.

The Kingsway Centre of Concern will benefit enormously by receiving hampers this year. After all, how many times have we not heard the saying that Christmas is for the children?

Your donations are desperately needed. Send them to Xmas Hamper Fund, Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000



# Crime 'corroding' quality of life

By Thabo Leshilo

Soweto's high incidence of crime was corroding the community's quality of life and playing havoc with residents' insurance premiums and the provision of essential services, Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industries president Philemon Makhetha said this week.

Speaking at the launch of the Soweto Anti-Crime Initiative, a community organisation created to combat the crime menace in the township, Mr

Makhetha said crime in Soweto was unacceptably high.

This was reflected by the growing prison population of young people, loss of life and property.

According to figures released by the police last month, Soweto accounted for an eight percent increase in murders reported in South Africa this year and showed an overall 0.02 percent rise in serious crime compared with last year.

Figures for the first

quarter of the year indicate that 414 rapes, 319 murders, 344 attempted murders, 1 114 housebreakings, 292 robberies, 762 armed robberies and 1 1219 "plain" thefts were committed in the area.

This year alone, 34 policemen have been killed in Soweto — more than double last year's figure.

Various speakers cited the high unemployment rate in the township as an important contributory factor to violence and crime.

## Unrest ties up 30 pc of police — Van Eyk

By Bronwyn Wilkinson  
Crime Staff

About 30 percent of the police force was deployed in unrest areas — and this aggravated the manpower problem in trying to cope with the soaring rate of suburban crime, deputy commissioner of police General Mulder van Eyk has said.

Speaking at a public meeting on crime in Randburg and Sandton last night, he said it

would only be when the Peace Accord was fully implemented that these policemen would be able to return to normal crime prevention duties.

The Democratic Party's Bryanston MP, Rupert Lorimer, who chaired the meeting, said communities needed to know what increases could be expected in police manpower.

General van Eyk said about 7 000 policemen were due to graduate

from police colleges at the end of this month.

● A Domestic Servants Watch has been formed in at least four Johannesburg suburbs.

The branch commander of the Crime Investigation Service at Parkview police station, Captain Martin van Nieuwenhuizen, said information from domestic workers had frequently helped the police to catch burglars red-handed.

## Man to sue police after arrest of son (15)

By Zingisa Mkhuma

A Midrand father has lodged a complaint and intends taking legal action against police for arresting his South African-born teenage son whom they suspected of being an illegal immigrant.

Patrick Mabena accused the police of violating the rights of his child when they arrested his son Luvuyo (15), a Std 7 pupil at Sandown High

School, on Wednesday.

Mr Mabena said the police ignored Luvuyo's pleas that he had been in Soweto and lived with his parents a few blocks away from the spot where he was arrested.

He was kept in custody for almost three hours, Mr Mabena said.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Henriette Bester said the boy was detained for only 15 minutes.

Captain Bester said

the boy looked older than 15 and had told the police he was born in Harare, which gave them reason enough to arrest him.

Mr Mabena said Luvuyo was stopped by the police at about 4 pm. He denied that his son had told them he was born in Zimbabwe.

"When I got to the police station, the police insisted that I produce his ID book or birth certificate," Mr Mabena said.



*Spiralling crime brings fear and anger*

# Seshego is no longer carefree

Southern 22/11/91

**BONANI "Bondela"**  
Phothwane smiled as he strolled from school last Thursday afternoon.

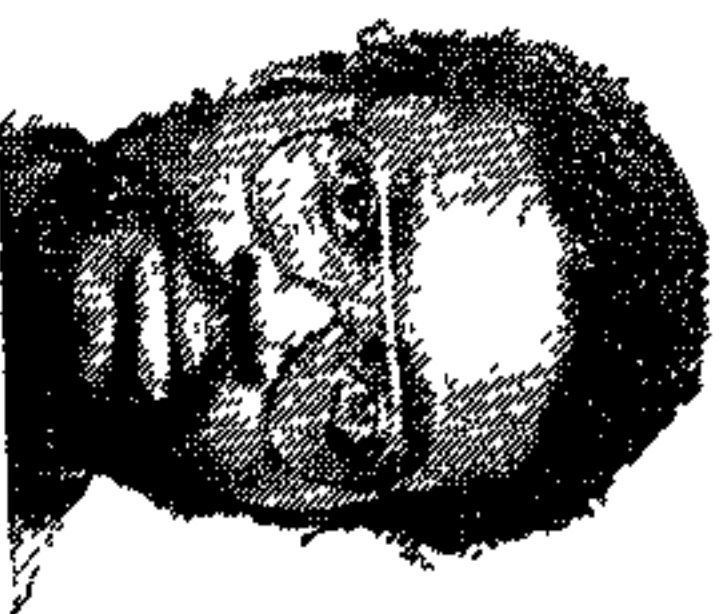
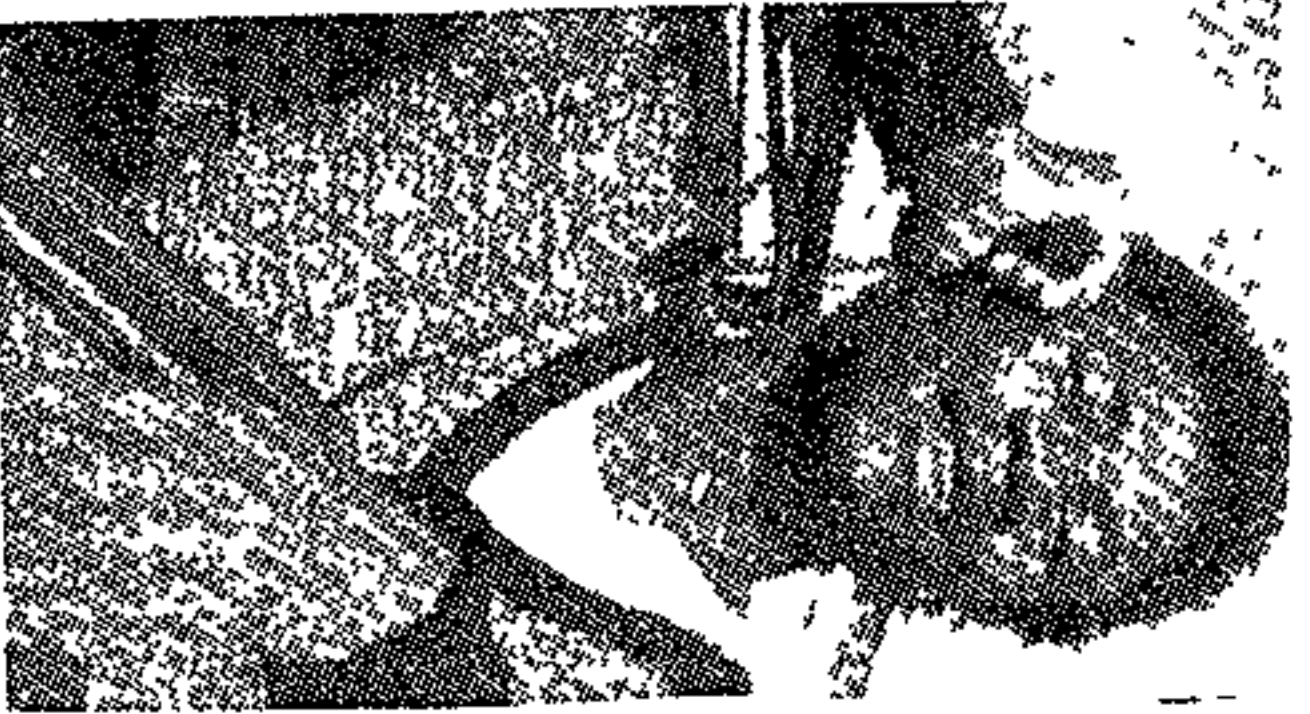
A matric pupil at Mohlakeng High School, Seshego, Pietersburg, he had been studying biology that afternoon in preparation for exams the following day.

He had remained at school until about 3pm when he started the short journey home.

Bondela, as he was called by his friends, was accosted about 300m from his home at 483 Zone 1 by a thug who plunged a knife into his neck.

He was rushed to the nearby clinic where nurses, seeing the profuse bleeding, sent him to a doctor next door. The doctor and his assistants battled for half an hour before an ambulance arrived to take the boy to hospital.

**BONANI  
PHOTHWANE**



**Seshego** has been hit by spiralling crime. **MATHATHA TSEDU** of our Pietersburg Bureau, takes a closer look at the problem.

But it was too late.

His death is a tragedy. It was the end of an ambition he had to become a teacher and a useful member the community.

He was also a keen, self-taught motor mechanic and barber. Many a Seshego youth can attest to his ability to cut hair.

The son of sales representative Mr Johannes "Skipper"

Phothwane and his teacher wife Rachel, Bondela (20) became yet another tragic statistic in the growing violence sweeping

the once peaceful township.

The saying that Seshego is good at night is fast becoming history as people remain indoors after dark. Thirty-six people have died violently during the past six months.

Gone are the days

when carefree people would drink at the Zone 1 hotel and criss-cross the footpath to Zone 3. With the emergence of gangsters such as 21 Jump Street, Zebra Force and others, those who try to walk the streets at night do so at their peril.

The community is becoming very concerned as evidenced last week

when two people who had been stabbed to death on the same night were given a combined funeral service which attracted nearly 5 000 people.

Speaker after speaker, from the local taxi association representative, Mr Eddy Mabina, Sabta representative Mr Eddy Dikgale; to civic association chairman Mr Robert Mningi, described the increasing stabbings to resolve problems.

"They are our children. We have given birth to thugs who are now finishing each other off. Are we going to just sit around and mourn their deaths, or are we going to do something? The knife is out to kill

and we must stamp it out," Mabina said.

Mningi said parents must get involved and admit to what their children's are doing.

"It is the responsibility of all of us to talk to our children. We must not let them become street children. Parents mustn't say they don't know where their children have been sleeping - they must make it their business to know," Mningi said.

## Revenge

The speakers cautioned against revenge. The warning followed an incident a week earlier when people returning from a burial set a scrapyard used as a tavern on fire.

The mourners claimed that the victim was stabbed at the scrapyard. But the owner, Mr David Tefo, denied that the man had been stabbed there.

Police spokesman, Captain Tlomatsana, said police had discussed the growing violence which was worrying.

He said a 19-year-old had been arrested for the murder of Bondela and would appear in court again on Tuesday.

He said police were looking at various ways of improving policing of the township to safeguard the residents and their property. "The apathy towards the formation of youth gangs and the availabil-

ity of liquor and drugs, are contributing factors to crime.

"Several options are open to us which will be implemented soon. We welcome the spirit of the community who want to help us curb crime," Tlomatsana said.

A social worker said unemployment and laxness in schools were contributory factors to the growing crime. Calls for an end to it would not help without employment to keep people busy.

As the community grapples with the problem and hopes for peace to return, Bondela will on Saturday do his last mile - another young person who died too soon.



# Baby<sup>(298)</sup> trader given boot

CP Correspondent

THE Ciskei government this week confirmed it had been approached to set up a baby-adoption bureau, but claimed the plan had been rejected.

A Ciskei spokesman said the man behind the scheme, Bethel-based businessman Dough Turvey, had been "sent packing" and told never to return.

However, Ciskei earlier denied all knowledge of the plan. The homeland's communications consultant, Dr Denise Bjorkman, told City Press last Friday its information was propaganda. Meanwhile, Turvey this week insisted that his negotiations with Ciskei were continuing.

He said he was awaiting "confirmation" from a Ciskei government official, who he failed to name.

British-born Turvey aims to fly thousands of children from Third World countries to Ciskei's Bulembu Airport where they will be adopted by childless Western couples.

Turvey this week estimated that his adoption agency could bring more than R10-million a month to its host nation.

Parents wanting to adopt the children would have to fork out more than R10 000 each in "licensing" fees.

He plans to airlift children from their native countries on flights returning from mercy missions to disaster-struck countries.

Ciskei claimed Turvey was now negotiating with Namibia, but Turvey, who has been refused permission to operate in SA, declined to comment further.



# Lost generation: symbol of chaos

Following a seminar on crime this week, Soweto Anti-crime Initiative spokesman DENRICK THEMBA gives a background to the gruesome murder of a young schoolgirl.

## Are our kids taking the rap for a faulty system?

ARE the children of the lost generation getting their just rewards? In a tense courtroom this week a judge sentenced two such youths to death for their part in gang-raping and murdering a schoolgirl.

There was no doubt that this was an atrocity of enormous social proportions: the deed was described frequently during the trial as callous, savage and, finally, an act of gross bestiality.

The judge had to consider how Kefiwe Kesiliwe, a lively 18-year-old Meadowlands girl, came to die in a classroom, her body violated and stabbed 41 times.

She had been feeling carefree and full of the joys of life having recently finished a term at boarding school in Botswana.

Ironically, this was where she was sent to avoid the township violence.

Now, back in her hometown, with a boyfriend at her side, she was strolling through the gathering dusk trading warm greetings with her community.

It was not as if the gang of five were

complete strangers. In fact, they were mostly boys from the neighbourhood. The members of the group were socially acquainted.

The attack was almost brutal beyond words: the boyfriend was chased off and a few stones hurled at him to speed him on his way, while she was dragged, begging for help, into the darkness.

Now, in retrospect, it seems as if her killers delivered the death blows to try and strike out forever the living evidence of their crime.

It seems she was "jackrolled", as the term is used in gang circles. Yet, the gang let her boyfriend escape their clutches with the almost chummy warning: "Don't be foolish enough to die for a woman."

A day later they offered him cash to keep his trap shut.

One of the thugs was only 17, the others slightly older.

Perhaps we will never know exactly what went on in their heads, but it's clear that the youths are symbolic of

what has become known as the lost generation. Since 1985 social scientists and psychologists have been warning about youth alienation.

They have spoken of teenagers, who, finding themselves trapped in a brutal war-wrecked society, have generated their own sub-culture infused with a sense of life's pointlessness and based, unsurprisingly, on the denial of human morality.

Having lost all faith in social institutions, they have abandoned education, some even their families. In their aimlessness they have turned to murder, mayhem and destruction to get their kicks.

Many are comrades who leave school to become "com-tsois".

Today's tsois, however, is no longer an uneducated, knife-scarred malingerer.

Instead, they are mostly young, smartly dressed and battle-toughened by State and township violence.

"Jackrolling" and car-hijacking is

but a part of this culture.

As a generation that does not know the satisfaction of cash hard earned, they have fostered a culture of taking, of plunder and pillaging.

Yet, the com-tsois generation is as much a vivid symbol of the apartheid system as are the South African townships which spawned them.

It is the entry into the apartheid education system which completes their alienation.

From there it the lost generation has launched itself back at the society which has rejected them.

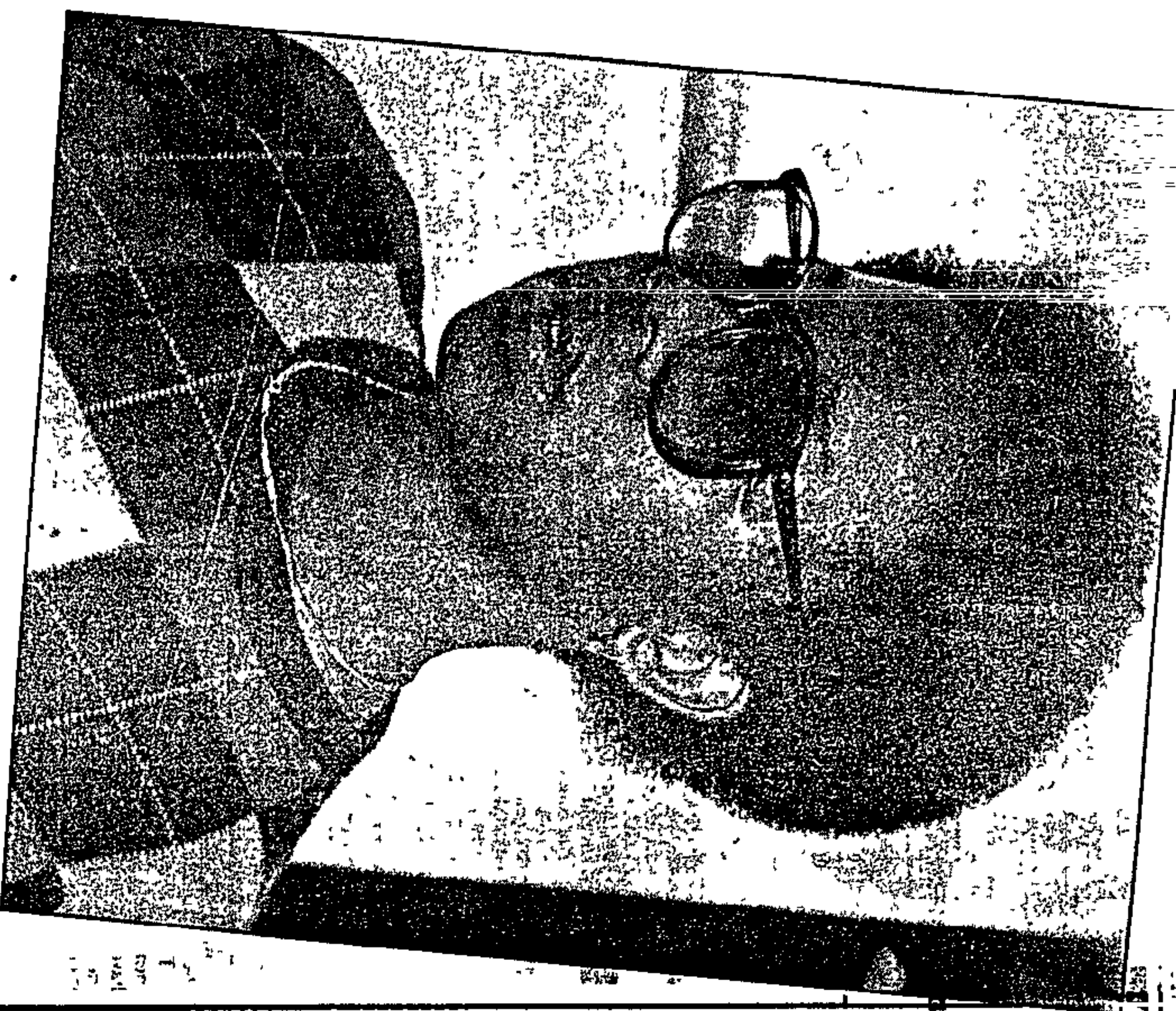
It's too easy, amid the outcry against the escalating crime wave, to forget the system of inferior black education schools and its effect on the kids.

It is clear that a culture of mob violence has emerged from township schools. When revenge is to be extracted from those who have killed a colleague, the students go out in a group.

It is this group mentality which manifests itself in "jackroller" murder and carrying. Does this extend to the gangs of bank robbers?

The government's appalling education and socio-political system has spawned a generation which will rape and murder the girl on the block and feel nothing.

We must stop all of this



**VICTIM OF BRUTALITY** ... Was Kefiwe Kesiliwe, 18, gang-raped and murdered by boys belonging to South Africa's much-talked-about "lost generation".



## Youth must be involved

25/11/91

It is true that many South Africans have spent more than 20 years opposing "enemies" in their struggle for liberation against terrorism, guerrillas, strangers, blacks, oppressors, the system.

And it is also true that in many cases those who have fought with most courage and dedication have been young people; those under thirty, and sometimes also those under fifteen.

Whereas has often been the case, the struggle has been violent, some people have perhaps learnt better how to force others (often mentally) to do what they wanted them to do than they have learnt how to persuade anyone in a non-violent, peaceful way.

Yet that does not alter the fact that in very many cases young people have fought for an ideal, for liberation or the safety of the state, the support of an admired leader, or their own vision of a better society.

We all know that in 1991 we cannot just tell young people to work for peace with the same dedication they have dis-

played for other causes (conflicts/war?)

If we want to have their active support and co-operation, we must persuade youth structures (students, political, religious, sports etc) to discuss HOW they think peace can be promoted.

"Promoted" is a good word to use because all its meanings suggest forward movement.

Once committed, youth structures will draw in thousands of young people.

Of course, they need to be persuaded by those they follow and admire that this joint forward movement in the cause of peace is worth working for, that it is a vision of the future of our country which will also pro-

mote their own happiness and freedom and life in a just society.

Perhaps those who signed the Peace Accord in September can get together once more for just this purpose; to inspire their own youthful supporters to work together energetically for a peaceful, progressive society in which all of them can co-operate and live in friendship.

Harnessing youth will not be easy, but if we succeed in this, the peace process will gain a momentum that will surprise us, the older people who have been hardened by watching many things fail too often.

But, if we accept Bishop Storey's challenge to become "apostles for tol-

erance", we should be able to engage the idealism of our young people.

If we do, their momentum will move us forward faster than we dare hope.

Franz Auerbach  
Johannesburg

## Stand together

I am in Standard Seven at Central Secondary School.

I am 14-years-old. I promise to do the best I can in assisting you to make this world a better and peaceful place to live in.

And I know that if we stand together, there will be no doubt that this will be a success.

Rhamej Waja  
Johannesburg

## PEACE PLEDGE

I condemn the scourge of violence which has afflicted our country and all practices that have contributed to such violence, and commit myself to the principles contained in the National Peace Accord.

I pledge myself with integrity of purpose to make this land a prosperous one where we can all live, work and play together in peace and harmony. I accordingly solemnly bind myself to the principles contained in the National Peace Accord and will respect its underlying rights and values.

(signed) .....

PRINT NAME .....

Address .....

code .....

Send coupon to Peace Train, Box 1814, Johannesburg 2001. We'll pass it to the Peace Commission and send you a certificate.

## Call in Untag

This violence will lead this country to civil war.

The South African government must call in an Untag-type body to monitor the country while negotiations are under-way.

N M Lamola  
Bramley





Desmond Pitoyi and Shadrack Madingoane.

Pic PAT SEBOKO.

# Youth to talk about causes of violence

A THREE-DAY workshop on violence, its effect on the youths and the community will be held in Soweto next month.

It will take place at the Ipelegeng Community Centre from December 6 to December 8.

The workshop, whose theme is "Violence and conflict, change and the process of transition", is primarily aimed at the youths perceived to be "the perpetrators as well as the victims of violence," according to the organisers of the event.

Mr Shadrack Madingoane said: "We have invited youths affiliated to the ANC, PAC,

By IKE MOTSAPI

Azapo, IFP and other youth organisations in the country.

"The aim of this encounter is to raise the awareness of the youth about violence in South Africa today."

## Workshop

Another organiser, Mr Desmond Pitoyi, said: "There is no doubt that violent crimes such as rape, murder and theft will escalate in the future as various statistics have pointed out.

"The youth are the principal protagonist in this tragically violent drama," he said.

The workshop will try to address the following issues:

- Defining the concept "violence" within the present South African situation;
- Identifying the possible causes for violence;
- Examining what happens to both the victims and the perpetrators;
- Comparing South Africa to other countries; and
- The role of the youth as agents of change.

The workshop will be co-facilitated by the Project for the Study of Violence - Wits University, Nicro, Soweto and the South African Association of Youth Clubs.



# 'Strollers' set to steal limelight

Education Reporter

(298) ARG 25/11/91

THIRTY-FIVE street children or "strollers" will be the stars of a Christmas carol concert at the Salesian Institute in Somerset Road at 10am tomorrow.

The concert forms part of the Learn to Live Education Programme for Street Children and the public are welcome.

Brother Peter Simmonds, who runs the programme, said the audience is invited to sing along while the children act out the stories of the carols.

The group has been practising for six weeks and "many are showing a remarkable talent" for acting and playing musical instruments.

He said this was the second Christmas carol concert and he hoped it would be an annual event.

The non-formal Learn to Live programme offers subjects given at regular schools, but it is less structured and accommodates the special problems of street children.

The pupils, who live in various havens in the city, attend the programme at the Don Bosco Centre at the institute.

According to Brother Simmonds, some of the younger children are prepared for normal schooling while those older are equipped with basic numeracy and literacy skills to help them get work.

For more information please contact Brother Simmonds at ☎ 216764.

STAR 26/1/79

## Suspension of foster pay explained 298

Suspension of allowances to black foster parents this month was due to recipients not submitting their annual review documents, Transvaal MEC Dr W R Hood said yesterday.

"In terms of the regulations, all social allowances (including foster-care allowances) should be reviewed annually.

"The reason for this is the increase in these allowances as well as the stricter control measures of the province

Dr Hood said.

Foster parents qualifying for allowances were informed in writing six months before the due date that they should submit specified documents for reviewing. This was followed by monthly reminders.

"If, after repeated reminders, there is no reaction from the foster parents concerned, the allowances are automatically suspended by the computer."

All suspended allowances would be paid next month. — Sapa.





**PUPIL 'BEATEN' . . .** Zonnebloem Primary School pupil Umar van der Schyf, 12, who claims he was beaten by a senior staff member, with his mother, Mrs Kariema van der Schyf.

Picture, ANNE LAING

## Child 'assaulted' at city primary school

Staff Reporter

A 12-YEAR-OLD Walmer Estate pupil at a District Six primary school was treated at Woodstock Hospital for a thumb injury after what his mother described as an assault involving a senior staff member.

Mrs Kariema van der Schyf said her son, Umar, a Std 5 pupil, returned from school with red marks on his body and said he had been beaten and kicked by the man.

Angered, she had gone to Zonnebloem Primary to inquire about the allegation. She was told to go to the police, but Woodstock police station referred her to the Department of Education and Culture (House of Representatives).

Education spokesman Mr Hennie

Jansen said the department was still investigating the allegation.

The senior staff member declined to comment yesterday.

Umar said that at break on Monday several boys had played a game where they first breathed rapidly and then held their breath until they became dizzy.

He said a pupil called Shamiel had fainted after another pupil had forced him to play the game.

Umar claimed he was wrongly accused of having instigated the game and was beaten by the senior staff member.

"He didn't even listen to me. I have a headache, there are blue marks on my legs and a bit of swelling in my face," he said.



# Safeline frees captives of trauma

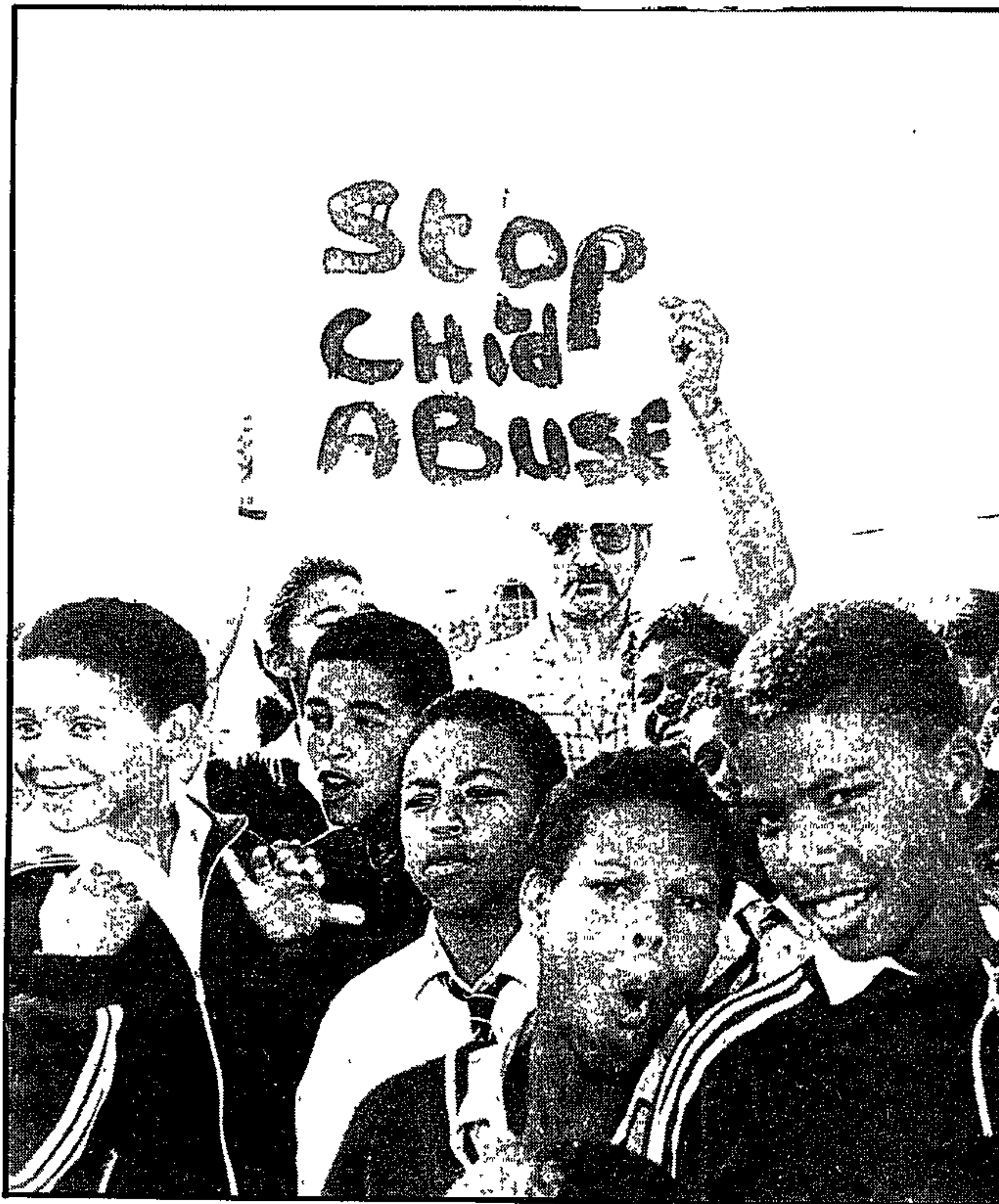
As unemployment increases and living conditions deteriorate, child abuse becomes more widespread. Safeline, a Christian-based outreach programme, is a beacon of hope for the thousands of abused and abusers it has counselled and cared for since its launch in 1988:

South Side 28/11-4/12/91  
 IN SEPTEMBER this year 895 children in Cape Town called Safeline Child Abuse Combat Unit to seek help — the last recourse for those who silently suffered sexual, physical and emotional abuse.

These calls are the tip of the iceberg as many children are too scared to report abuse or have been abused for so long they think it is normal, says Safeline.

"Child abuse is a sad and depressing topic but we believe it should not hold children captive," says Rev Bruce Duncan, director of Safeline, one of South Africa's first counselling services for victims of abuse and for abusers. "By disclosing their experiences and receiving therapy we hope children may be empowered so that they may lead normal lives."

A number of survivors of abuse have been assisted by Safeline. Their stories offer hope for the many who are afraid to speak out. As Rev Bruce Duncan, who is a survivor of child-abuse says: "The more survivors there are to tell their tales, the more chance there is for other victims."



## CASE 2: Sexual Abuse

MYRTLE was in her mid-twenties. She had been dating Roly for seven years and he was now impatient. He wanted to marry her. Myrtle loved Roly but could not say "yes" because she was tormented by the scars of 11 years of sexual abuse in the family.

The conflict which arose from her avoidance of Roly caused her to seek help. Myrtle vividly recalls the first incident when her father violated her at the age of 10. It happened as she was bathing in preparation for her party. When she was in a more open frame of mind Myrtle expressed intense hatred for her father.

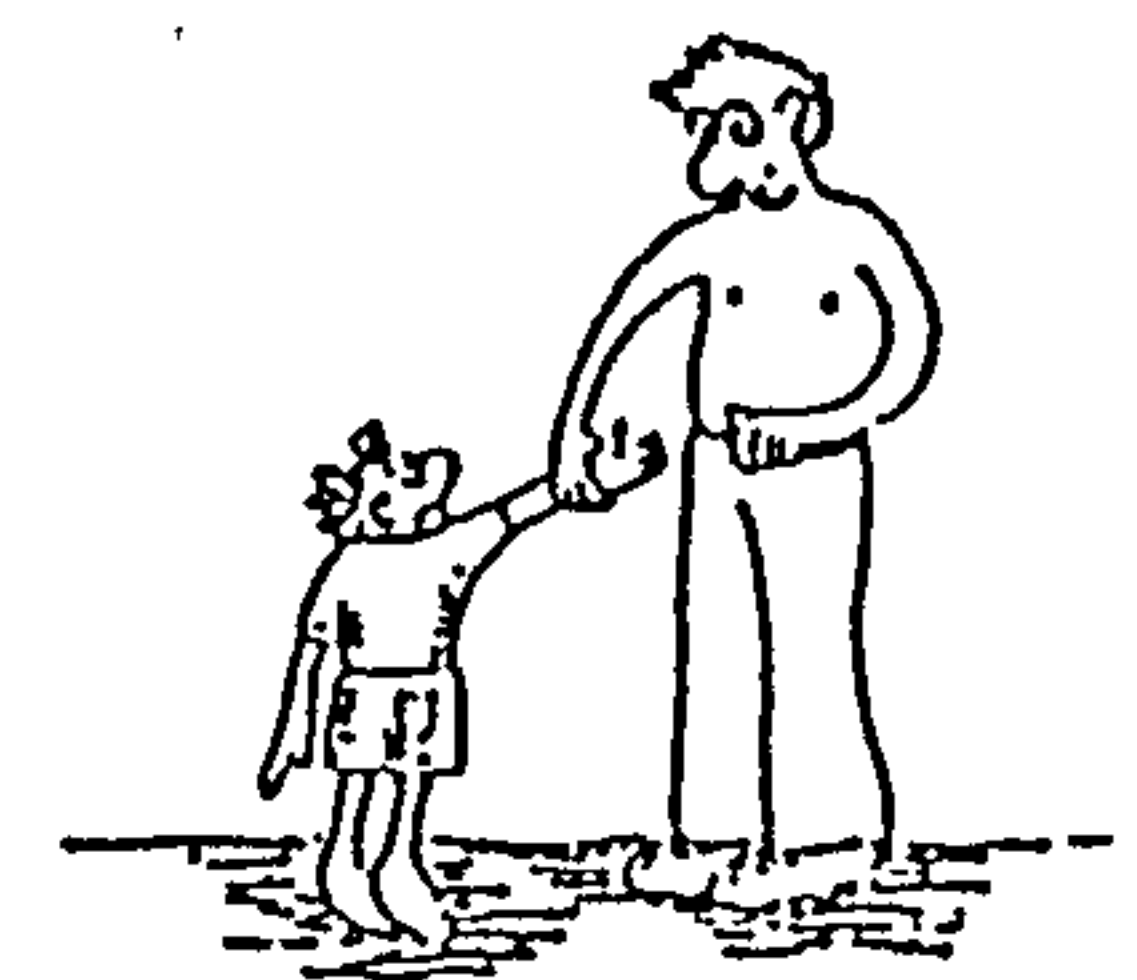
She had suffered numerous nightmares since then. Now she was living in two worlds.

Yet, with the hatred for her father there was also fear of commitment. She had attempted to model her life on that of her mother, especially when it came to trying to please and impress her father.

A small success had been achieved when she threatened to scream if he ever came into her bedroom again — and he bargained for her silence.

Part of Myrtle's fear lay in sexual domination by "another man". Would she be able to free herself from that gagging experience when her father forced her to commit her first act of oral sex? Her mother had at that time diagnosed her three-day nausea as a prelude to "becoming a young lady".

Myrtle is gradually taking hold of her life. Both she and Roly are involved in therapy and so is her youngest sister who has for a long time also lived in fear of her father.



## CASE 1: Emotional and physical abuse

ABU and Fowzia enjoyed a relatively happy marriage. Their eight years together had seen the family grow to four. Rachmat was six and Salie was four years old. A recent move to a new province was necessary because of Abu's promotion to an executive position.

Abu had severed all ties with his father, who had divorced his mother and was now living with three other wives in another province.

Abu loved his children, yet Fowzia was concerned. Abu had begun to beat Salie and Rachmat excessively and for the smallest in-



cident. Now the children no longer ran to daddy when he returned home. They became reticent and reserved. Abu sensed this rejection and tended to beat and swear at them more harshly.

Fowzia read an article about Safeline and

phoned. Counselling began and Abu unpacked the skeletons from the family closet. When Abu was six his father had held his hands against a nest of black ants until he could no longer scream — a punishment because he had eaten some forbidden food at a friend's house.

He also recalled being beaten four days in a row (at about 11 years of age). His father used a belt, a tightly rolled newspaper and finally a thick strap used to sharpen the razors in the family barber shop. Until he left home at 16 years of age, Abu was a regular victim of his father's abuse, "I wonder," mused Abu "how far it would have gone had my uncle not seen my plight and taken me in."

The counsellor responded, "I wonder, Abu, how far you would have gone if your wife had not contacted us."

## Services, therapy offered

### Counselling of Abusers

Adults who have abused children are usually referred to Safeline by the court or religious institutions. They sign a contract to commit themselves to therapy and not to abuse again. If an incident of abuse is reported they are immediately handed over to the police or the courts.

Some abusers have been victims of abuse as children. Others have a low self-esteem and are unable to establish meaningful relationships with adults. Some incidents are aggravated by substance abuse or pornography. Another cause is overcrowding and poor housing.

"We also try to help them deal more effectively with stress," says Rev Duncan.

### Education

Safeline offers an information service to schools, churches and community organisations throughout South Africa. They also run a six-point community awareness programme in people's homes on request.

This programme deals with generating awareness around the political, emotional, psycho-sexual and emotional causes and effects of child abuse. It is also an attempt to recruit volunteers for training as counsellors or assistants in the various Safeline programmes.

The aim of the educational programme is to get the community to address the rights of children.

**B**ESIDES LAUNCHING the first emergency helpline for victims of child abuse, Safeline also offers an educational service and therapy for victims and survivors.

### Adult Survivor Programme

Safeline has developed an extensive counselling programme for adult survivors. Adults call Safeline and are granted a confidential interview with Mrs Marcelle Londt, the manager of the project. They are counselled and then referred to a group where they can share experiences and develop a support network.

During therapy, survivors are helped to face the pain in a caring and supportive environment. "They are helped to deal with the memories of abuse, purging the past and mastering the pain," says Rev Bruce Duncan about the process of healing facilitated by Safeline.

The vision of Safeline is to adapt Mr Nelson Mandela's M-plan to monitor and deal with cases of child abuse in communities. "If there was one safe house in every street in South Africa where children could go if they were abused, this would obviate phone calls which admittedly many families in squatter areas do not have access to," says Duncan.

The person in the safe house will not be asked to be a judge or a prosecutor but simply a caring person who could refer a child to professional counselling centres like Safeline.

"We cannot solve problems with verbal barrages about child abuse," says Duncan. "What we need is for everybody to become part of the healing process."

If you need help call the following number, day or night: 261100





**PARENTAL POWER:** Daily protests have been staged at a Tafelsig school. PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

## Angry parents allege 'abuse of children'

South 28/11 - 4/12/91

By Heather Robertson

OVER a hundred angry parents met last Thursday at the Nicro centre in Mitchells Plain to launch a campaign to "clean up" a Tafelsig Primary School where they say children have been abused.

The parents have been holding daily placard protests outside Littlewood Primary School since the beginning of the week. Many parents complained about the vulgar language teachers use when addressing children while others spoke about more serious cases of

physical abuse.

One parent said her child was hit across the genitals while a child with a broken finger was hit so badly on his wrist that it went out of joint. The parents elected a committee to address the allegations with the Department of Education and Culture (DEC). The committee requested a meeting with parents and teachers but was refused.

Parents were dissatisfied with the DEC's explanation that the matter was still being investigated and have decided to embark on further action.

Since Friday parents have been holding a placard demonstration outside

the school and are planning a march with the South African Democratic Teachers Union on December 4.

Since the issue has been highlighted, parents in the committee report their children have been victimised. One parent, Mrs Elvira Adams, said her son was told children whose parents had demonstrated would not receive reports at the end of the year.

Department of Education and Culture spokesperson Mr Hennie Jansen reiterated that the allegations of parents are under investigation. The principal of the school has refused to comment on the allegations.

# Boost for child health study group

By Zingisa Mkhuma

(298) (11/9)  
A major fried chicken outlet this week donated a minibus to the Birth To Ten project (BTT) which is a study group that monitors the health and development of more than 2 500 babies who were born in the vicinity of Johannesburg during 1990.

The project, which was initiated by the University of the Witwatersrand, the Medical Research Council, Unisa, the Johannesburg City Health Department, Soweto and Diepmeadow City Councils, will study the health and progress of the toddlers — who are now 18 months old — every six months, until they reach the age of 10.

Professor Noel Cameron of

the Wits Medical School who received the minibus on behalf of the BTT project said during the last two years it had been difficult to keep track of all the children and their mothers who were involved in the study.

"The vehicle will enable us to collect the mothers and babies and to bring them to the clinic for interviews.

"We will also be able to feed the information to the health services at a quicker rate than we did before," Dr Cameron said.

Dr Cameron warned that urbanisation was increasing on an unprecedented rate and was bound to have an effect on a variety of support services and especially health care in South Africa.

The project, he said, would

require considerable financial aid and BTT was expected to raise approximately R5 million by the year 2000 to complete the project.

"This is the largest study of its type to be attempted anywhere in Africa and will have profound effects on future health care policy and planning," he said.

"All the major collaborators in the project have identified over 30 research questions relating to the health and environment exposure of air pollution, parental behaviour, immunisation and health services usage.

"These children of the 90s will provide baseline knowledge that will lead to a higher quality of life for South African urban people for the foreseeable future."



## What rights do we want in the 'New' South Africa

**S**EVENTY years ago Eglantyne Jebb, a British pioneer on Children's Rights, founded the International Save the Children

campaign with the cry that children were paying the price for short-sighted economic policies, political shortcomings and wars.

In South Africa, the result of 40 years of apartheid can be seen in every walk of life: some 10 000 street children, about 100 000 child labourers, vast illiteracy and a crippling mortality rate among black children (10 times that of whites), malnourishment, homelessness, legitimised child abuse, including state sanctioned corporal punishment, and imprisonment of children. To counter this, the scrapping of apartheid legislation is only the beginning.

The scope, therefore, for protective measures and the need for a new value system, is immense in South Africa, as in other parts of the world. And that is what the United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child is all about. It was adopted two years ago and took effect in September last year.

The convention, which is recognised in international law and promoted by children campaigners as "the children's own law", gives children a higher status and accepts the principle that every state should guide its law, policies and practices in "the best interest of the child".

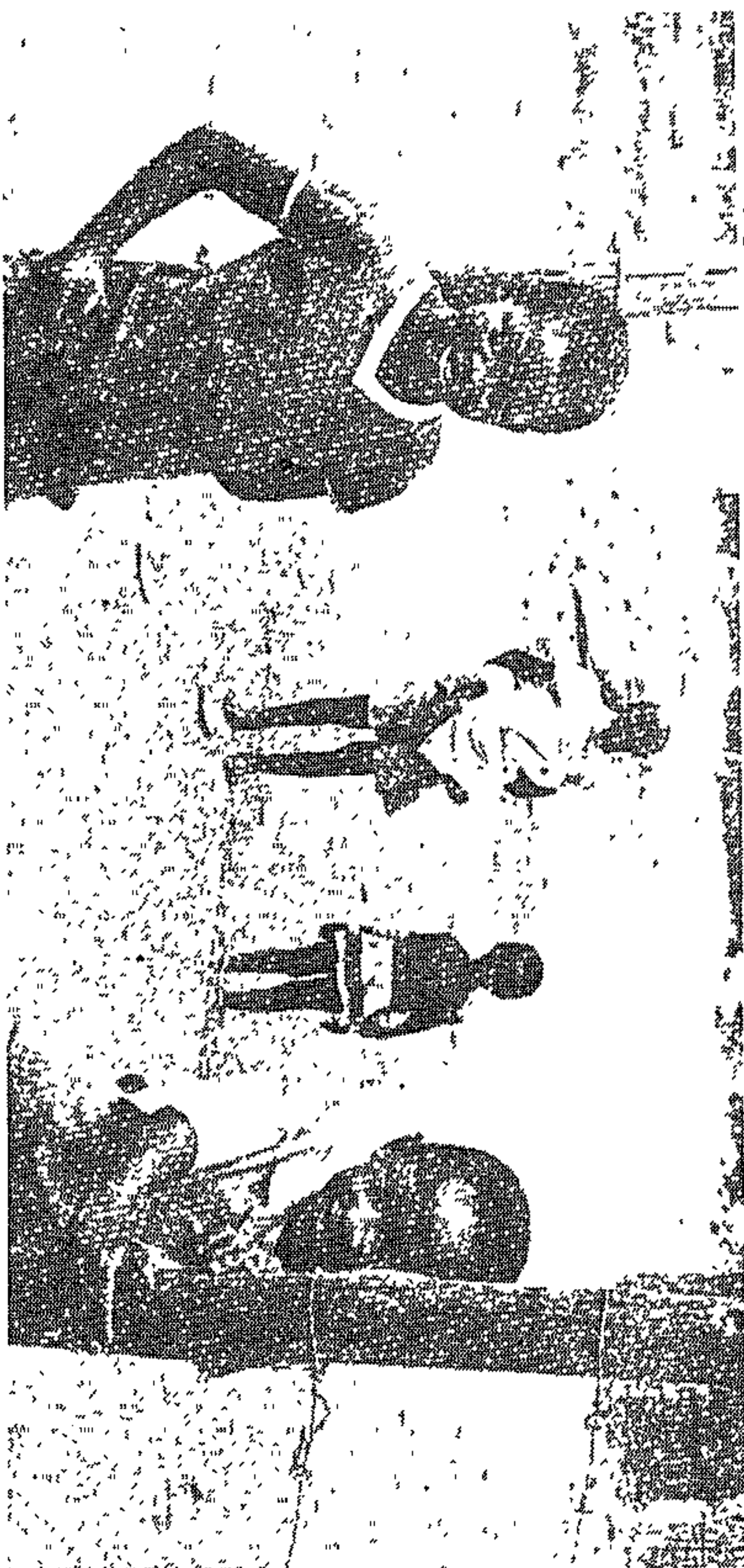
It consists of 54 paragraphs that elaborate children's right to be listened to, not to be abused, to be cared for, to have access to health and schooling, not to be discriminated against due to gender, culture and race, not to be used in wars and not to be imprisoned.

In South Africa the debate on children's rights has already made some

# Suffer little children ... until the state reacts

W | M | C | L 29 | 11 | - 5 | 12 | 91.

It's not only parents who are responsible for children, says **CHRISTER PETERSON**



The responsibility of caring for children cannot fall on the family alone

Photo: KEVIN CARTER

progress. The Law Commission report two weeks ago suggested a separate Children's Charter to be included in its Bill of Rights proposal.

In effect this means children's rights will gain further badly needed recognition here. But there is still a long way to go before the sentiments are matched by reality.

"What it really boils down to is that children don't have protection. The first step must be a Bill of Rights or children's rights and some sort of task-

force based in the larger community," said Mark van Niekerk, principal at the street children's school in Bertams, Johannesburg.

The situation among rural black children is more desperate than ever, but the state has yet to recognise this as its responsibility.

"To talk about Human Rights in the countryside is a complete joke," says Ina Perlman, executive director of Operation Hunger. She has seen no contribution from the state that has

diminished the level of malnutrition among children.

Nor has the use of child labour on farms received much attention from the authorities.

To try to come to grips with the lack of will from the government, the Johannesburg Child Welfare recently initiated a workshop on the situation. Together with most other children's organisations and the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the South African Council of Churches,

they are pushing for a comprehensive prohibition of the use of child labour and heavy sentences for those who violate it.

Nicro, the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders, is campaigning for a ban on corporal punishment. Some 31 000 people, the majority of them juveniles, were sentenced to whipping in 1989-90 and there is no sign that the practice has decreased.

Children should not be sentenced in criminal courts in the first place, according to children's lawyer Fiona McLachlan. "Children should get care, not punishment," she says.

Exactly how all this should be organised and financed, is the real stumbling block. South Africa cannot afford to extend its already limited welfare system for whites to the whole population.

"The problem today is that the state, through the Child Care Act, is putting all the responsibility on the family not to abuse and neglect their children. But you can't blame a poor person for not having food for her child.

"That sort of responsibility ultimately must be the state's," said Bridget Mabandla, of the African National Congress' Constitutional Committee.

The state's ultimate responsibility is also emphasised in the convention. But there is also strong insistence that poor countries, who obviously cannot fulfil all the convention's material demands at once, should receive international assistance. The strategy advocated by children's rights campaigners, is not to imitate the welfare states of the First World, but to rely on the support of voluntary and community organisations.

For that "we need a whole new value system", said McLachlan.



# The Work-shy Youth of SA

5 Times

1/12/91

298

THE younger generation of South Africans have either given up hope or expect to have everything handed to them on a Krugerrand platter.

This applies to elite, educated white children as well as to misinformed young blacks who expect a wealth tax to provide them with instant riches.

Matriculated young adults complain bitterly of unemployment, yet turn down job offers because of low salaries. Newly qualified graduates apply for management positions, refusing to start at the bottom and berating employers who value practical experience more highly than people who have proved they can study.

## Excuses

Any puzzled parent should think back to the well-intentioned advice: "Get an education so that you won't have to work as hard as I did." This advice, inadvertently, provides an excuse for future failure.

Making excuses is easier than working. Blaming the government, the system, spouses, employers, teachers, the unions, the boss, colleagues, favouritism, company politics and anything or anyone else that comes to mind is common.

## LOUISE HOLMAN, an industrial psychologist, makes a personal appeal for South Africa to get back to work

But developments in South Africa demand a change of attitude. This can only be achieved by being positive rather than pessimistic.

Refugee immigrants to the US did not make excuses. Starting with nothing, they worked hard to make a success of themselves and their new country. By changing our current attitudes we could be the next land of opportunity. If we could "get South Africa working", it would be a positive move forward for the country.

This is not an appeal for job creation. It is a request for every person to put in as much effort as he or she can without expecting money as a reward.

Compare the beggar child at a supermarket with a small boy who offers to push the trolley. The tip the latter receives is an example of practical, non-political wealth distribution. By reinforcing willingness to work while not rewarding the idle, every individual with a few cents to spare can improve motivation in the country.

Ideas are needed to help in this process of de-politicising work. Industrial psychologists, the professional group specialising in motivating people and getting them working, are being mobilised to come up with possible solutions for individuals to apply in combating national laziness.

Other professional groups can also call on their members for support, perhaps climbing on one day when everyone deliberately does something for nothing. A "get South Africa working" day is the opposite of a stayaway.

A few days ago I overheard two old-timers wistfully reminiscing about the time when everybody cared and worked extra hard because of the war effort and daylight-saving time.

We could look to solutions found in other countries. The Peruvian method of using empty classrooms for literacy training could be adopted by private (and modelled) schools. Singapore compels companies to reinvest four percent of their turnover in

their employees' development.

Again, there is an unrealistic view of why people succeed. We need to hear more from prominent South Africans about how hard they have worked to get where they are. Every parent who has achieved anything is a positive role model for children. Other South African examples are available for our young adults.

## Benefits

It is time for us, in the words of John F Kennedy, to stop asking what the country can do for us, and to ask instead what we can do for the country. Individuals wanting the economic situation to improve cannot afford to wait (as politicians and civil servants do) for political infrastructure to struggle through bureaucratic procedure.

We cannot expect financial and monetary policies to provide incentives. We have run out of time for predicting when we should act. In the short term we have no alternative. South Africans have to start putting in the work needed to get the benefits they want, without expecting someone else to save them the effort.

□ Louise Holman is a member of the executive committee of the Society for Industrial Psychology.



By THEMBA KHUMALO

"WHERE is my son?" asked a distraught Soweto mother, whose son, Mbuyisa, disappeared after making international front pages when he was pictured carrying Hector Peterson, the 13-year-old first victim of the June 16 uprising in 1976

Speaking from her Orlando West house, Nombulelo Makhubu, 58, sat back in a sofa and sobbed softly as she recalled the plight of her son

Mbuyisa left for exile in August 1976, two months after Peterson had died in his arms after being shot by police during a student demonstration. The shooting sparked the biggest student revolution South Africa has ever seen

Nombulelo said she was so desperate to find her son she even enlisted the help of the International Red Cross, whose efforts drew a blank from Nigeria and other African states

Nombulelo said "It's heart-breaking for me to learn that other exiles are

# The hunted boy

C/P 1/12/91



**GRIEVING MOTHER...** Nombulelo Makhubu fears for the life of her brave son, who went into exile shortly after the June 16 photograph made international headlines and Soweto exploded.

returning home and nothing is said about my son

"I last heard from him in 1978 when he wrote to tell me that he was studying at a Nigerian college

"He said he spent most of his time confined to a hospital bed," she said.

Nombulelo said she was particularly worried by disturbing reports that her son was studying, where notorious as an area where ritual murders

we were performed Someone told her it was possible Mbuyisa was murdered for multi purposes

However, Nombulelo believes that if her son is still alive, he is mentally disturbed wherever he is

"Mbuyisa had promised to keep me informed of his whereabouts," Nombulelo said.

She said Mbuyisa was forced out of the country by the police who raided

## Mother fears for son who held the dying Hector

his home almost daily. Subsequently, Nombulelo said "I'm giving this interview to City Press in a desperate attempt to locate my son. I'm appealing to anyone who has information about him to tell me, no matter how trivial"

Nombulelo is no stranger to politics Her husband, Lawrence, who was a member of the ANC, died in Kenya in 1972

He had left the country in 1963 after suffering relentless police harassment

Her second son, Ntando, is also in exile in Tanzania where he joined the medical corps of Umkhonto weSizwe He left the country in 1987 after he and five other detainees staged a dramatic escape from Pretoria Security Police cells

"I'm not really worried about Ntando because I know where he is and he will return anytime now What upsets me with Mbuyisa is that despite his international profile he has disappeared from the face of the earth and nobody can account for him," Nombulelo said.



**THAT FATEFUL DAY...** The image of Mbuyisa Makhubu carrying young Hector Peterson that shook the world.   
 Pict Courtesy THE SOWETAN



# The Unwanted Daddies

**L**OVE 'em and leave 'em. A functional philosophy for our fluctuating lifestyles — certainly a common one. Workable, too, if we leave it at that.

But there are consequences. Aside from AIDS and the standard moral outrage, the possibility of illegitimate birth is very real. Suddenly the issue is no longer one of dumping a worn-out lover — but of learning to cope with his or her presence in the rest of your life.

We're all familiar with the norm: girl gets pregnant; boy catches a plane to Paraguay; girl is left with the task of explaining the paternal absence to her child.

By law, all fathers — in or out of wedlock — are obliged to pay maintenance. If you can find them. But the unmarried father has as yet no legal access or other rights to his illegitimate kids.

This could be about to change. Along with the rise of the New Man comes a breed of male that actually does give a damn, and really wants to be part of his child's life. All very well, but for a harassed mother trying to build a new life, not necessarily good news.

And with so much emotion, anger and built-up resentment flying around, it seems difficult to remember the best interests of the child.

Take the case of Johannesburg pharmacist Harry Terezakis. For two years, he's been pestering anyone who could possibly influence a decision to change the laws. "My ex-girlfriend won't even allow me to see my daughter. She won't accept maintenance, and she's cut me out of her life."

"Next year she's getting married to someone who plans to adopt my little girl and give her his name. If that happens I'll lose my baby for ever. I'm doing everything I can to stop it, but the mother simply accuses me of harassment."

An obviously angry Angela van der Westhuizen refuses to speak. "I'm sick of this. There's a court case pending. I have nothing to say."

**E**ASY to see both sides of the story — but a lot less easy to find a solution. A Pretoria unmarried mother, Anne Mawdsley, takes a more detached view. "If I was the only one involved, I'd tell the guy to leave me alone and go away. But my daughter will want to know who her father is, and I'm obliged to honour that if I can."

"Much as I emotionally resist it, I have to admit that the father should be given some rights — for the child's sake. But that will depend on how he behaves. If he pitches up every three years for two hours, he'll just damage the child. But if he pays maintenance and behaves properly, I can't really deny the creation of a healthy bond."

Maintenance is an even thornier issue. And there are those who claim it's a separate one from access rights. Because irrespective of who sees the child, he has to be maintained.

*The plight of the unmarried mother has been discussed at length. But now the fathers who currently have no rights at all over their children are wanting a say. LINDA SHAW looks at the possibility of a new law proposing to share out the kids*

*Sunday Times 1/12/91*

Durban lawyer David van Onsele, currently knee-deep in the campaign for unmarried fathers' rights, says the maintenance issue is a separate matter.

"True, the maintenance question is not well handled, and probably needs to be re-assessed. Women spend fruitless humiliating hours in maintenance courts where there's little sympathy for their plight. But that's not the point here. I think, if the father is behaving properly, he should, in the interests of the child, be able to see it."

Spurred on by the laments of a client, David has formed TUFF (The Unmarried Fathers' Fight) and applied to parliament for a new law. The suggestion is that each case be assessed individually, and, if the father proves his worth, he should be given the same rights as a divorced man.

**T**HE proposed Bill is currently in the hands of the Law Commission. Its investigator Willie Schroeder tells us, "We're researching the situation in other parts of the world. In America, for instance, the father has the same rights as a divorced man."

"But in England, each case is assessed individually. We're looking at the applications to our own situation. The law should come before parliament some time next year."

Anne Mawdsley has a possible solution. Having spent some years in Iceland, she found, "this situation is the norm there and there's no stigma attached. People often get married very late, long after they've had several children. It's not a big deal. But the government automatically deducts maintenance from the man's salary and adds it to the mother's. There's no discussion — and hence no arguments. From there it's up to the mother to grant access rights — which she generally does. When there's no pent-up bitterness, it's possible to be a lot more pragmatic."

**M**EANWHILE, our own thorny issue continues to worry at the collective conscience. Members of the ANC are at present attending a United Nations convention in Lagos in the hope of clarifying the details of a future Bill of Rights.

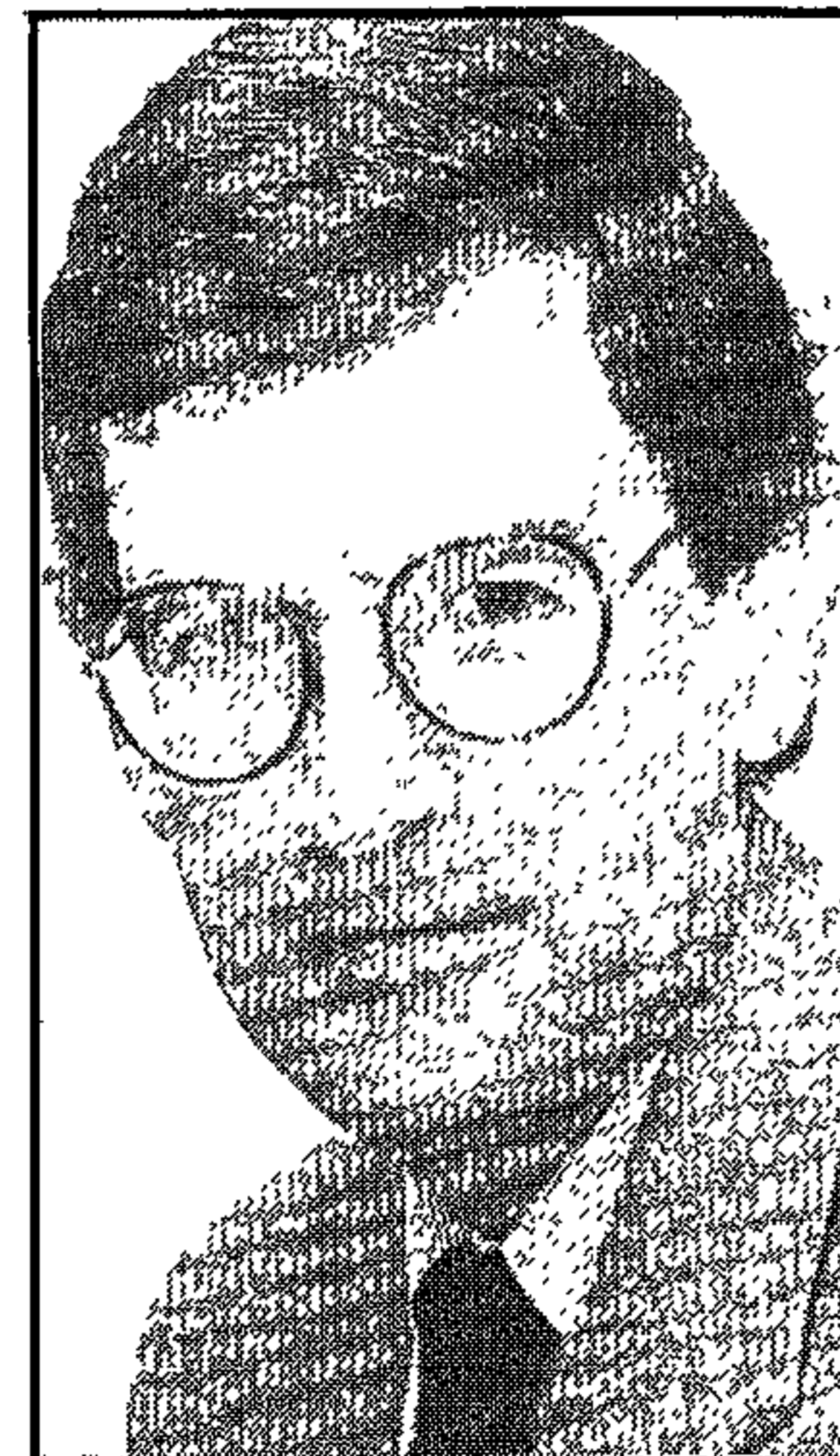
A major factor to be considered is a children's charter — something we are as yet short of — to detail the rights of children. The ANC is hoping to adopt a modified version of the existing UN charter to our own circumstances.

Among other things, the question of unmarried parents is covered in detail. And since the kids are unable to speak for themselves, it's up to the adults to determine their best interests.

A difficult one. Driekie Moutinho, deputy director of the National Council for Mental Health, says the issue largely depends on the attitude of the mother.

"We see similar problems in the case of adopted children. If the mother is secretive or resentful with the child's questions, the child will be forced to find his own ways of dealing with the pain. But if the mother is open and honest, children can adapt to almost any situation — often a lot better than we think they will."

An interesting point. And one to be borne in mind as we fight with our egos and our pride. If we're able to put those aside for a while, perhaps we'll be in a more rational frame of mind to assess the needs of our kids.



DAVID VAN ONSELEN: Proposed a new law. Picture: HORACE POTTER



# Look after our children - they're the future

## CHILDREN ARE VULNERABLE

As pedestrians or passengers in vehicles, children are at a disadvantage on the road because of their physical and other limitations.

In 1989 more than 3 500 child passengers were injured and 378 killed in vehicles. There were 5 659 child pedestrians injured and 950 killed in the same year.

## THE CHILD PEDESTRIAN

A child is physically small and cannot see over rises on the road or parked cars, nor can the child be seen by motorists.

Unlike adults, children cannot yet see through the corners of their eyes. Therefore, he or she could step off the pavement into the path of a vehicle.

At that age, they are unable to identify the direction from which sound comes, nor can they estimate speed or distance. For example, if an approaching truck becomes larger, to them this does not necessarily mean it is getting closer.

Children are very impulsive and unpredictable. They will walk directly in the path of a car. Drivers should be on the look-out for little ones who may run into the road, especially near parks and schools.

Children usually concentrate on one thing only at a time and only for a short spell. For example, if a ball rolls across the road, a child will simply rush after it without thinking about anything else.

If they do happen to think about the rules of the road before running after the ball, they may forget about them the moment they see a friend across the street.

## THE CHILD PASSENGER

Children are exposed to serious head injuries when they are involved in road accidents if they are not buckled up.

This is because a child's head is heavier than the rest of the body and this part of the child is hurled forward in the event of a crash or emergency stop.

Even if there is no collision, when a driver brakes suddenly an unrestrained child can suffer serious injury.

Remember, even if children know the traffic rules, they may not apply them. Since they have not adequately developed intellectually, terms like safe and dangerous do not really mean much to them.

## THE CHILD CYCLIST

Research has proved that children must first reach the age of 13 before they achieve the skills to handle a bicycle properly.

A total of 806 children were involved in pedal-cycle accidents in 1989 and 767 of them were seriously injured and 39 died.

Never allow a child under the age of eight to enter traffic on bicycles.

Main causes of injuries, usually head and neck injuries resulting in death, to child cyclists are mistakes by the cyclist, environmental factors like visibility and poor road conditions and poor design and maintenance of the bicycle.

## TEACH YOUR CHILD

It is the parents and other relatives whose teaching will have the most impact on the child. What he learns from you could save his life, or it could result in tragedy.

Start road safety education as early as possible. Whenever you are out with your child, exercise road safety drills for him or her, explaining as you do them and identifying road signs.

Do not send children alone on errands or to school, especially if they have to cross a road.

Teach them why they have to look right, left and right again, otherwise this is as good as another rhyme from nursery school. The child may think that after saying it, crossing the road will be safe.

Do not scold or hit the children when they do not follow the rules. This will upset and confuse them. If you must scold, always explain clearly what has been done wrong.

# Safety on the road

Sowetan  
2/12/91

(298)

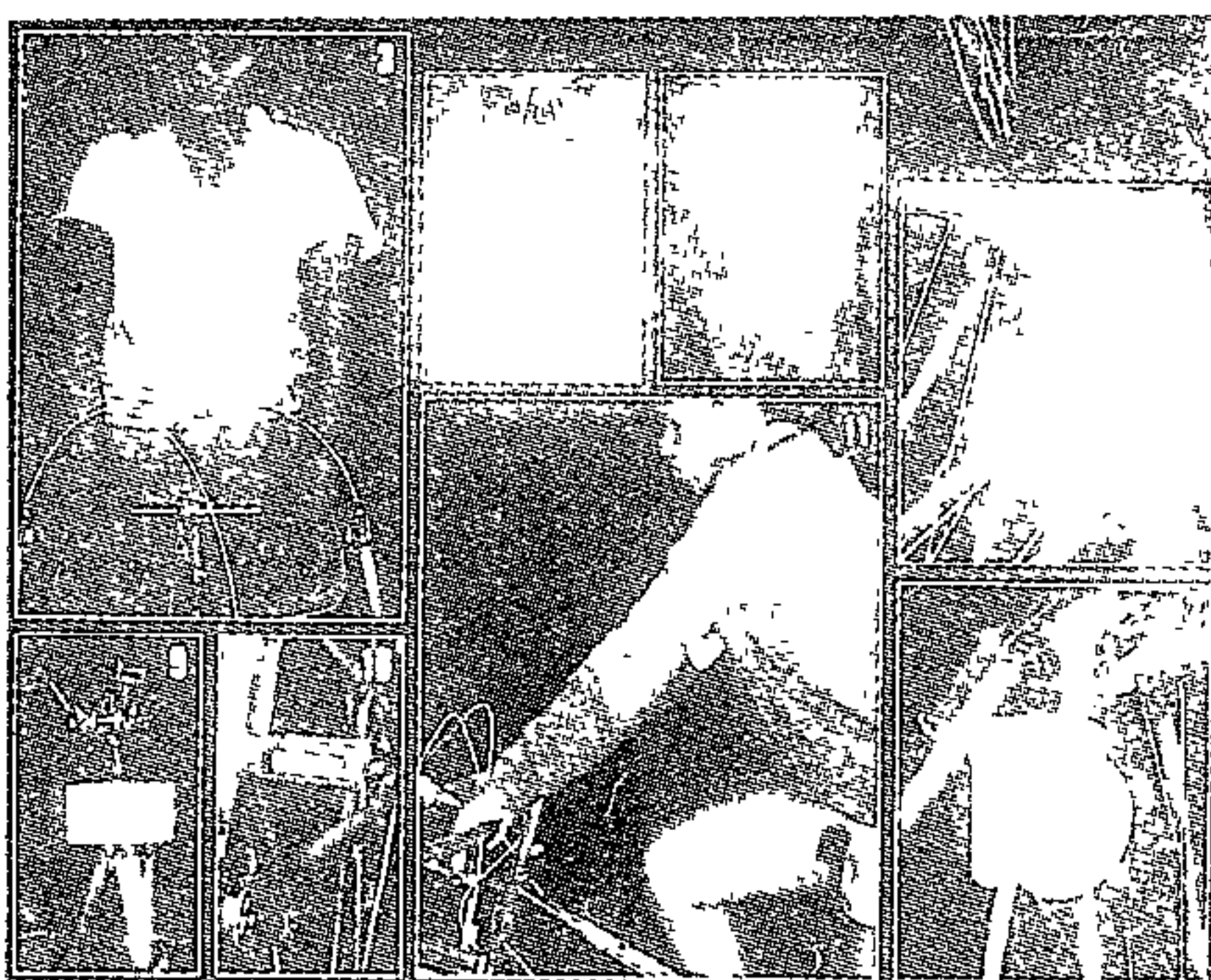
**This is the first of a six-part series on child safety - brought to you by Sowetan, Mobil and the Child Accident Prevention Foundation.**

**Special emphasis will be placed on children's safety, to avoid having your holiday ruined by a tragic accident. This section is a must for every parent.**

**Holiday festivities turn into tragedies for many families because of horrifying road accidents which claim hundreds of children's lives every year. You should never go through this ordeal.**

**Research shows that a child under eight years has not yet developed enough mentally and physically to be able to cope with the complexity of traffic.**

**In 1989 road accidents claimed the lives of 1 393 children aged 14 years of age or younger in South Africa. In 1988 there were 156 fewer deaths.**



**BEWARE: Keep your eyes open for that child.**

## PREVENTING ACCIDENTS

While it is accepted that drivers will take the necessary precautions to prevent road accidents, it is the responsibility of parents to secure their children's safety.

Dress your child in bright or reflective colours to ensure he or she can be seen in traffic.

Use reins if you must take your child shopping. This is not cruelty, but protection for your child because he or she will have a little bit of extra freedom while you maintain full control.

A child passenger must be buckled up with an SABS-approved child restraint. An adult's lap is not safe. When a collision occurs, they will be flung forward with such force that an adult

will not be unable to hold them.

Do not use one seat belt for you and the child. In a collision or a sudden stop, the belt will jerk and lock. The adult will still move forward, weighing heavily against the child and crushing the little one against the dashboard.

Make sure your children wear crash helmets when cycling and that they wear light and bright clothes - to be seen with ease.

It is advisable to have a bell or hooter on the cycle, as well as lights, so that the cyclist can be visible to motorists at night or in bad weather.

Ensure children have received proper training and instruction on cycling in traffic if they are already intellectually and physically ready for it.

The bicycle must be well maintained and serviced regularly so that brakes and chains are always in order.

## PRECAUTIONS

With the limited space in township yards in which children can play, it may seem too much to ask parents to stop children playing in the streets. But it is one of the best precautions you can take for your child. Here are some useful hints:

- Try to provide attractive play areas within your premises and ensure adequate fencing to prevent children from straying into the road;

- Discourage ball games near the road because the ball may bounce or roll and lure the child into danger;

- Arrange outings for children or club-in with other parents in the community to build a fenced-in playground, using old tyres and drain pipes for the children to play on;

- Do not allow your child to cycle on the road, especially if he is under the age of eight.

## WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Children behave very recklessly or stupidly when they are near roads. Therefore, the law places the heavy responsibility of special care and awareness on the motorist in the proximity of children.

But court cases usually mean a child has been hurt or, worse still, killed, and it should never get to that stage.

The degree of special care required depends on the following factors:

- The younger a child, the heavier the burden to drive with care, in order to cope with sudden and irresponsible behaviour from the child;

- The motorist must at all times expect the child to suddenly run into the road. He must thus keep his car under control so that he will be able to stop immediately in an emergency;

- He is expected to keep a proper look-out for children on both sides of the road. He is liable if he fails to see children when he should have, especially if he is driving in the vicinity of a school.

In one such case a judge said: "It is well settled and accords with humanity and common sense that a motorist approaching children near the edge of the road ought to drive with a degree of special care and vigilance because of children's tendency sometimes to dash heedlessly across the road."

"To hold otherwise would be to put an old head on young shoulders and to assume that they (children) will look before they leap."

## Telephone Box

★★★★ EMERGENCY NUMBERS ★★★★★

### TRANSVAAL:

**Poison Control Centre - (011) 642-2417**  
**Johannesburg General Hospital - (011) 488-3108**

### FREE STATE:

**Universitas (emergency) (051) 475-353**

### CAPE:

**Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital - (021) 689-5227**  
**Tygerberg Hospital - (021) 931-6129**

★★★★ EMERGENCY NUMBERS ★★★★★

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**Sowetan is  
Nation Building**



## Thousands treated to musical extravaganza

LAGOS — Pop stars from America, the Caribbean and Africa treated a 15 000-strong crowd to a Saturday night music extravaganza at a Lagos stadium to raise money for African children.

The US groups Kool and the Gang and the Commodores, Jamaican reggae group Third World and Cameroonian Manu Dibango were among the entertainers.

"It's a great night for Africa," said Thali Mseleku (22), a South African studying in Nigeria.

Onwuka Kalu, the Nigerian president of "Children of Africa", which sponsored the show, said the concert was part of a series of events to raise \$250 million (R700 000) in a year to help African children.

"This is an African initiative by Africans to help themselves," said Mr Kalu.

One African child in every six dies before the age of five from such treatable ailments as di-

arrhoea and malnutrition. Most African governments are hard pressed to meet the needs of youngsters who form the majority of their populations.

The Saturday concert was Nigeria's biggest since the 1977 Festival of Arts and Culture.

"I feel it's important to support an event like this for the children of Africa," said Rita Marley, singer and wife of the late reggae superstar Bob Marley.

Some of the black American singers who were unable to take part in the concert, including Stevie Wonder, will dedicate tracks and film footage of their music for a Children of Africa video to be sold to US television networks to raise money.

But, despite the attraction of watching the pop stars perform live, there were empty terraces in the 60 000-capacity stadium on Saturday because of the R20 cost of admission. — Sapa-Reuter.



# NEWS

## STAR 3/12/91 Council urged to give street children priority over Fort

By Shirley Woodgate (298) overseas support.

Shelter for Johannesburg's estimated 5 000 street children deserved priority over the creation of museums and tourist attractions, says Streetwise co-ordinator Stanley Dhlamini.

Commenting on multi-million-rand plans to revamp the Hillbrow Fort as a series of museums, a venue for music productions and the headquarters of the Transvaal Scottish, Mr Dhlamini said R6,5 million for an amenity to commemorate the past could be better spent on housing children of the future.

Streetwise manager Mark van Niekerk said his organisation, which houses about 60 boys in an old church in Pageview, was forced to rely largely on public hand-outs, donations from churches, and limited

overseas support. "Most of these homeless boys congregate in the suburbs surrounding the historic showpiece and there is little doubt the tourists attracted to the Fort will eventually be harassed by these youngsters unless they can be accommodated."

Fort Foundation vice chairman Ian Crowther said the historical monument — once a prison — was totally unsuitable for housing children.

"Possibly once we have reached our goals by 1993, we will generate funds for deserving welfare organisations such as Streetwise," he said.

Johannesburg management committee member Paul Asherson said the city council paid R4 000 monthly towards the Twilight Children operation in Hillbrow, and invited Streetwise to apply for a council grant.

# Cop's alleged abuse is probed

*Sowetan* 5/12/91 248

**POLICE** have opened a docket against a Messina policeman who allegedly kicked a youth welded to a steel table near the town last year.

Far Northern Transvaal Police spokesman, Captain Cas Jones, said yesterday that investigations were still being conducted. The docket would be sent to the

By MATHATHA  
TSEDU

Attorney-General after completion of the investigation.

The policeman, who has not been identified, had not been suspended and was still working, Jones said.

The investigation followed evidence in the trial of a white farmer, Johan

van der Westhuisen, who welded a 15-year-old youth, to a steel table at Hayoma farm, Tshipise.

The youth, described as a reliable witness who had impressed the court with his honesty, told the court that after he was welded and set alight by Van der Westhuisen, the latter had called a policeman who arrived in an open Isuzu van.

He told the court that the policeman had kicked him as he sat slumped on the floor, still welded to the steel table, and laughed. He said the policeman later handcuffed his burnt hands, and pulled him up, before loading him into the back of the van. He was then manacled to the body of the van which drove him to Messina.

He was taken to the Messina police station

where, he said, he was kept for several hours before being taken to hospital. He had suffered second degree burns to his body, which needed more than four months of hospitalisation, a doctor testified.

When *Sowetan* first approached the police for confirmation after the incident in December last year, they said it had happened accidentally while Van der Westhuisen was welding near the manacled youth. The police said they were, then, not investigating any case against Van der Westhuisen.

Police investigations against Van der Westhuisen only started after *Sowetan* insisted that police check the youth's version of the events. The farmer was later charged with attempted murder.



# Don't let ignorance kill a child

Sowetan 5/12/91

298

**EVERY** year thousands of children are killed and injured in accidents at home or away.

The *Sowetan*, the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of South Africa and Mobil is bringing you a free six-part weekly pull-out-and-keep safety series. The first part of the series - on road safety - appeared on Monday and is a must for every parent.

The series will cover other safety hints, including the prevention of burns, poisoning, drowning, choking or suffocation and sexual abuse.

It will also provide you with a list of organisations you can contact for help and you will be able to keep it for future refer-

*Women*

By PEARL MAJOLA

ence.

More than 3 000 children under the age of 15 years die in South Africa because of injuries resulting from exposure to the above and other dangers.

Often injuries occur because parents are ignorant of what their children are capable of doing. Don't kill your child with your ignorance.

PATRICK BULGER

ABOUT 600 ANC children — most of them orphans — will return from Tanzania to SA next week, but there are no homes waiting for them. *away 6/12/91*

The children will be on board the first UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) repatriation flight.

Ranging in age from toddlers to high school pupils, they are the children of ANC parents who died in exile or in guerrilla combat against the SA government.

ANC repatriation head Jackie Selebi said yesterday the children, from the ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College, faced an uncertain future as no place had been found for them to stay.

They were due to return home earlier

## No homes found for returning orphans

this year and be accommodated at Hillview school in Pretoria. The school was bombed twice by right-wingers and an alternative venue had still to be found.

About 320 older children were brought back from Tanzania last month and were living with their next of kin.

Selebi criticised government for providing humanitarian aid to other southern African countries but not for the children.

The UNHCR will repatriate about 1 000 people from Tanzania this month, bringing to 8 000 the number of people who will have returned from exile this year.



# Look after our children - they're the future

During hot summer days, any pool of water promises a tantalising cool swim for your child, but it could potentially be deadly unless you take precautions and become water wise.

Everyone thinks it won't happen to me so consider this - it only takes 4cm of water and 30 seconds to two minutes for a baby to drown

Over 500 children drown every year in South Africa, averaging more than one child a day. Drowning is second only to road accidents as a cause of unnatural death for children under 15.

In addition to swimming pools, children drown in baths, buckets, ponds, dams, canals, rivers, paddling pools, lagoons and even in drains and toilets. So something right in your home could be hazardous and cost your baby its life.

An alarming number of children have drowned in nappy buckets. Led by curiosity, a baby may tumble in head first and not have the strength or co-ordination to pull himself out.

Often children who enjoy their bath are attracted to water without any accompanying fear.

The pre-scholar, particularly the two to three-year-old, is an explorer who lacks understanding of the abstract concept of danger or safety. Even if he appears to agree and accept warnings, he may act contrary to them within the next minute.

## Silent and quick

Drowning may be silent and quick. Most drownings occur during a few minutes of parental inattention. Ironically, parents are often only steps away, but the one parent thinks the child is with the other parent.

The Golden Rule is: Never leave a child unattended near open water.

The hazard is in your home, only you can prevent a tragedy. The prevention strategy may be divided into active and passive measures. The two are complementary and neither is sufficient on its own.

Never leave a child under five years alone in the bath. If the phone or doorbell rings while you are bathing the child, ignore it or take the child with you. Use a non-slip mat in the bath.

Never leave buckets or other containers full of water around the house. Empty buckets, tubs, paddling pools and other water containers after use. If you must leave water in them, close them tightly with a lid or lock them away.

Teach babies to float and children to swim as soon as possible, but never leave them alone.

## Lock the pool gate

But remember that buoyancy swimming aids like tubs, are strictly limited to the function of aiding and cannot replace constant supervision.

Check accessibility to neighbours' pools and teach your child never to play in or near any pool away from home without your knowledge or approval. One-third of all drownings occur in neighbours' pools.

Don't allow cycling, running, pushing or other rough play in the pool area.

Always lock the pool gate.

The whole family should learn rescue methods and first aid, especially resuscitation.

Never let your child dive into unfamiliar water where they may dive into submerged rocks or a shallow bottom and be injured.

## Survival skills

Teach children survival skills. The child needs to know how to cope if caught in a current, float to conserve energy, tread water or use clothes to make floats. This will help a child trapped in a container where he can't swim out like a water cistern. Even if your child is not ready to swim, he can learn to float.

Swimming pools must be properly fenced and have a childproof lock on the gate which should never be left open.

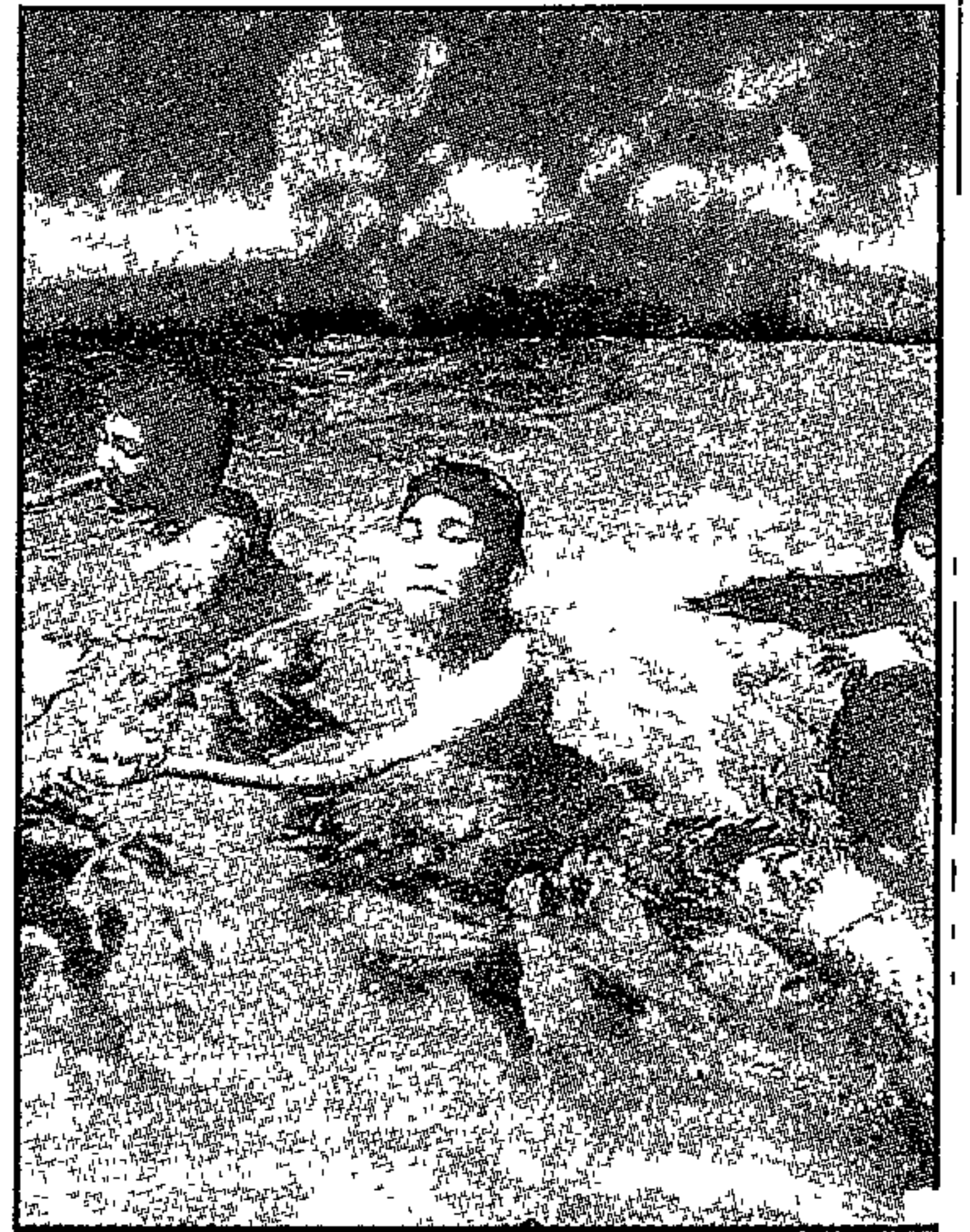
Pool nets are highly recommended to provide additional safety. They must, however, be correctly installed. A proper safety net must always be well above the level of the water.

Wells and ponds on your property should be adequately covered and beware of pools, deep puddles and ditches after rain.

# Deadly waters

Sowetan 9/12/91 (298)

**THIS is the second of a six-part weekly safety series brought to you by Mobil, the Child Accident Prevention Foundation and Sowetan. This week we look at drowning and how you can prevent this tragedy from happening to you.**



**DANGER:** The common swimming pool, where tragedy lurks.

## All it takes is 4cm of water and 30 seconds for a child to drown

It is equally important to teach your child what to do if he finds himself in danger. The first rule here is for him to keep calm. He should do the following until help comes:

- Raise one arm and call for help
- Tread water or float
- Look around for something buoyant to cling to
- He should never try to swim against the current
- In the sea, swim parallel with the beach
- In a river, swim diagonally with the flow.
- A cramp in the leg can be relieved by firmly pressing the area or by straightening the leg and forcing the toes upward toward the knee.

Considering that you cannot completely "drown-proof" your child, what then must you do if he is in danger?

Don't let other children jump in to help because often this leads to a double tragedy.

Unless the child is already under water, don't jump in. Instead, throw the child something that floats or offer a long object for him to hold on to.

## Send for help

Send for help immediately.

If you must go in, take something for the child to hold on to rather than let him grab you.

Start rescue breathing immediately where necessary. Continue with this and resuscitation until medical help arrives.

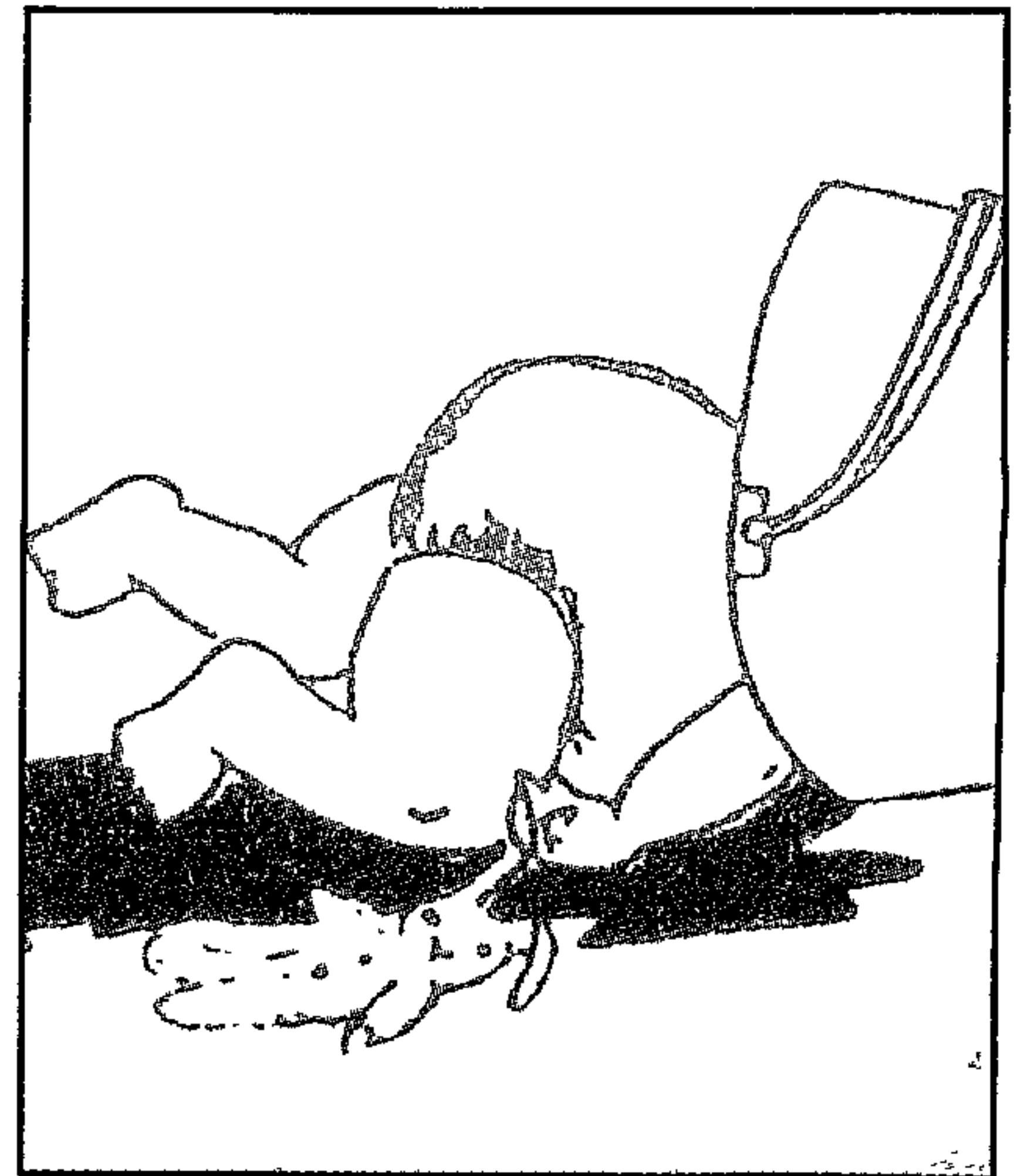
Pools should be equipped with basic rescue devices like a floatable pole longer than half the pool's width, a ring buoy attached to a rope and a first aid kit. These should be kept stored in a shed or other protective area near the pool and reserved for emergency use only.

The legend of the boy who cried wolf should be known to all. If you haven't told your child this story, do so immediately and prevent him from repeating that mistake.

St John's Ambulance Service runs pool owners' courses free of charge. Phone (021) 23 3140.

The South African Water Safety Association also runs pool owners' courses. Write to them at PO Box 5126, Johannesburg or phone them in Durban at (031) 482 421, Cape Town (021) 77 8131 or Bloemfontein (051) 83 636.

Contact the Child Accident Prevention Foundation for a free leaflet on Drown Prevention and other educational material. It can be ordered from c/o Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, Rondebosch, 7700 or phone (021) 65 4103, extension 19, 20 or 24.



**DANGER:** Even a bucket full of water can be deadly.

## Telephone Box

\*\*\*\*\* EMERGENCY NUMBERS \*\*\*\*\*

### TRANSVAAL:

**Poison Control Centre - (011) 642-2417**  
**Johannesburg General Hospital - (011) 488-3108**

### FREE STATE:

**Universitas (emergency) (051) 475-353**

### CAPE:

**Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital - (021) 689-5227**  
**Tygerberg Hospital - (021) 931-6129**

\*\*\*\*\* EMERGENCY NUMBERS \*\*\*\*\*

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# Orphans' Russian donation pays dividends

PRETORIA orphans have cracked open their piggy banks and asked President F W de Klerk to hand over the proceeds, reciprocating a Russian donation to the school 84 years ago.

The Rev Deon Louw, director of public affairs at the Abraham Kriel Orphans Home, said yesterday a number of children at the school had decided to make a contribution to a similar institution in Russia. The children had collected R1 724 to help repay a debt to Russia, which had contributed to the school's establishment in 1907.

According to the school's 1907 annual

report, an amount of £7 352, received from Russia and other countries, was used to buy a farm to feed and provide work for the pupils.

The report says the donations, which came from Germany, the Netherlands and even from "sorely tried (*zwaar-geteisterd*) Russia", were "a source of great encouragement in our work".

It does not mention specific donors or how much of the money came from Russia.

A spokesman for De Klerk confirmed

yesterday that his office was ascertaining what Russian institution might best benefit from the donation.

Louw said the children at the school had decided to donate their pocket money, which was to have been used for an outing, to help alleviate suffering in Russia, which is facing severe food and other shortages. Members of a local church then also decided to make a contribution.

When officials at Gold Reef City, venue for the proposed outing, heard about the children's gesture, it was decided to allow the children to visit for free



# Inkatha youth jailed for murder

*298*  
*11/12/91*

AN Inkatha youth leader who was under 18 years of age when he shot a policeman and killed two men, was jailed for 18 years by Mr Justice McLaren in the Maritzburg Supreme Court yesterday.

Bhekeyakhe Shelembe (20) of Haza Township near Edendale, was jailed for six years for the attempted murder of Sergeant Johannes Wolfaard by wounding him with shotgun pellets on the night of December 21 1989.

He was sentenced to 12 years on each of two murders by shooting father and son, Mr Sibusiso Ntshangase and Mr Amon

## Own Correspondent

Ntshangase, at their home at Haza on January 3 1990.

These 12-year sentences are to run concurrently with each other.

The offences were committed against a background of rife violence. The judge said the duties which Wolfaard was carrying out were aimed at reducing the violence.

A policeman in his position was entitled to the protection of the law, which included severe sentences upon conviction.

An attack upon the Ntshangase home in which the two men were shot dead was planned and carried out by a group of armed men, of

whom Shelembe seemed to be the leader.

The judge said it appeared that the attack was politically motivated as it was probable that the Ntshangases were members or supporters of the ANC.

If it was politically inspired, the object seemed to be to drive the Ntshangases out of the area populated mainly by Inkatha supporters.

On the other hand the attack might have been to avenge some act for which Shelembe and others blamed the ANC and its supporters.

The judge said the members of those communities should realise the value of human life.

# Orphans among returned exiles

PATRICK BULGER

A GROUP of exiles arrived back in SA yesterday morning in search of jobs, schools and homes that a society straining under economic recession will be hard pressed to provide.

The 120 exiles — ranging from children to teenagers to men and women who fled SA 30 years ago — arrived on board a chartered Air Tanzania flight. They were the first batch of exiles to arrive under the auspices of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), whose SA chief of mission Kallu Kalumiyia said the exercise had "gone almost without a hitch".

The exiles were met at Jan Smuts airport by ANC welfare head Winnie Mandela and the wife of ANC chairman Oliver Tambo, Adelaide Tambo.

The exiles were almost all from the ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Tanzania and included orphaned children who were to have returned earlier this year and be housed at Pretoria's Hillview school until this was twice bombed by right wingers.

ANC welfare official Dali Mphofu said yesterday the ANC was mindful of the

threat posed to the children in the light of the Hillview bombings. He said the children in the group had been brought back during school holidays to give the ANC time to accommodate them at a new school in SA.

One of the exiles, plumber William Twala, 61, said he had been out of the country for 30 years and that he thought things were now changing in SA. He said he was so excited he had not been able to sleep for three days before leaving.

But even as the exiles beamed optimism and excitement, there was a realisation among officials that it would not be easy to find jobs, homes and schools for the exiles who arrived with high expectations.

They were taken to a Hillbrow hotel where they will stay for a few days while attempts are made to place them with families.

□ Sapa reports ANC president Nelson Mandela returned to SA from his US visit yesterday.



Nonhlanhla Alset, 11, was among 120 exiles who arrived in SA yesterday under the auspices of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.  
Picture ROBERT BOTHA



# Teenagers jailed for murder

(298)  
By Susan Smuts

STAR 12/12/91

Three Edenvale teenagers who "brutally and senselessly" killed a black man in an early morning attack were yesterday jailed for an effective six years, while a fourth was jailed for an effective four years.

Brian Derek Scheepers (19), Brenden Greig Hastings (18), Craig Lambton-Carr (19) and Gary Richard Martin (19) hit Sicelo William Mbethe with a hammer, hockey stick and other objects and stabbed him and knocked him over with a car at 5 am on May 26 last year. Mr Mbethe, who was walking to work when he was attacked, died on the scene, leaving a wife and baby.

Hastings, who was 17-years-old at the time of the crime, was sentenced to

eight years in jail, with four years suspended for five years, while the others were sentenced to 12 years with six suspended.

Their youth and the fact that they were all first offenders were principal mitigating factors, Mr Justice J C Labuschagne said in the Rand Supreme Court. Alcohol had also played a role.

"Your actions during the fatal attack proved you knew what you were doing."

The crime had been committed on the spur of the moment, rather than being pre-planned, and the four had all shown genuine remorse. Although they had not gone to the police to confess their deed, they co-operated after their arrest, the judge said.

Aggravating circumstances included the "brutal and senseless" nature of the at-

tack and the fact they all came from "structurally normal, supportive, functioning family backgrounds".

"You chased him, knocked him down with a car, attacked him with a hammer, knife and hockey stick. You stabbed him while he was crying out in pain," the judge said.

He hoped the four would take advantage of the educational facilities in prison.

None of the four explained to the court why the attack took place, the judge added.

While there was no doubt society condemned "this despicable behaviour", it was highly unlikely that they would end up in a similar situation again, the judge said. They had probably "suffered severely" in the 18 months since committing the crime, he added.

# In the best interests<sup>298</sup> of the child

S/Times 15/12/91

**F**OR 18 months pharmacist Harry Terezakis has been fighting for access to his baby daughter.

Under present laws, unmarried fathers have no rights at all — although, as ERGO reported recently, access rights are currently under consideration by the Law Commission.

The case of Harry Terezakis, however, indicates that attitudes, at least, are changing.

This week a Supreme Court judge, Mr Justice Streicher, granted limited visiting privileges to a jubilant Harry.

Harry's lawyer, Mr Martin Hurwitz, was cautiously optimistic. "I can't say that a precedent has been set, because it's possible this judgment was affected by the facts of this particular case. Thus far, I'm led to believe that there seems to be a leaning, at least in the Transvaal, towards ensuring a bond is created between both parents and child.

"In the Cape, I understand, unmarried fathers are still being totally shut out."

**F**OR Harry though, the fight continues. "This is a victory for all our children.

They have the right to know both their parents. But I won't stop until South Africa has signed the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Children Charter."

Having examined the SA Law Commission's proposed bill of rights, Harry said, "there are only six sentences to cover the rights of the child. These are grossly inadequate".

"A detailed charter for children has been unanimously accepted by all UN countries — including many of our neighbours. I can't understand why South Africa has to write its own when there's a perfectly acceptable document available to us."

Nevertheless, a victory is a victory. "We tend to be so dismissive of our legal system. But one thing I've learnt is that if you persevere — even against all the odds — the judicial system will come through for the common man.

"Now I can see my daughter and she'll know her real father. That has to be worth the fight."

Linda Shaw



**HARRY TEREZAKIS**  
Fighting for access rights





**DESPERATE . . .** Principal Majane Tladi and matron Julia Tladi outside the home which will have to close if more funds are not made available.

## Dumped kids put strain on home 298

By ELIAS MALULEKE  
and JUSTICE MOGALE

15/12/91

EMNDENI Children's Home for destitute children in Soweto is on the verge of collapse because many parents are dumping their children there, severely straining the financial resources of the home.

One of the saddest tales is that of a helpless, paralysed and mentally retarded child who was left at the gate of the home last month.

More than 10 children are dumped at the gates of the home by uncaring parents every month and as a result, the oldest home in Soweto for destitute children is now faced with a heavy financial burden and may have to close.

According to the principal, Majane Samuel Tladi, who oversees a staff of 14, there are already more than the maximum capacity of 60 abused and neglected children in the home.

He said the home was overflowing and there was not enough room for one more child.

"We are forced to turn back many other needy kids because we cannot cater for all of them in the present economic climate," said Tladi.

He said poverty-stricken families took advantage of the home and "dumped" their children there or, at police stations where the parents were reported as "unknown" in order to have them placed.

"Some of them simply dump their children at the gate and disappear, forcing us to care for the helpless child. This is straining our meagre financial resources.

"We need at least R30 to maintain one child a day and all the money we receive is from welfare authorities and a government subsidy which comes to a total of R204 a child a month.

"As a result of having to care for other children who have not yet been authorised to stay here, we are stretching our financial resources and are faced with total collapse if this does not stop."

Tladi said parents should realise that the proper procedure for giving a child away was to approach welfare officers and explain the reason for wishing to give the child away. Welfare officers would investigate and find a better place for the child.

Tladi is also appealing for donations of money or clothes for destitute children.

"We also need a video machine to keep the kids occupied in the afternoons and evenings, when they are not having lessons, and a minibus to transport them to clinics and hospitals," he said.

People who want to make a donation can contact him or the matron, Julia Tladi, at the home or send parcels and money to Postbag X4, PO Kwa Xuma 1868 or Telephone (011) 934-1040.



By 1995 children here will be in the majority — a spectre that haunts John Ryan

# Needed now: rights for parents

STAR 16/12/91 (298)

**R**EADING the fine print of the Law Commission's report on human rights in the New South Africa, the full version of which has just come to hand (or to this hand, anyway) and is presently being considered by the Government, I discovered that special and separate attention has been given to children's rights.

What a marvellous thought that those too must be entrenched by law. And how necessary that will be in our bedevilled country.

The line proposed seems to follow the basic dictates of a model drawn up some years ago by Unicef (the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) but there is absolutely nothing wrong with that.

On those tenets have been drafted an international Charter of Children's Rights which many civilised nations adhere to, including the right of children to live with their parents, to be educated, to be cared for by the State if necessary, to have freedom of thought and be protected from child labour and other exploita-

tions — including political abuse.

And "in all legislative, executive and administrative proceedings", says our shadow Bill of Rights, "the interest of the child shall be in all circumstances paramount".

Excellent. Hear, hear! The proposed legislation should have been in place years ago.

However, having read the draft report, it strikes me that there is another side to this coin which also has to be addressed.

What about the rights of parents? Where's the Bill that says they should have protection and privileges, too?

After all, projections suggest that, by the year 1995, 55 percent of South Africans will be under the age of 15. How about that spectre of a majority group?

And just when everyone thought blacks were about to take over the country.

If necessary, I would be prepared to draft a Charter of Parents' Rights myself for the consideration of the Law Commission. Or the ANC. Or whoever.

Foremost among such parental

rights I would put the Right to non-Overly Concern, incorporating the Right to Assurance for said parents that death of whatever sibling is not necessarily near.

This is a wide field, stretching from mild colic in the early stages of parental care to, at the farthest end, the son or daughter who may go walk-about immediately after his/her 21st birthday party when the spirit of independence is at its zenith.

The provision would cover all manner of other circumstances, too, like occasions when the child may have presented itself as going out for a quick bite with friends and ended up at an all-night pajama party.

Parents, in such situations, should have every right to concern themselves that said offspring may have been raped or murdered, or both, and so summon the police. At whatever cost in terms of taxpayers' money.

The Right to non-Overly Concern should be the first one but others that should follow are much less important for parent-child relationship. Such as:

● Parents should have the right to guard against being mugged by friends of said offspring. Any visit by these young terrorists should be well discussed in advance.

There should be no "Aw, Dad, but you knew Wayne (who effectively has destroyed your TV, flooded the CD player with beer) would be here tonight when you were out."

● Following on that right, parents should have a further right, which is the right to be themselves: for example, to become sufficiently incensed to throw the Waynes of such relationships out on their ear without being called "gross".

They should be permitted to act irrationally in all such and similar situations, with no fear of correction or reprisal. They should be allowed to rage and scream, rend their clothes, be stubborn and even throw their own tantrums.

These are, after all, manifestations of a frustration they have earned merely by being parents.

● Parents also should be immune from intellectual harassment, particularly from the suitors of aforesaid offspring.

It should not be demanded of them to provide, at a moment's notice, the name of the lead guitarist of Queen, or the theory of Pythagoras. They should not be perceived to be, then berated because they are not, curators of the world's fountain of knowledge.

● Basically, parents should have the right to decide what happens in their own home, and to enjoy that home. Some experts of child behaviour claim that, unless the child has the freedom to make whatever use he or she wishes of his or her own room, he or she will be in danger of growing up deprived and stunted of creativity.

Fine, my Parents' Charter would say, as long as the mess did not infiltrate the lounge or any other general purpose area.

● Parents should never be talked down to because of the education they failed to get in the process of setting up a financial structure, working their fingers to the bone, to enable their children to be so educated.

● Consequently, parents should have the right to expect a reasonable return for their own labour

In association with this, and also with the Right to non-Overly Concern, I would list the final right which, on reflection, might be regarded as the most prime of all since others flow from it: ● Parents have a right to a good night's sleep. □

● Parents should have an absolute right to privacy. When they wish to be alone, that wish should overtake all other considerations of the moment.

It should also be understood that, if the attainment of this state of privacy is dependent on a reduction in noise pollution and sound levels — as in "turn down that bloody hi-fi" — that must be immediately achievable, too.

— in whatever form. Whether it be asking assistance in taking out the garbage, mowing the lawn or painting the house. This right should be unquestioned.

● Parents should have the right to dress as they please. Here, the standards of the child should not be allowed to intrude. If a father wishes to make an ass of himself in short-back-and-sides or a '60s suit with bellbottoms, so be it.



# Look after our children - they're the future

THE tragedy of children dying from poisoning is that in almost all cases adults are responsible.

Most manufacturers of medicines and poisonous substances warn that these should be kept out of reach of children - but still many die from poisoning because parents don't heed this warning.

Research shows that children under the age of five do not have a fully developed sense of smell or taste, meaning that they can swallow bad-tasting, poisonous substances without hesitation.

It is up to the parents to remove all hazardous objects and to ensure a safe environment for the child

## Death traps in your home

\* The kitchen - the cupboards under the sink with their polishes, bleaches, ammonia and other detergents are extremely dangerous. These products should be KEPT OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.

\* The bathroom cupboard and the toilet - the cupboard must be locked at all times if possible because in many households it usually contains the over-the-counter medicines like pills, tonics and cough mixtures.

\* Disinfectants kept in the toilet and/or bathroom are deadly so keep the doors to these areas closed at all times.

\* The bedroom - next to the bed is a favourite place for overnight medicines. Also perfume, nail polish, moth balls, batteries and other things are normally left lying around the bedroom carelessly. All these could kill your child.

\* Don't leave your handbag - full of vitamins, contraceptives, pain killers and other such things, within the reach of your child.

\* The garage and garden shed - petrol, paraffin, brake fluid, battery acid and paint thinner are just few of the dangerous substances always lying around in the garage.

Some plants, berries and mushrooms are poisonous and children should be taught not to eat anything from the garden without permission of an adult. Toddlers should always be guarded by an adult to make sure they don't put things in their mouths.

## Paraffin and medicines

Medicines account for most of the poisoning accidents which are medically related. Paraffin is the next enemy. Due to its highly toxic nature even a small dose of paraffin can be fatal to a small child.

## Paraffin poisoning and symptoms

In 1989 the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town recorded 114 child patients admitted because of paraffin poisoning.

Toddlers are the most vulnerable to paraffin poisoning.

Paraffin is attractive to them because it looks like water or cooldrink. Often it is stored in cooldrink bottles and is made accessible to children by their own parents.

There may be no symptoms even after large quantities of paraffin have been swallowed, but do watch out for these:

- \* Fever (pyrexia) and drowsiness
- \* Vomiting and confusion
- \* A burning sensation in the mouth followed by choking and gagging. This results in inhalation of the fluid and fumes into the lungs and stomach, causing further complications.

## Medicines

The irony of medicines is that almost all of them are fatal if an overdose is taken. Therefore, parents should be very cautious and follow doctor's or pharmacist's instructions carefully when giving out medicine.

In 1987 891 children suffering from drug poisoning were seen at the War Memorial Hospital.

\* Always use a proper medicine measuring spoon and check expiry dates and labels.

\* Do not administer medicine in the dark.

\* Never add medicine to baby's bottles or food.

\* Never give a child medicine meant for adults. Not even a small dose.

\* You are not a doctor, so don't give medicine without prescription. Never give medicine prescribed for one child to another even if you think they have the same symptoms.

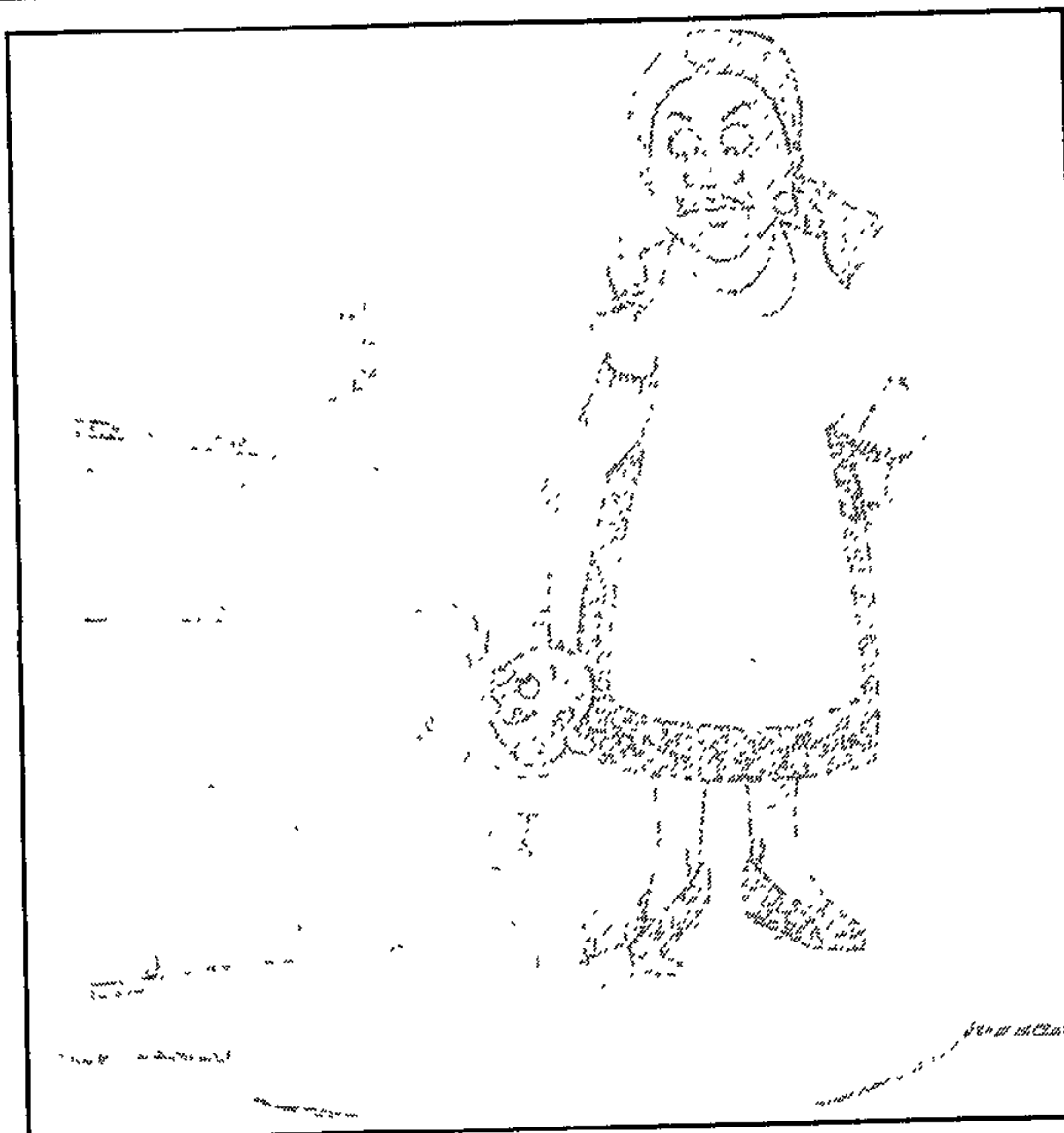
\* Avoid giving a child lozenges or cough sweets because they are hard and could lodge in the throat and cause choking.

\* Throw away or keep out of reach used tubes of ointments and creams because they could be contaminated by germs and cause

# Poison lurks in every home

**T**HIS week Sowetan brings you the third of a six-part series on safety for children. The series is sponsored by Mobil, the Child Accident Prevention Foundation and Sowetan. This week we look at poisoning - cause of the deaths of many children in South Africa.

The message is clear: Keep out of the reach of children



KEEP WELL OUT OF REACH: Paraffin might have a pretty colour but it's death in a bottle.

other infections.

\* Keep all medicines in the same place to avoid confusion and never associate them with food or sweets, especially coated tablets.

## Facing a crisis

Perhaps the safest measure is to KEEP MEDICINES AND SUBSTANCES YOU SUSPECT MIGHT BE POISONOUS AWAY FROM CHILDREN. But if you find yourself in a crisis with a poisoned child, you should know what to do.

- \* Contact your nearest poison information centre.
- \* Always regard it as an emergency.
- \* Do not let the child vomit when he has drunk paraffin. Vomiting re-introduces the poison into the digestive tract and the lungs.
- \* You can give the child a glass of milk, but remember to rush to hospital.

\* Take the container, label, remaining pills or substance that has been swallowed, together with any vomit and or anything else to the doctor in order to assist him when examining the child.

Information brought to you by  
Mobil and the Sowetan in the  
interests of child safety.  
In association with the Child  
Accident Prevention Unit.

Videos on child accident  
prevention available on loan from  
Child Accident Prevention Founda-  
tion of Southern Africa P.O. Box  
13115 Sir Lowry Road 7900 Tele:  
(021) 685-5208.

## Telephone Box

\*\*\*\*\* EMERGENCY NUMBERS \*\*\*\*\*

**TRANSVAAL:**  
Poison Control Centre - (011) 642-2417  
Johannesburg General Hospital -  
(011) 488-3108

**FREE STATE:**  
Universitas (emergency) (051) 475-353

**CAPE:**  
Red Cross War Memorial Children's  
Hospital - (021) 689-5227  
Tygerberg Hospital - (021) 931-6129  
Child Accident Prevention Foundation -  
(021) 685 5208.

**Mobil**



**Sowetan is  
Nation Building**

#### 4 SOUTH REPRESSION

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Youths 'tortured'

THE Black Sash Repression Monitoring Group reports 10 youths were allegedly abducted and tortured for a week by policemen in Umzumbe on the Natal South Coast. They were later charged with housebreaking.

The youths were "tubed" — beaten with a plumber's metal pipe — and forced to assault each other. One youth who passed out, awoke to find SAP members urinating on him, the report claims.

SADF members allegedly watched part of the torture.

South 19/12/91 - 15/1/92



# Christmas behind bars for city street children

South 19/12/91 - 15/1/92

By Rehana Rossouw

TO PREPARE for the tourist season in Cape Town, street children are being cleared off the city streets.

Social workers dealing with street children report that more than 500 children under 21 are being held as sentenced and awaiting trial prisoners at Pollsmoor Prison. Many of them are street children.

A severe shortage of accommodation at shelters and childrens' homes means any child who cannot be accepted at a place of safety or placed with relatives is held at the prison.

However, a spokesperson for the Department of Correctional Services said 396 juveniles were presently be-

ing held in the juvenile section at Pollsmoor.

According to the records, none was serving sentences for trespassing or loitering but they were held on charges ranging from murder to theft.

The social workers claim the children are held under conditions which do not meet international minimum standards for juvenile justice.

Negotiations are presently taking place with the authorities for alternative solutions to holding the children at the prison.

Social workers believe it is possible to find alternatives to placing the children behind bars.

The incarceration of street children during the festive season also occurred last year.

Social workers dealing with street children report that, once again, the incidence of arrests of street children for petty crimes is rising.

The Molo Songololo children's magazine's Street Children's Project has been disrupted in the past few months by the arrest of children they work with.

"Most of the arrests are for petty crimes like loitering and trespassing," said Street Children's Project coordinator Mr David Fortune.

"A huge problem is shopowners who complain to the police about the children, leading to their arrests

"During the Christmas season the number of arrests tends to increase as many shopowners would like to see the children off the streets when the tourists arrive."

For loitering, the children can be fined R50 or held for 25 days.

The Molo Songololo project intends providing a home for Cape Town's street children community, if they manage to secure land and funds for their initiative.

The population of street children in Cape Town is increasing steadily. With the worsening of socio-economic conditions in their communities, hundreds of children have flocked to the city in recent years to attempt to provide for themselves.

Between November 1990 and May this year, Fortune spent days on the streets locating the children, building relationships with them and doing a needs assessment.

"To date we have had contact with over 200 strollers in Sea Point, Cape Town, Woodstock, Observatory, Mowbray, Rosebank and Rondebosch," he said.

## Ignorance

Fortune said "ignorance, preconceptions and prejudices" made it difficult for the project to secure a venue initially but a church hall was procured in May and workshops for the children are run four mornings a week.

The workshop programme includes health education, music and instrument making, art and craft, dance and movement, cooperative games, lifeskills and drama.

The project has on occasion applied for legal aid for the children and visited them in prison.

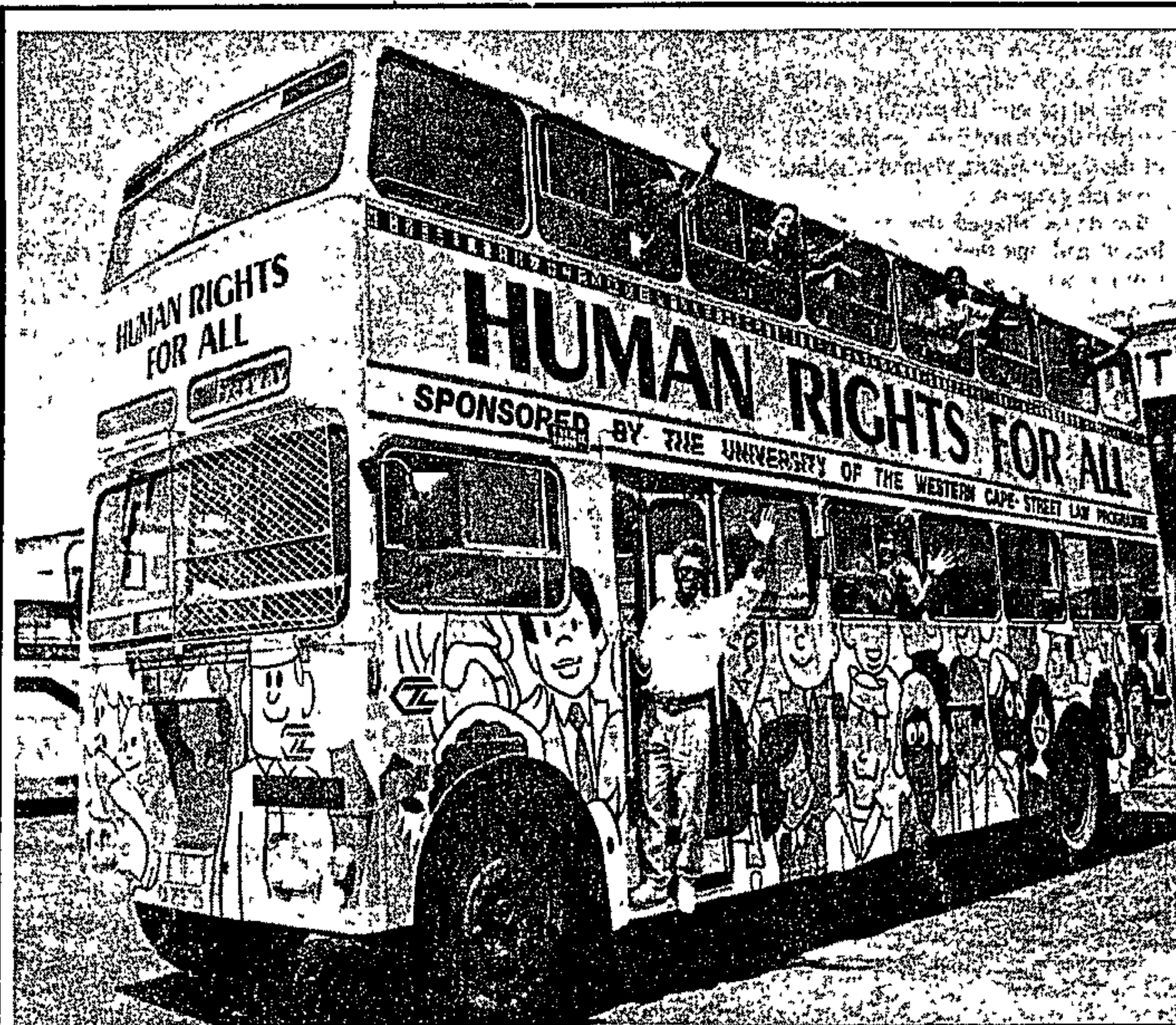
Their most ambitious aim is to erect a building which will serve as a drop-in centre, skills training centre and residential centre for the children.

Strollers will be welcome to come there during the day for showers, food, clothing and basic medical care.

The centre will also offer a number of trade skills, including basic literacy and numeracy and will negotiate with local business to employ the strollers after they have learnt their skills.

The project surveyed the Cape Town area for a suitable location for the centre and found an ideally situated piece of land near the Groote Schuur nurses' residence.

They are awaiting a reply from the City Council to their request to use the land for their building.



**ON THE RIGHTS ROAD:** The UWC Street Law Programme this week launched Human Rights advertisements on three double-decker buses. The advertisements, part of a Human Rights Day campaign, will remain on the buses for six months. The Street Law Programme hopes the advertisements will encourage discussion about human rights and a bill of rights for a future South Africa.

PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED



# NEW KICKS ON THE BLOCK

298

South 14/12/91 - 15/1/92



Children born in exile realise that finding roots in the birthplace of their parents is not easy. Many who lived in the frontline states consider being in South Africa wonderful and challenging, while others who lived in Europe and the USA feel suffocated in "racist, South Africa."

**THORAYA PANDY reports:**

**B**RING FRIENDS along to play with us the next time you come," said enthusiastic Zambian-born Patricia Mhrabalala, 14. "Cape Town is such a big place, not like Zambia, yet we've met so few people."

What she wanted most of all was go to school to make friends. She longs to be integrated into the community.

"I want to learn to speak Afrikaans so if I get lost, I'll know how to ask for directions," she said.

"I am glad to be here, I always considered this to be home, although I miss my Zambian friends terribly," added Patricia.

"I love South Africa. Here I can choose from a variety of foods. In Zambia, we mainly ate nsima (pap) and believe me when I say it does not taste very nice."

"Life in Zambia was not easy and we often had to miss out on things because of the lifestyle we led. I stayed with my parents and often we could not enjoy the pleasures of life because of the situation we found ourselves in."

She paused, "You know what I mean." "Things are different here, the food, people, shops, especially clothing shops, and residential areas are so enormous."

"I'll go back to Zambia for a holiday but this is definitely where I want to live," said Patricia.

Adnan Silverman, 14, said life in exile was very difficult and often he could not afford things he desired as a child.

"There is nothing I miss about Zambia," he added.

Adnan and his family will soon be moving to this grandmother's old home in which she lived before going into

**BACK ON THE BLOCK.** Returnees, from left, Adrian Silverman, Patricia Mhrabalala, Constance Qwezu, Moses Pockpass



**Nandi Vileka**

exile. The house is in a village outside Worcester.

Constance Qwezu, 16, "loves shopping, something limited in exile because there are so few shops."

"I love going into shops and looking at all the lovely clothes although I can't afford it, not yet anyway!"

Her greatest fear living here is walk-

ing on the streets of Cape Town.

"I haven't once felt safe walking on the streets and I make sure someone accompanies me," said Constance.

Moving from country to country in Africa constituted the greater part of 18-year-old "TJ" Nakana's life.

"I never felt settled in one place because I was constantly moving around. It made me sad leaving friends behind, it made me angry but deep down I knew that it could not be helped," said TJ. "Life in exile was boring and frustrating because of the closet lifestyle I was forced into all my life."

TJ does not intend to settle in South Africa. "My expectations fell through the roof on my first day here. This is my mother's birthplace and I respect it, but it is not mine. Zambia is my home and I want to go back as soon as I can," said TJ.

Finding employment is the only thing that could tempt him to stay.

Children born in Africa are awed by the shops and luxuries in South Africa, but the experiences of the children born

in Europe highlight the relative backwardness of this country.

Mark September, 31, son of NEC member Mr Reg September, left the country at the age of five and lived in London.

"All the time while I was growing up my parents spoke of South Africa as home," said Mark with a very strong British accent.

"I regard this as my home but often feel like just packing my things and going back to London. South Africa is much more conservative, people here are backward in their thinking. I still can't understand why God is so prominently shown on the telly."

Mark said adjusting to life was very challenging, especially getting to know his parents.

"Living with my parents is not easy, but generally, I want to give it a go. I barely saw Reggie when I was growing up and getting to know them now is very interesting."

"I felt very resentful toward the ANC because I've seen how it dominated

the lives of my parents.

"When we lived in London, he was was hardly there to spend time with me. I do understand, but still, it wasn't easy," said Mark.

**N**ANDI VILEKA, who lived in Sweden, said: "I am moving back to Sweden. A large part of me is Swedish, all my friends are there, and I feel safe and secure living there."

"When I came back, one could see colour all over the place, people were very optimistic. Now all I find is disillusionment and it appears people just want to go on with their lives and forget about the struggle. I expected much more community participation and this is not happening."

Nandi said, "The exiles who lived in Europe and the USA often got a better education and are financially more well-off. On the other hand, they have more emotional problems with returning because of families and other social and cultural bonds. It's not easy to just pack up and leave."



# City kids' sex-lives surveyed

(298)  
CT 19/12/91

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

**MORE** than 30% of matric boys and 25% of matric girls in Cape Town have had sex, a major new study has found.

However, 19,8% of boys and 10,2% of girls in the Peninsula have already lost their virginity by Std 7, according to a survey conducted this year by Dr Alan Flisher.

The findings are derived from the first comprehensive review of risk-taking behaviour among high school students of all races in the greater city area and form part of a Medical Research Council (MRC) study on health in South Africa.

Research for the United States-sponsored report, entitled "Changing Health in South Africa", was undertaken by a MRC task group under the leadership of Dr Derek Yach.

The study also found that among 18-year-old pupils in Cape Town, 21,1% of boys and 8,1% of girls had smoked dagga, while 30,7% and 18,5% respectively smoked one or more cigarettes daily.

Among the 14-year-old group, 23,9% of boys and 15,9% of girls had been robbed at some stage, and 21,3% of boys and 9,6% of girls had been "physically injured" in a violent attack.

Dr Flisher's study was conducted among 7 340 Peninsula high school students. With a few exceptions the figures presented did not vary by language group.

The study notes that "the majority of heterosexual intercourse is not safe in terms of unwanted pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases such as Aids".

It adds: "The detailed results are consistent with the conclusion that it is the students in more junior standards who are particularly at risk, and intervention programmes should prioritise these groups."

"Sex education and sexual counselling at South African schools, regardless of race, is significantly out of pace with levels of sexual activity among school pupils."

The report notes that risk-taking behaviour among school-going pupils is probably an underestimate of the true rate because of the large school drop-out rate.

The report describes the experience of violence by boys and girls in the greater city area as "ubiquitous".

"With respect to substance abuse (cigarettes and dagga), the proportion of smokers was extremely low among African girls and half as low among African boys than among non-African boys."

The report said the high proportion of dagga used, particularly among 18-year-old boys, gave cause for concern.

"Importantly, it was found that in the same group six percent reported using a combination of Mandrax and marijuana."

At this stage the proportion of city high school pupils using intravenous drugs was below 1% for all age, gender and language groups.

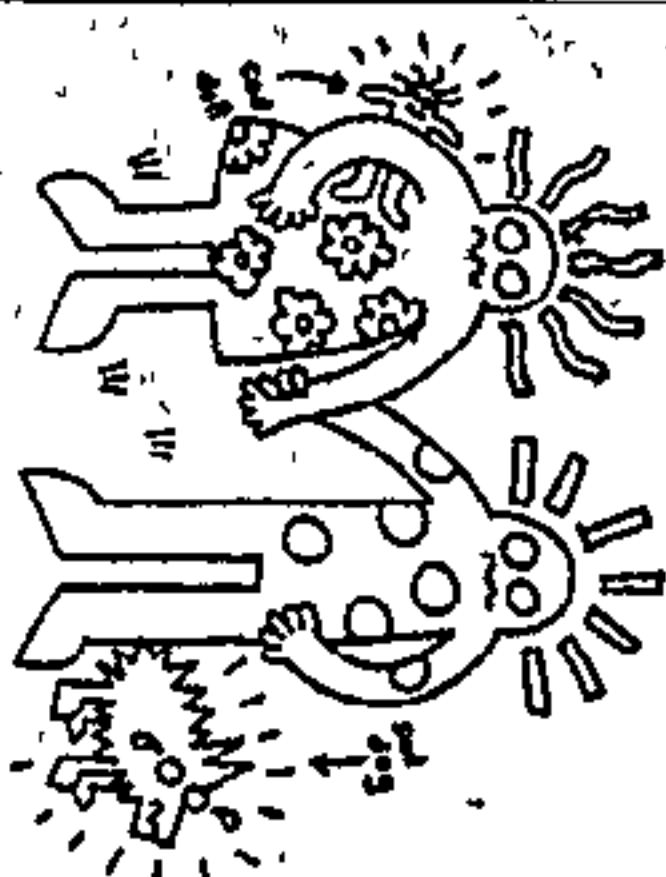
The report states that risk-taking such as smoking was strongly related to social class and race in South Africa.

● Aids 'to eat up health money' —  
Page 9

## CHILDREN!

Is an adult making you feel unhappy, confused and sad?

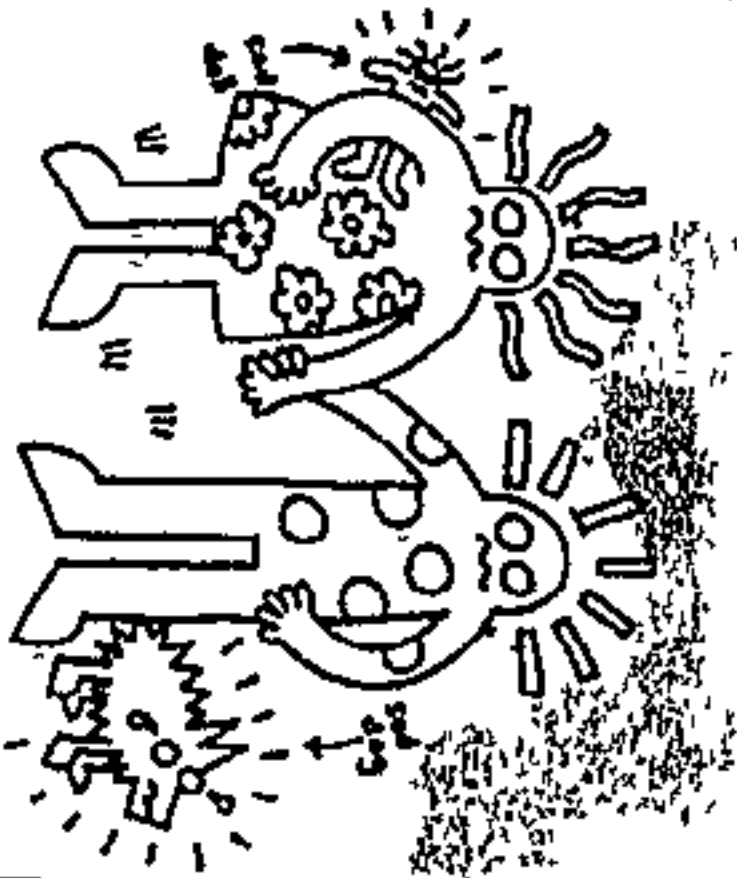
Are you being forced to do things which make you feel bad?



## ADULTS!

Are you suffering from the effects of your childhood abuse?

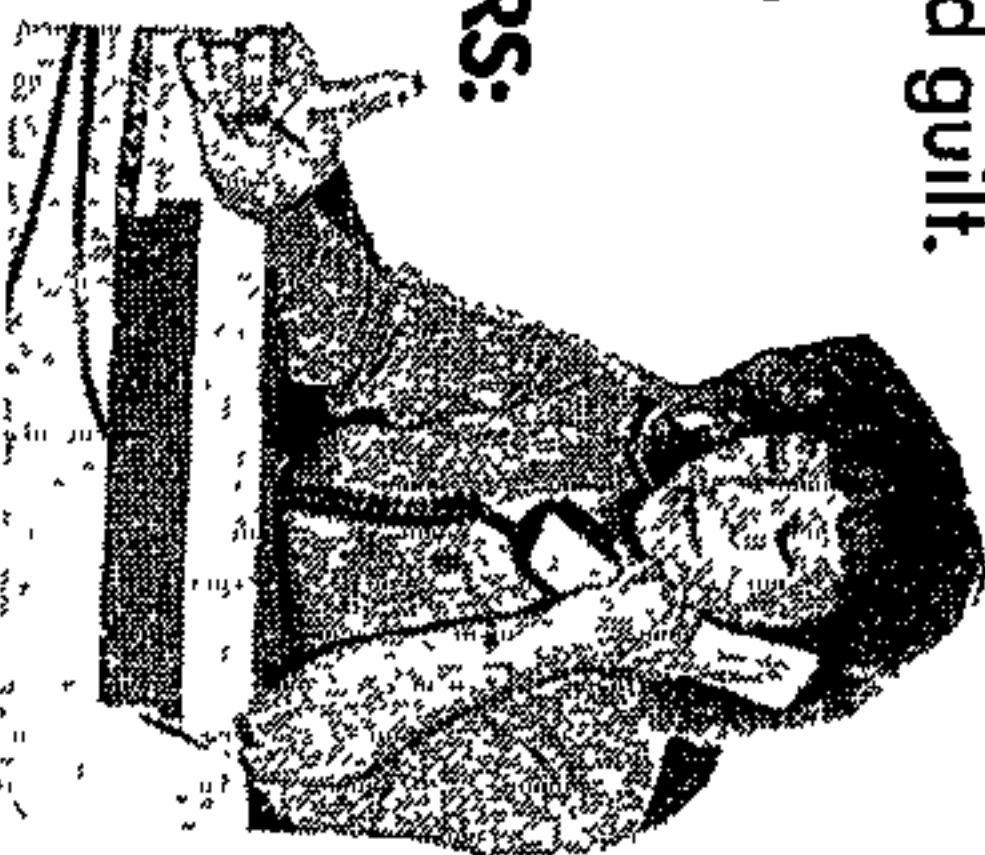
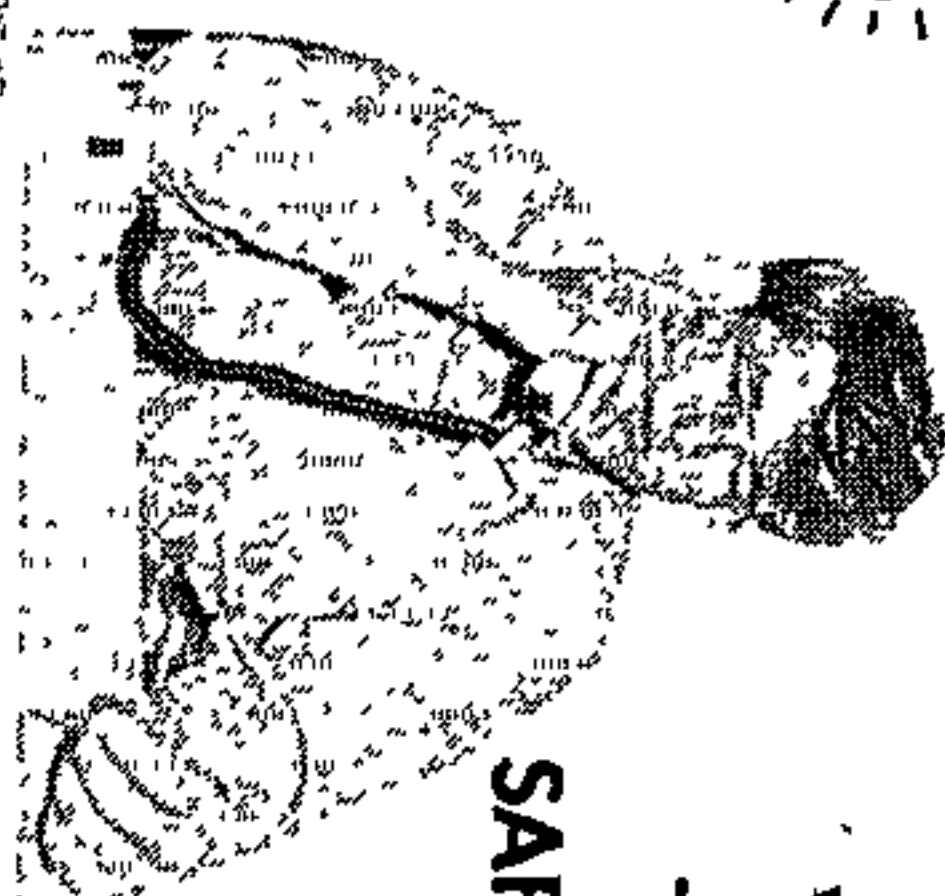
There are ways you can be helped to cope with your past hurts, anger and guilt.



## WHO CAN YOU TELL?

SAFELINE OFFERS, TO BOTH FEMALE AND MALE SURVIVORS:

- Group sessions
- Individual Therapy
- Telephone counselling



**PHONE:** Careline: 85 3090 Childline: 46 1114 Safeline: 26 1100 24hrs Telephone No. 26 1100 or anyone you trust!



# Brighter days for twilight boys

S 17/12/11

(248)



**HOME DECORATORS:** Some of the twilight children stand in front of a mural they painted with the help of art student Timothy James "TJ" Treanor at the Twilight Centre, Hillbrow. The centre urgently needs funds to continue with its rehabilitation programmes.

● Photograph: JOHN HOGG

**WILLIAM** (15) wants a suitcase for Christmas, but his friend and room-mate Stanley is not particular.

The two boys, along with 73 others, live at the Twilight Centre in Hillbrow.

Dominating the entrance to the centre is an embroidery in the foyer which reads: "Our home is a house of joy and happiness. It is open to all children. We love and respect each other and work together. We look towards the future and our dreams. And we love God and trust in Him."

The children, very boisterous, are proud to show visitors the embroidery, because for them it's a symbol of their home.

The centre came under focus three weeks ago when Johannesburg Child Welfare announced it was pulling its resources from the centre. The management of the centre is now under the control of an independent body, the Twilight Centre Committee (TCC). The new management has also introduced a new policy.

Instead of offering just shelter, efforts are made to get boys off the streets and rehabilitate them so that they can go home and continue with a normal life. The older ones are taught basic trades and groomed for jobs.

Since the TCC has taken over, volunteer workers have already persuaded and convinced seven boys that it was in their interest to return to their families.

According to Timothy James "TJ" Treanor, one of the workers at the centre, their aim is to win

## Hillbrow home needs your help

**AL-AMEEN KAFAR**

the confidence of street boys so that they can come to the centre on their own accord.

Only after winning the boys' confidence can their rehabilitation programme be implemented, says Mr Treanor. But their good work could present problems in future.

Mr Treanor said the programme was designed to give shelter, education for the younger ones, and a homely environment. He said too much comfort could make the children reluctant to leave the centre.

William Makgabo, the boy who wants a suitcase for Christmas, was born in Rustenburg and came to Hillbrow more than two years ago because he was ill-treated by his stepfather.

He plans to go to high school next year and has been living at the centre for nearly two years. He enjoys it there because of the games and friends. His favourite sports are karate and tennis.

"At the centre I've lots of friends. I also get food, a place to stay and wash, and a good education. I love school and reading

and want to get a good job

"I would like to have a suitcase because I carry my books to school. But even if I don't get anything, I'll still enjoy my Christmas," he said.

Stanley Mphuthi left his Brakpan home seven months ago because he was unhappy. But he stayed on the streets was brief. He has been at the centre for the past six months. "I'm going into Standard Six. My favourite game is soccer, but I like the outings. I've arranged for us. We see places I've never seen before. I'm also getting a good education."

All the boys at the centre are looking forward to Christmas. The place is bustling as they prepare and hang trimmings in the pastsages. Their Christmas programme has already been worked out and will include a visit to caves, a treasure hunt in one of Johannesburg's parks, and a treat from a fast-food outlet.

But the future does not look too bright. The centre depends largely on funds, charity and a small subsidy from the Johannesburg City Council.

Chairman of the centre, Peter Fitzgerald, said their funds would last until the end of this year, but the future looked bleak unless more funds were received soon.

"We are trying our utmost to give them a better life. We know that through dedication we can rehabilitate many. But for rehabilitation, we have to keep the centre going and that requires money."

People who wish to contribute can contact the secretary, Jane Pritchard, at (011) 783-1011.



# She's a Saint!

## 'Mum' to kids

## for 10 years

C/Pren  
By ELIAS MALULEKE

ASNATH Monaheli does not believe there are mentally retarded children. And after listening to this 67-year-old grandmother you begin to see her point.

This Pretoria Media Club (PMC) 1991 Achiever of the Year has been looking after mentally retarded children for more than 10 years.

Although she has 11 of these children at present, she has lost count of how many she has battled to give a decent life over the years.

Until this year, Monaheli never earned a salary for the 10 years of her work. It was self-sacrifice.

Most of the children she has taken under her wing at Thusanong Day-care Centre in GaRankuwa, Pretoria, since 1980 have been placed in educational institutions for training.

"Our bond remains in spite of the separation

22/12/91  
They phone to ask if they can return or come to visit me. My phone never stops ringing and I am happy because they have something they can look forward to," said Monaheli.

"I see only the glow of brightness in my children. They are, in fact, underprivileged and not mentally-retarded because they can also do things like children with normal IQs if given the chance."

She started the centre after her own two grandchildren, born to her only son and his wife, a nursing sister, became handicapped and they could not find suitable places for them.

A third child of the couple is also mentally handicapped

Other mothers dumped their children at her house, without helping, and then in 1982 a Catholic Church social welfare officer suggested she use the GaRankuwa Community Hall during the day and offered to help pay for the children's food.



**10 YEARS OF SERVICE ... Asnath Monaheli has devoted her life to caring.**

The church then moved the centre to a rented house where they erected a two-roomed prefabricated hut.

The house was later donated to the centre by the government but the church pulled out, leaving Monaheli high and dry

"The community formed a committee and

raised funds on our behalf," said Monaheli.

"The centre has again been taken over by the Catholic Church and, for once, I am earning a small salary"

Her R5 000 prize money from the PMC Award will not go into her pocket. It will be used to help the children



# Look after our children - they're the future

NEWSPAPER headlines that read: "Toddler dies in blaze" are not unusual, yet what do they mean? Simply that the toddler could be your own child.

Most burn accidents occur in the home when all family members are at home. Hot liquids like bath water and beverages are responsible for most of these accidents.

There are many other causes and if you think that your child is safer now because it is summer, think about the New Year's Eve fireworks, the red hot braai stand in your garden, your electrical appliances and household chemicals.

REMEMBER, for the burnt child, treatment is as severe as the injury itself. Burn accidents occur within seconds but take a lifetime to heal. They cause permanent injury and often result in physical handicap and lifelong disfigurement.

## STOP A LIFELONG SUFFERING

Unless you prevent your child from suffering any type of burns, he may be healthy and laughing heartily now and in immeasurable pain and scarred for life a moment later.

Between April 1990 and March 1991 the Red Cross Children's Hospital treated nearly 1 200 children under 14 years of age for burns. Most children who get burnt are under the age of two.

The following devices are unsafe and often cause burns - paraffin stoves and refrigerators, gas rings, open fires and coal stoves.

## PREVENT SCALDS

Never fill a bath with hot water first. Pour cold water in first, add hot water and test the temperature before putting a baby in the bath.

\*Never leave a child alone in the bath because he might turn on the hot tap and burn himself. If he does not burn, then he might drown in the bath.

\*The severity of scaldings may be reduced by lowering the thermostat on the hot water cylinder.

\*Never drink anything hot with a child on your lap.

\*Never carry hot drinks while children are playing underfoot.

\*Make sure the stove is beyond the reach of the child.

\*Never use paraffin stoves or gas rings on the floor or on a chair.

# Don't play with fire

Stuck on 23/12/91

(298)

**THIS, the fourth part of the series on safety for children, looks at yet another serious threat to children's safety, burn accidents. This feature is brought to you by Sowetan and is sponsored by Mobil and the Child Accident Prevention Foundation.**

\*Children should never climb on a roof, ladder, tree or pole near overhead electric wires.

\*Make sure that kites do not have metal wire which may be caught on overhead electric wires.

\*Electric shock does not always kill, but may stun a child and stop breathing.

## UNDER FIRE

Never expose children to dangers as a result of your own negligence. Every household should have a planned fire escape route for emergencies.

Teach children to drop and roll on the floor if clothing catches fire and to crawl on the floor to escape thick smoke.

## IF A SCALD DOES OCCUR

\*Remove all clothing quickly;

\*Submerge by an area in cold water;

\*Keep heaters away from curtains and furniture.  
\*Loose fitting sleep wear near fireplaces or heaters is a fire risk.

## ELECTRIC BLANKETS

\*Electric blankets are not made for infants. Dehydration can occur quickly.

\*Like all electric appliances, these blankets need regular maintenance checks, particularly the leads. Do not use if there are signs of wear and tear.

\*Do not leave an electric blanket on during the day when there is no one at home.

\*Switch the blanket off after use.

\*Blanket size should suit the mattress with which it is to be used and pins and other sharp objects should never be used to secure the blanket.

\*Do not fold it to suit a smaller bed. This is dangerous.

## FIRES

\*Ensure that the fireplace works before using it.

\*Never leave a fire unattended.

\*Make sure the fire is extinguished before leaving the house or when going to bed.

\*Never use a flammable liquid to start the fire or trash to feed it.

\*Clean the chimney once a year.

\*Always use a screen for the fireplace to keep sparks from flying into the room.

\*Do not use a refuse - use a metal container for

\*Keep the child away from where food is being cooked or water is being boiled.

\*Do not leave pot handles protruding so that children can pull them down over themselves

\*Use table mats instead of tablecloths. A dangling tablecloth will attract a curious toddler and he will pull it, spilling the hot beverages and food from the table all over himself.

## **FIRE AND OTHER BURNS**

\*Keep matches, lighters and candles out of reach of children.

\*Never leave a child alone in a room with open fires, a coal or paraffin stove, gas ring or candle

\*Never use a broken or leaking paraffin stove.

\*Do not smoke in bed

\*Do not leave a fire or candle burning when going to sleep

\*Do not revive a braai or dying fire with petrol or other flammable liquids

\*When using flammable liquids like benzene, always have the room well ventilated and never light matches, smoke or work near an open flame.

\*Always put out braai fires with cold water

\*Do not have open fires, paraffin stoves or heaters near the only outside door

## **ELECTRICITY**

\*Teach children to respect electricity. It can kill

\*Water and electricity do not mix. Keep hands dry when handling appliances or switches

\*Never overload your electrical systems with too many adapters.

\*Check appliances and cords regularly for wear and tear and loose connections

\*Ensure electric cords never run under carpets.

\*Keep appliance cords out of reach of children

\*Warn children to keep clear of electric substations and overhead wires.

\*Run plenty of cold water over burnt area for about 10 minutes; \*If burns cover a large area of the body, do not use cold water; rush the child to a doctor or hospital;

\*Cover scald with clean cloth;

\*Take the child to a doctor or hospital.

**NEVER USE CREAMS, JELLIES OR OINTMENTS WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION.**

**In case of electric shock:**

\*Before you touch the child, make sure that the power point is turned off, otherwise you may also be electrocuted;

\*Call the doctor immediately.

## **AN ACCIDENT-FREE WINTER**

Of the children treated at the Red Cross Children's Hospital in the Cape between 1989 and 1990, most of them were burnt during winter. All these accidents could have been prevented. Heating related hazards in the home depend on the type of equipment being used

## **HEATERS**

\*Portable heaters that have been stored away during summer should be cleaned thoroughly before being used again.

\*If you have an older heater watch out for open exposed hot surfaces and heating elements

\*Do not place the heater where it might be tipped over

\*Ensure that none of the portable heaters are on the doorway or any other traffic paths in your home.

\*Never hang clothes over a heater to dry

\*Never go to sleep with a burning heater.

\*Paraffin heaters are perfectly safe when used properly. Be careful when refuelling a paraffin heater and never refuel it when it is still hot.

\*Only refuel outside in a well ventilated area. Keep extra paraffin out of reach of children

\*Never carry a paraffin heater while it is burning

removal of ashes.

\*Do not put hot ashes in a combustible container.

Burn accidents have enormous effects on the victim and the rest of the family

A victim's appearance is affected by the burns. Some victims become aggressive while others simply become shy or timid.

They develop a poor self-image and have problems at school

The parents, on the other hand, feel guilty and ashamed about the accident

They fear for their child and never know if he will adjust in the future. Other children in the family tend to be neglected because all attention is focused on the victim

Take the necessary precautions to prevent burn accidents. They are the third biggest cause of unnatural deaths of children in South Africa.

## *Telephone Box*

\*\*\*\*\* **EMERGENCY NUMBERS** \*\*\*\*\*

### **TRANSCAAL:**

**Johannesburg General Hospital -**

**(011) 488-3108**

### **FREE STATE:**

**Universitas (emergency) (051) 475-353**

### **CAPE:**

**Red Cross War Memorial Children's**

**Hospital - (021) 689-5227**

**Tygerberg Hospital - (021) 931-6129**

**Child Accident Prevention Foundation -**  
**(021) 685 5208.**

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13115 Sir Lowry Road 7900 Tele:  
(021) 685-5208.**

# Mobil



**Sowetan is  
Nation Building**



# Shocker as sex in schools survey is released

*Sowetan 23/12/91*  
 MORE than 30 percent of matric boys and 25 percent of the girls in Cape Town have had sex, a major new study has found.

However, 19,8 percent of boys and 10,2 percent of girls in the Cape Peninsula had already lost their virginity by Standard 7, according to a survey

*(298) (112)*  
 released

conducted this year by Dr Alan Flisher.

The findings are derived from the first comprehensive review of risk-taking behaviour among high school pupils

of all races in the greater city area and form part of a Medical Research Council study on health in South Africa.

Research for the United States-sponsored report,

entitled *Changing Health in South Africa*, was undertaken by an MRC task group under the leadership of Dr Derek Yach.

The study also found that among 18-year-old pupils in Cape Town, 21,1 percent of boys and 8,1 percent of girls had smoked dagga, while 30,7 percent and 18,5 percent respectively smoked one or more cigarettes daily.

Among the 14-year-old group, 23,9 percent of boys and 15,9 percent of girls had been robbed at some stage and 21,3 percent of boys and 9,6 percent of girls had been "physically injured" in a violent attack.

## Safe

The study notes that "the majority of heterosexual intercourse is not safe in terms of unwanted pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases such as Aids".

It adds: "The detailed results are consistent with the conclusion that it is the students in more junior standards who are particularly at risk and intervention programmes should prioritise these groups."

## Activity

"Sex education and sexual counselling at South African schools, regardless of race, is significantly out of pace with levels of sexual activity among school pupils."

The report notes that risk-taking behaviour among school-going pupils is probably an underestimate of the true rate because of the large school dropout rate.

The report describes the experience of violence by boys and girls in the greater city area as "ubiquitous".

## Respect

"With respect to substance abuse (cigarettes and dagga), the proportion of smokers was extremely low among African girls and half as low among African boys than among non-African boys."

The report said the high proportion of dagga used, particularly among 18-year-old boys, gave cause for concern.

## Mandrax

"Importantly, it was found that in the same group six percent reported using a combination of Mandrax and marijuana."

At this stage the proportion of city high school pupils using intravenous drugs was below one percent for all age, gender and language groups.

The report states that risk-taking such as smoking was strongly related to social class and race in South Africa. *Sapa.*



# Cops to probe youth's death

ALLEGATIONS that white rightwing policemen stoned and clubbed to death a black youth trapped in a canal at Richards Bay in northern Natal are being investigated, police confirmed yesterday.

Police spokesman Major Ray Harrald said the death of Mr Sibusiso Nyawo (19), of Mzingazi near Richards Bay, would be investigated after details of the alleged incident were reported in a Durban Sunday newspaper.

Harrald denied the claim in the report that the Attorney-General had taken over the investigation.

According to the report, Nyawo dived into a harbour canal while fleeing a policeman who suspected him of breaking windows.

About 20 policemen who arrived at the scene directed their vehicle headlights at the trapped youth and allegedly proceeded to

South African Press Association

hurl rocks while some of their girlfriends watched and cheered, shouting "mooi skoot" (good shot) each time the youth was hit by a stone. (28) (28)

Information in the report was sourced to a witness, Mr Dean Smith, and a policeman whose name was withheld to protect him.

The alleged incident occurred this month.

The unidentified policeman was quoted as saying a policeman ordered Smith and police colleagues to discontinue attempts to arrest the youth.

Instead, the police threw stones and when the youth attempted to clamber out of the canal, a policeman bashed him twice on the head with a wheel spanner, forcing him back into the water.

The injured youth was left for dead and his body recovered from the water two days later.



## Top policemen to probe Natal youth's death

298 SA Press Association

POLICE investigations are under way over allegations that white rightwing policemen stoned and clubbed to death a black youth trapped in a canal at Richards Bay in Northern Natal. Sowetan 24/12/91.

Police spokesman Major Ray Harrauld said allegations about the death of Mr Sibusiso Nyawo (19), of Mxingaxi near Richards Bay, were viewed in a very "serious light".

"The investigations are being undertaken at high level with a senior officer appointed to be in charge.

"There is no evidence at this stage to support the allegations. However, the SAP would like to give an assurance that if it is discovered that any member is involved in any way steps will be taken, including suspension if necessary," he said.

Details of the alleged incident were published in a Durban Sunday newspaper.

Harrauld also denied the newspaper's claim that the Attorney-General had taken over the investigation.

The incident would be "thoroughly investigated" and on completion the docket would be forwarded to the Attorney-General for his decision.

According to the newspaper report, Nyawo had dived into a harbour canal while fleeing a policeman who suspected him of breaking windows.

About 20 policemen who arrived at the scene had directed their vehicle headlights at the trapped youth and allegedly proceeded to hurl rocks while some of their girlfriends watched and cheered, shouted "mooi skoot" (good shot) each time he was hit.

Information in the report was sourced to a witness, Mr Dean Smith, and a policeman, whose name was withheld to protect him.

The incident allegedly occurred one night this month.

The unidentified policeman was quoted as saying a police warrant officer, apparently in charge of proceedings, had ordered Smith and police colleagues to discontinue attempts to arrest Nyawo, who had been wading in one metre deep water.

Instead, police had allegedly thrown stones, and when Nyawo tried to clamber out of the canal, a policeman had allegedly bashed him twice on the head with a wheel spanner, forcing him back in the water.

Nyawo was allegedly left for dead and his body recovered from the water two days later. The corpse had been bloated and crab-eaten.

Harrauld said the police had "on numerous occasions" said they would "not tolerate members taking the law into their own hands".

He asked anyone with information to contact the investigating officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Chris Nel at (0354) 42424.

# Look after our children - they're the future

It takes only a few seconds for a baby to choke or suffocate on a small object and over 100 children under the age of five years die from choking or suffocation in South Africa every year.

The most dangerous objects that your child could choke on are those he considers as harmless household things like used everyday like buttons and peanuts.

There are things like the bib, pillows, plastic bags and the feeding bottle itself. With a few simple precautions you can save your child from choking to death.

## The silent killers

### Food

Most deaths of babies and small children which result from choking are caused by food.

\* Never leave a baby to drink his bottle by himself. He could inhale the milk and choke on it.

\* Babies should never be given any food they cannot chew properly. Large chunks are easily breathed.

\* Remove the bones when preparing food, especially fish and chicken. Small, sharp bones may penetrate internal linings if swallowed.

\* Never give peanuts to children under five years of age.

The child may swallow a whole peanut or inhale it into his lungs.

\* For the same reason do not give them dried peas or beans to play with. If you have them at home, keep them out of reach of the children.

\* Hard biscuits and sweets should never be given to children. Ensure that your older children know this rule.

\* Never allow children to run around while eating biscuits, raw carrots or when they are chewing bones. They may fall and inhale dry crumbs, pieces of meat or carrot and choke.

### Small Objects:

Choking usually happens to babies between the ages of five and 18 months. It is advisable to keep all small objects out of reach of children.

\* Keep safety pins, small toys or toys with small parts away from babies until they are old enough to handle them. Parts broken off toys and games should be thrown away or be repaired. Also get rid of small pieces of crayon.

\* Dummies used should be well designed. Beware of soft or small dummies that may fit into the baby's mouth wholly. Also be aware of parts separating and becoming lodged in the throat.

\* Be aware of letting small children play with beads, buttons, coins, broken plastic or broken balloons. Make a habit of picking up these small items if they are lying around.

### Plastic:

The bag of plastic used for packing mattresses, pillows and so on is very dangerous. Never leave it lying around. Cut it up before throwing it away.

\* Plastic bags can be lethal. Teach children never to put them over their heads and do not allow little ones to play with them. Tie a knot in the bag for safety.

\* Use waterproof sheets of heavy duty thickness.

### Cords and ribbons

Make sure your children understand how ropes can cause harm.

\* A rope burn can be painful. If it breaks, it can cause a serious fall. The threat of strangulation is so serious that special emphasis should be put on games that risk a rope around the neck.

\* Remove bibs or any clothing with ribbons or cords before putting the baby to sleep. A loose bib may cause suffocation.

\* Do not attach a dummy to a string around the baby's neck.

\* Most babies don't need pillows. If you have to use a pillow, make sure it is thin and firm, not soft. Pillows with ventilation holes are available.

\* Take care that no dangling cords, like those of Venetian blinds, are within the baby's reach.

\* Children under five years should not be allowed to play with cords unless an adult is watching.

\* Never leave a rope dangling over a limb or a rafter or hanging

# Choking - the silent killer

Sowetan 30/12/91

(298)

**THIS, the fifth part of the series on safety for children, looks at yet another serious threat to children's safety, choking. This feature is brought to you by Sowetan and is sponsored by Mobil and the Child Accident Prevention Foundation.**

with a loop at the end

### Others:

\* Make sure your children do not play on dumps or in sandy holes.

\* Use talcum powder carefully. The fine powder may enter the baby's lungs.

\* Place a safety net over pram or cot to stop cats from curling up on the baby's face.

\* Cot bars should be spaced in such a way that the baby can't slip its head through the bars and be strangled.

\* Always remove the entire door or locking device before discarding old refrigerators. Children trapped when playing in a fridge will suffocate because it closes airtight.

### General precautions:

\* Never leave the baby lying on his back. He may be choked or suffocated by something. Rather let him lie on his sides or stomach.

\* Always remove the bib before the baby goes to sleep - a loose bib may cause suffocation.

\* Beware of plastic bibs. Rather buy those sewn to cotton material and use with material side uppermost.

\* Beware of sleeping with a young baby in your bed. She may smother under the blankets or be rolled on.

\* Never give the baby a soft pillow.

\* Keep safety pins closed - it is the open ones which cause damage if swallowed.

\* When changing the baby, keep the nappy pin out of reach from the baby and from young children.

\* Teach older children not to give lilies or pieces of cake to a young baby.

\* Remove any loose trimmings or ribbons from her clothing or blankets.

\* Beware of separating dummy parts that may become lodged in the baby's throat.

\* Beware of soft pliable rubber dummies that may fold over inside the mouth.

\* Avoid dummies so small as to fit into baby's mouth whole.

\* Inspect the floor carefully before you put the baby there to play.

\* Five to seven months is the most dangerous period for choking accidents. Keep all small objects out of reach of the baby who is at the hand-to-mouth stage of development.

### In case of emergency

\* Do not panic if a child appears to be choking - the normal cough reflex will generally expel the object.

\* If the child is small, hold him up by the heels and give him a small slap on the back.

\* If this is not successful, get him to the doctor as soon as possible.

possible

\* Do not slap him hard on the back while he is sitting up - this may make him gasp and suck the object into the passage.

\* Do not try and remove the object with your fingers - this will only push it further down.

\* If you suspect your child has inhaled an object or pushed beads or nuts up his nose or into his ears - get medical aid as soon as possible.

\* If a child develops a chronic cough or wheeze, consider the possibility that he may have inhaled a foreign body into his air passages and take him to the doctor.

\* Apply mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, if your child stops breathing.

\* Seek expert advice from a first aid organisation.



Toys today a joy for the child, tomorrow a weapon of death.

## Telephone Box

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# Cash to help Twilight (248)

## needy sought

Staff Reporter S104-3112191

The Twilight Children's Home in Hillbrow has appealed for funds to send more than 61 destitute boys back to school next year.

According to the acting manager of the centre, Andy Andrews, the project to send the boys to school will cost the centre more than R40 000. The money will go towards books, uniforms and transport.

Mrs Andrews said older boys who had been on the streets for more than four years were being sent to literacy centres to get employment skills, while those who could still attend normal schools were being given a chance to do so.

Mrs Andrews can be reached at (011) 484-1590.



Back to school . . . Jabulani Khumalo (13) is among 61 boys from the Twilight Children's Home in Hillbrow who are currently being assessed for school next year.  
Picture: Karen Fletcher