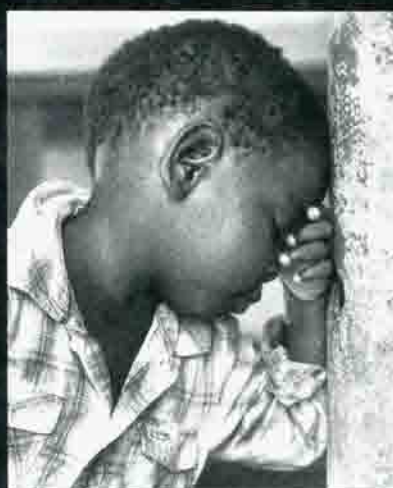


CHILDREN



APARTHEID



**BISHOP AMBROSE REEVES TRUST
13 MANDELA STREET LONDON NW1 0DW**

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&
APARTHEID



£1-80

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INTRODUCTION

In South Africa during a three year period between 1984 and 1986 an estimated 11,000 children¹ were detained without trial, some were as young as nine years old.² Whilst in detention many of them were subjected to some form of physical abuse, ranging from electric shocks, severe beating, strangulation, deprivation of food, water and sleep to a variety of forms of psychological torture including solitary confinement and deliberate humiliation.³

Alarmed by the nature and the extent of what is now known as 'the war on children', the international conference on 'Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa', organised under the auspices of the Bishop Ambrose Reeves Trust, was held in Harare in September 1987. Out of 700 delegates who attended this unique conference, initiated by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, nearly 300 came from within South Africa. They included doctors, religious workers, social workers, lawyers, parents and some of the children who had been detained and tortured. Conference delegates were deeply inspired by the courage and spirit of resistance and hope of the children and were so moved personally by the experience as to commit themselves to keep the world aware of the plight of South Africa's children.

The ensuing pressure, both external and internal, resulted in a sharp decline in the number of child detainees. From 10 June 1988 to 9 June 1989 some 219 children were detained under the State of Emergency, a much smaller number than in any of the preceding four years.⁴ But the international community still has a responsibility to continue the campaign until every child in South Africa is free. However, release from detention does not mean freedom. Children have come out of police cells only to find themselves in the larger prison of apartheid South Africa, still under threat of arrest or restriction and surrounded by state violence, poverty, discrimination and inferior and discriminatory educational and health facilities.

The impact of the policies of apartheid reach far beyond South Africa's borders. Children suffer directly and indirectly throughout the entire region. A UNICEF study published in April 1989 estimated that twenty-five children die every hour from the effects of war in Southern Africa.⁵ Millions of Angolans and Mozambicans have been driven from their homes, leaving many thousands of children orphaned and millions at risk from starvation.⁶ For those who survive, life is dogged by continual fear, misery and hardship. The children of Southern Africa will not lead a normal life as long as the system of apartheid remains.

The Harare Conference stimulated a movement across the world to mobilise action to defend and protect the children who are victims of apartheid. This publication is designed to ensure that people in Britain and internationally are aware of the facts about the plight of children in Southern Africa, in particular the nature of apartheid repression, and its effects on neighbouring Front Line States.

SOUTH AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

"South Africa, at war with its own people, is fighting an undeclared war against its neighbours — the independent Front Line States. The war is part of South Africa's policy of 'Total Strategy' known as destabilisation, which involves all the forces — political, economic, diplomatic and military. The regional objective is to create and maintain a dependence that will be economically lucrative and politically submissive — and act as a bulwark against the imposition of international sanctions against apartheid . . . Destabilisation is, of course, taking many forms but the conclusion is one: Destabilisation leads to the death of innocent human beings, either through deprivation or through bullets."

Dr Kenneth D Kaunda

Chair of the Front Line States

President of the Republic of Zambia

November 1987⁷

The 'Front Line States', which first came into being in 1975, refers to the grouping of independent states of Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania. Other states affected in the region are Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland. Together with the Front Line States, they are members of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) which seeks to promote the development of the independent states in Southern Africa and to reduce their dependence on apartheid South Africa. It is estimated that the overall cost of the destabilisation of SADCC countries since 1980 amounts to \$60 billion. Bordering South Africa, Namibia is also vulnerable. Following over one hundred years of colonial rule and 24 years under illegal occupation by South Africa, Namibia will become independent in 1990.

ANGOLA

When Angola became independent in 1975, after a long anti-colonial struggle against Portuguese rule, South African military forces were occupying large areas of the country and were within a few miles of its capital Luanda. Since 1975 there have been a series of South African invasions of Angola. South Africa has also armed and otherwise sponsored the anti-government UNITA grouping.

BOTSWANA

Botswana, which became independent in 1966, has been especially vulnerable to South African destabilisation because of its close historic economic, transportation and other relations with South Africa. Despite its vulnerability it has provided refuge to South African and Namibian refugees. South African commando squads have carried out a series of paramilitary raids.



MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique became independent in 1975 following a long struggle against Portuguese colonial rule. Since 1975⁸ it has been a target of aggression, by the illegal Smith regime in Rhodesia, and by Renamo, which was initially created by the Smith regime, and then came under South African control following Zimbabwe's independence in 1980. South

African commando units have also carried out direct attacks against Mozambique.

NAMIBIA

Namibia has been illegally occupied by South Africa since 1966. It is due to become independent in 1990 following the implementation of the UN independence plan.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Union of South Africa was formed in 1910 by an Act of the British parliament. The National Party was elected in 1948 committed to implementing apartheid policies. Following an all-white referendum South Africa was declared a Republic in 1961. South Africa has unilaterally declared Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei and Venda to be 'independent', however no countries other than South Africa recognise the independence of these bantustans.

TANZANIA

Tanzania gained independence in 1961, and is now home for thousands of exiles from South Africa especially since the withdrawal of many African National Congress (ANC)⁸ members from Angola in 1989. The ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College, established in 1979, provides an 'education for freedom' for young refugees.

ZAMBIA

Since independence in 1964 Zambia has provided substantial assistance

for many African refugees — including Zimbabweans fleeing from the Rhodesian armed forces prior to independence in 1980, and for South Africans and Namibians exiled by apartheid. Zambia hosts the headquarters of the ANC. South African military forces have carried out numerous attacks against Zambia; its residents have also been the target of South African assassination squads.

ZIMBABWE

The people of Zimbabwe gained independence in 1980 after waging a long struggle against the illegal

Smith regime. At independence Zimbabwe was almost totally dependent on South Africa. Over the past decade it has substantially reduced this dependency and is the most advanced industrial country of the Front Line States but has had to divert a large amount of resources to defence against apartheid aggression.

Children killed at Matola by South African commandos.



IDAF

Under the system of apartheid, South Africans are classified at birth as belonging to one of four racial groups — African, White, Coloured (mixed race) and Asian. This classification controls every aspect of their lives, from where they go to school, work, where they can live, to whether they can vote. The African majority constitutes 74.7% of the population, White 13.8%, Coloured 8.7% and Asians 2.6%.

Race Relations Survey, 1988, South African Institute

TOTAL POPULATION OF SOUTH AFRICA: 1988

	NUMBERS	PROPORTION (%)
AFRICAN	26 974 284	74.9
ASIAN	928 000	2.6
'COLOURED'	3 127 000	8.7
WHITE	4 949 000	13.8
TOTAL	35 978 284	100

THE OFFICIAL ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL SOUTH AFRICAN POPULATION (INCLUDING ALL TEN HOMELANDS)
SOURCE: RACE RELATIONS SURVEY 1988/90

CHILDREN, APARTHEID REPRESSION & AGGRESSION

THE FACTS

SOUTH AFRICA

On June 16 1976, black⁹ South African children took to the streets of Soweto to protest against apartheid education. The police opened fire and shot dead 13 year old Hector Petersen and many others. In the wake of these shootings thousands of children were killed, maimed or arrested for taking part in protest campaigns in schools and townships throughout South Africa.¹⁰

Children were again a target of repression when a wave of arrests spread across South Africa. In the period 1984-1986 an estimated 11,000 children were detained under laws which deny parents and lawyers access to them. A further 18,000 children were arrested in this period for alleged offences connected to what the South African regime calls 'the unrest'. Eighty per cent of these children were never brought to trial.

Children have been held in large communal cells, sometimes even sharing them with convicted common-law prisoners, leaving them vulnerable to sexual abuse.¹¹ Children have been subjected to violence both at the time of arrest and in police custody. Research conducted by the US Lawyers Committee for Human Rights shows that children are subjected to systematic assault and the frequent and chilling use of torture techniques such as strangulation; electric shock; beating; enforced standing; severe food and sleep deprivation; the so-called 'helicopter', in which the victim is handcuffed at the wrists and ankles and suspended over a pole between two chairs, sometimes for hours, while being severely beaten and interrogated; enforced nakedness; shackling; prolonged interrogation; humiliation; and threats.

According to the evidence gathered by several reputable and independent organisations in South Africa and abroad, 100% of all children detained were exposed to some form of coercion, 93% of all children detained were tortured, 80% were placed in solitary confinement and 60% of these children sustained severe injuries.¹²

The experience of arrest, indefinite detention and interrogation is deeply disturbing for any detainee, but can be acutely traumatic for children. A psychiatrist involved in the treatment of detainees on their release has estimated that as many as 70%¹³ develop post-traumatic stress disorders and are susceptible to anxiety disorders. These include depression, fatigue, sleep disorders, cognitive impairment, memory problems, concentration problems, behaviour disorders and psychotic episodes. Children frequently exhibit acute feelings of fear, guilt, isolation and depression upon their release.¹⁴

NAMIBIA

A similar pattern of repression was experienced by children in Namibia up to April 1989, which saw the commencement of the UN plan for independence in Namibia. Children endured the militarization of

schools and hospitals, the breaking up of peaceful meetings, political arrests and detentions, interrogation by torture and police brutality. A dusk-to-dawn curfew was in force disrupting everyday life. To go out after curfew was to risk possible death.



It has been estimated that between 1980-1988 the child and infant death toll reached 50,000.¹⁵ With independence Namibia needs the opportunity to promote reconciliation and reconstruction so that its children can develop free from fear and suffering.

Independent Namibia will need extensive international aid, especially so that its education, health and social services can be developed to the benefit of its children. Above all it will need to be free from South African aggression and destabilisation — policies which have so hampered the development of other states in the region when they have gained independence.



IDAF

Police patrol Crossroads, a South African township, 1986.

ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE

Although all of the nine independent countries in the region have been affected, two of the Front Line States have been specially targeted — Angola and Mozambique. Between 1980-1988, the number of Angolan and Mozambican children under the age of five whose lives were lost as a consequence of war and destabilisation totalled 820,000, more people than were killed by atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Until their recent withdrawal from Angola, South African troops had been occupying or attacking the

country throughout the period since its independence in 1975. Large parts of the southern provinces had been laid to waste by the occupying forces and bombing raids have carried the destruction into the heart of the country.

Children have also been victims of the activities of UNITA — the anti-government grouping which receives military and financial support from South Africa. Many children have been disabled or killed by mines sown by UNITA in the countryside.

Similarly Mozambique has seen its every effort to build a better future for children wrecked. Renamo, with South African logistical support, has systematically pursued a policy of terrorising the rural population of Mozambique and again children have especially suffered. Many have seen their relatives and friends murdered and have witnessed the destruction of their homes and communities. A

most disturbing feature has been Renamo's practice of kidnapping children — in some cases as young as eight years old. These children have been coerced into undergoing rudimentary military training and then forced to join in the attacks on the civilian population.

Amongst Renamo's actions have been the burning of crops and farmhouses, the destruction of schools, clinics, churches, mosques, stores and villages. They have even resorted to throwing dead bodies into wells in order to poison the water supply. Amongst Renamo's targets have been health workers, schoolteachers and pupils, foreign aid personnel and vehicles transporting health and relief supplies, which has had the effect of causing a breakdown in the provision of education and health services to children, and indeed, the civil administration as a whole making large areas of the country both ungovernable and uninhabitable.

THE REGION

Deaths among infants and children as a direct or indirect consequence of South African aggression or destabilisation over the period 1980-1988 have totalled over 330,000 in Angola and over 490,000 in Mozambique. Such deaths in other SADCC countries are much lower and harder to estimate. Estimates for 1980-1988 for infant and young child death suggest a total of 25,000 for Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia together: there are more deaths, in fact, than would be caused in the loss of a fully loaded jumbo jet every week.¹⁶

Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Botswana, Zambia and Swaziland have all had to contend with South African Defence Force (SADF) strikes on their capital cities. Many of the raids, which South Africa claimed were directed at the ANC, have taken the lives of innocent nationals, non-combatants and refugees. The destabilisation of the region has had a devastating effect — both direct and indirect — on the lives of children. More than ever the children in the region need peace. As Rev. Frank Chikane, the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches has commented:

'There is very little that can be done to save and protect the brutalised children of Southern Africa without removing the apartheid regime. The racist apartheid regime is evil and can only survive by murdering hundreds of thousands of defenceless people. The determination of the people to be free will force the system to unleash all its powers at the expense of countless lives. If nothing is done we shall soon be talking about millions dead. Apartheid must be stopped!'

CHILDREN AND HEALTH

THE FACTS

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is a rich agricultural country, able to export a wide variety of foodstuffs and other products. Yet thousands of black children die each year from malnutrition and malnutrition-related diseases. Inequality for black South African children begins when they are born. A white child lives in better housing, is well nourished, and has access to one of the most sophisticated health services the world can offer.

The poverty and appalling living conditions forced on to black people by apartheid are responsible for their suffering on a huge scale. Preventable diseases like tuberculosis, typhoid, cholera, polio, gastro-enteritis and measles are endemic. Measles, rarely a killer in the west or of white South African children, kills more black South African children in three days than it does in the United States in one year.¹⁷

Medical expenditure for blacks is vastly inferior to that for whites. The Health Workers Association (HWA) of South Africa says that in 1988 'the annual health budget gave 20% of allocated money to 80% of the population, who were black, while the white population, which constitutes 20% of the population, received 80% of available resources'.¹⁸ The entire health service is segregated, with separate hospitals, clinics and even ambulances for blacks and whites.

There is one doctor for every 400 whites, but only one doctor for every 90,000 black people.¹⁹ In rural areas where over 60% of the African population live, the position is much worse. A spokesperson for the HWA argued that 'the achievement of an adequate health service available to all South Africans, irrespective of class or colour, will never be realised until the apartheid system is destroyed'.²⁰

In August 1988, no longer prepared to accept the gross inequalities of segregated facilities, the Mass Democratic Movement launched a nationwide defiance campaign whereby hundreds of blacks presented themselves for treatment at 'whites only' hospitals. All patients were accepted for treatment, the first step in the process of non-violent direct action to rid South Africa of racially segregated health facilities.

NAMIBIA

Black Namibian children, like their South African counterparts, have suffered under a system of privilege where the minority of whites have vastly superior health care whilst blacks have had a totally inadequate health care system. South Africa's illegal administration spent about 10 times as much money on health care for each

white person as for each black person. Malnutrition affects up to 50% of black Namibian infants — over 60% of all black households live in absolute poverty, with average incomes below US\$450 per year compared to an average white income of US\$9,000.

In contrast to the neglect of the health care of children within Namibia, SWAPO strived to

PER CAPITA HEALTH EXPENDITURE BY RACE (US\$) IN SOUTH AFRICA

WHITE	241
INDIAN	89
COLOURED	21
AFRICAN	5

SOURCE: CHILDREN ON THE FRONTLINE

NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN (1-5 YEARS), SOUTH AFRICA (EXPRESSED AS PERCENTAGES)

	1987		1988		1989	
	STUNTING	UNDER-WEIGHT	STUNTING	UNDER-WEIGHT	STUNTING	UNDER-WEIGHT
RURAL						
URBAN	76	74	7	41	16	7
URBAN	4	7	2	2	28	7
URBAN						
COLOURED	7	27	8	20	28	11
URBAN						
URBAN	7	22	1	6	15	15
URBAN						
WHITE	10	1	1	3	8	5

INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN SOUTH AFRICA (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS) BY RACE, AVERAGED OVER 1981-1985

	NATIONAL	INDIAN AND COLOURED	RURAL AND RURAL-URBAN
WHITE	12.5	12.1	22.1
COLOURED	51.9	25.9	60.0
INDIAN	17.9	17.1	19.8
BLACK	91.0	56.6	110.0

SOURCE: CHILDREN ON THE FRONTLINE

1. Simons
2. Gambia, Republic of, Senegal, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe

provide a high standard of primary health care in the refugee centres it controlled in Angola and Zambia. SWAPO, which won a clear majority in the pre-independence elections, aims to build upon this experience in developing health care in independent Namibia.

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION

In Mozambique 822 health posts

have been destroyed since 1982 by Renamo. During these attacks many health workers have been killed or wounded by Renamo.²¹ As a result, easily preventable or curable diseases are now taking a rising toll on vulnerable infants and children. The situation is similar for children in Angola — as a result of the actions by UNITA.

At independence, all the neighbouring African states initiated extensive programmes of

health care especially for infants and children. Progress however, has been uneven. Floods, droughts and other natural disasters have played a role; so has the lack of financial and human resources largely as a consequence of South African destabilisation. Health care facilities have also been the target of direct attacks by South African forces and South African-backed groupings such as Renamo and UNITA.



War on Want

Children recently liberated from Renamo bandits in Lugela District, Zambesia Province, Mozambique. They are now supported by War on Want with funding from the Mandela Concert Fund.

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION

THE FACTS

SOUTH AFRICA

No child in South Africa can escape apartheid indoctrination — whether s/he be black or white. The basic tenets of apartheid are enshrined in the Bantu Education Act of 1953. Dr Verwoerd, then Minister of Native Affairs, stated:

'Natives will be taught from childhood to realise that equality with Europeans is not for them.'

State school education is segregated. From the beginning of this century white children have enjoyed free and compulsory education whilst education for the African child is voluntary and fee-paying. The inequalities of the school system have been well documented. Schools for Africans are overcrowded, poorly equipped, under-funded and under-staffed. Teacher training for Africans is under-resourced which adds to the cycle of educational deprivation.

It was these conditions which contributed to the Soweto protests of 1976. School children objected to the use of Afrikaans as a compulsory medium of instruction in African schools. Carrying posters reading 'Afrikaans is the oppressor's language', 10,000 children marched through Soweto singing and chanting. The South African police responded with their characteristic violence.

The compulsory use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction was withdrawn. The Bantu Education system was re-designated 'Black Education', but the essence of the system remains unchanged. Indeed during the township unrest in the mid 1980s, many schools were occupied by the military.

Educational deprivation is still an explosive issue in South Africa. There continue to be gross inequalities between education for blacks and whites. Estimated pupil/teacher ratios for 1987-88 show:

African	41:1
Coloured	25:1
Indian	21:1
White	16:1

In the Bantustans the pupil/teacher ratio is in some cases as high as 150:1.²²

PER CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE DURING 1987/88 ON PUPILS OF THE DIFFERENT RACIAL GROUPS WAS AS FOLLOWS

	INCLUDING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	EXCLUDING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
	R	R
ALL OF ANTSWILE DEMOCRATIC AFRICAN ONLY	580.0	507.5
COLOURED	200.0	157.0
INDIAN	272.0	236.0
WHITE	272.0	236.0

SOURCE: RACE RELATIONS SURVEY 1988/89

Education for black children is neither compulsory or free. Very few black parents can afford the school fees, uniforms, books and stationery, and rural pupils can often not afford transport costs to and from school. Poverty often dictates that black children are obliged to work in order to survive. A combination of these factors leads to a high drop-out rate of black students and to students achieving a poor level of education, fulfilling the intentions of apartheid's architects and their successors in the current government.

In the final secondary school examination in 1989, on which hopes of finding a job are based, only 42% of students passed (down from 56% in 1988). The

Minister in charge of black education, Mr Stoffel van der Merwe told a press conference in Johannesburg on 11 January 1990: 'I don't think this government will ever reach the point where it will forcibly integrate schools.' Asked why Pretoria had decided to force the integration of beaches but was maintaining school segregation, he replied: 'One does not *have* to go to the beach.'

A school boycott was launched in 1983 in the Pretoria area, around demands for free textbooks, properly qualified teachers, the abolition of corporal punishments, the ending of sexual harassment of girl students and official recognition of the democratically elected Student Representative Council (SRC).

During the period 1984-86 the boycott strategy gained widespread support under the banner of 'Education for Liberation'. 650,000 pupils and hundreds of schools were involved in the boycott. The South African police responded; many young activists were killed and thousands detained. In August 1985 the SADF occupied many black townships and schools and banned the major organisation of school pupils — the Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

A call for a nationwide return to school was adopted in March 1986 at a conference organised by the National Education Crisis Committee (NECC), later banned in February 1988. Although the boycott strategy succeeded in disrupting the apartheid system and mobilising both students and communities, the action meant that large numbers of secondary school students were being deprived of, albeit limited, education.

In November 1988 new regulations were issued giving the education minister responsible for African education new powers further to suppress student demonstrations. Schools have been closed, organisations have been banned or restricted and individual teachers and students restricted, detained or murdered.

Today the overwhelming call by the black South African school students continues to be for a compulsory, free, equal and democratic system of education in a non-racial and democratic South Africa.

Squalid and overcrowded conditions in South African schools.

NAMIBIA

The Bantu education philosophy was exported by the South Africans to Namibia. Education for white children being compulsory and free, but the reverse for black children. The majority of black Namibians did not have the opportunity to complete the first six years of primary education. Statistics show that only 1% of black Namibians received further education.

Namibian school students, like their counterparts in South Africa,



IDAF

protested against these inequalities. By May 1988 a school boycott campaign involved every region of the country and affected the entire school system.

As with health care, SWAPO, which will form the first government of independent Namibia, is committed to a major programme of educational provision designed to combat illiteracy and ensure equal educational opportunity for all Namibians.

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION

Since their independence the countries of the Front Line States have placed a high priority on education and the abolition of illiteracy. The ruling colonial powers in each of these countries restricted the indigenous population's access to education leaving an inheritance of neglect to newly formed governments. At independence Mozambique's illiteracy rate was 93% and that of Angola, 85%.

Progressively the states in the region have achieved universal primary school enrolment. However Angola, which had achieved a 66% level by 1982, has seen this figure drop to below 50% as a result of UNITA attacks, dislocation of people and lack of resources. Likewise Mozambique's level of approximately only 46% is largely because of Renamo's practice of destroying rural schools. Educational quality has also suffered because war costs and related economic decline have forced cuts in expenditure on books, equipment, furniture, writing materials and the maintenance of buildings.

CHILDREN AND APARTHEID

THE FACTS

In South Africa deprivation and poverty extend into every area of a black child's life. The fabric of their lives is violated, the deprivations interwoven.

Half the black urban population live in shacks with no amenities.²³

In the black township of Soweto an average of 20 persons share each housing unit.²⁴

In Mapetla, Johannesburg, there is an average of one toilet to 180 people.²⁵

In the Orange Free State there is an average of one pit latrine to every 66 black persons.

Many families are forced to live apart.

Families are separated by the migrant labour system, a system which forces men to live in single sex dormitories hundreds of miles away from their families.

Black children are prevented by law from living with their parents who work in white areas, for instance the families of domestic workers.

Restriction orders limit the number of people one can be with at any given time — even if these people are family members.

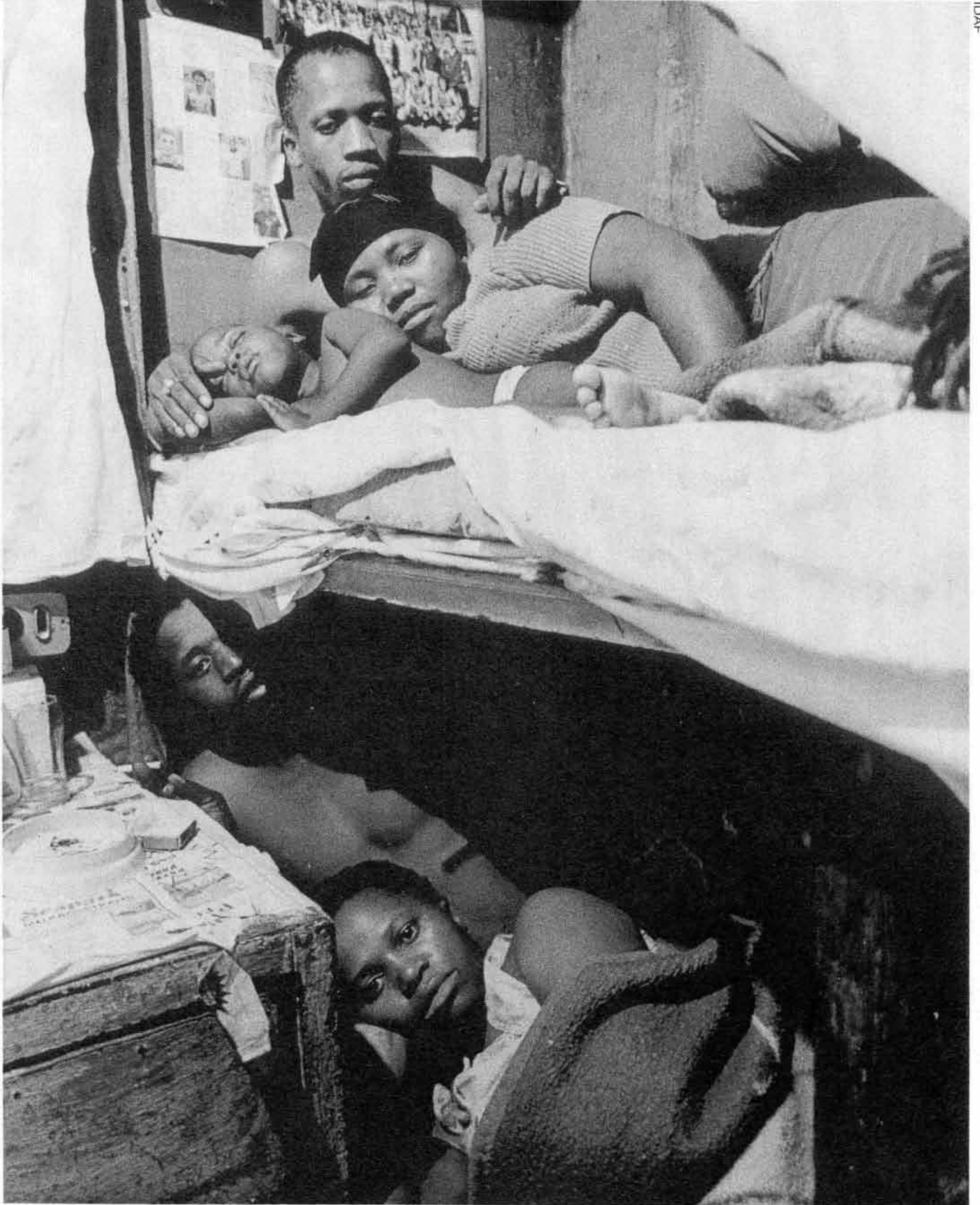
Skin colour determines the right to leisure and sport.

Black children play in filthy open lots and in busy streets, where the danger of fatal accidents is ever present.

There has been a marked increase in alcohol abuse and glue-sniffing amongst children.

Whilst children starve in South Africa it exports £100 million worth of food to Britain alone.

Guguletu Men's Hostel 1989, where women have moved in with their migrant worker husbands. What was once inadequate housing for one is now often used for an entire family, with up to 15 people living in one small room.



JESSIE TAMBOER, GRAHAMSTOWN

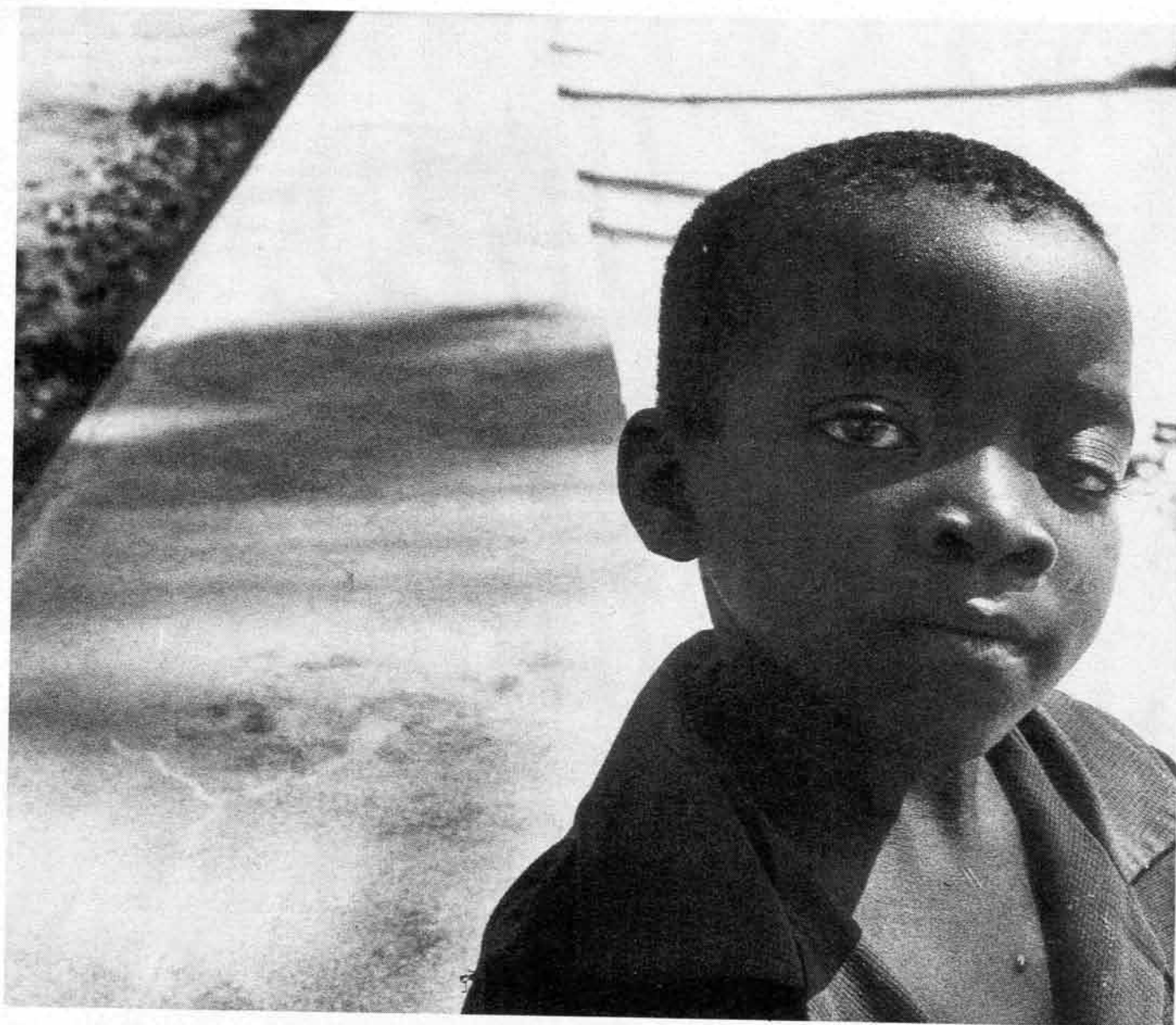
Jessie Tamboer loved her children so much that she could not bear to see them suffering. Unable to pay for their education and to buy them food and seeing no alternative, the 36-year-old mother of two decided to kill herself. At the end of last week, after telling her 13-year-old daughter, Grace, to go to sleep, Jessie Tamboer poured 5 litres of paraffin over herself and looked for a match. After searching in vain for a short while, she went to a tin filled with coal standing in front of her little shack and held her paraffin-soaked clothes in the fire. She was immediately engulfed by flames but did not utter a sound as he walked around the yard burning. Mr Gladman Makeba, who lived in a house behind her, was the first to see the horrifying scene. 'I saw a woman burning with big red flames and she was just walking, without even screaming. I quickly fetched some water and threw it at her but there was too much fire. Only after another man also poured water over her did she stop burning. It must have taken about 20 minutes from the time I saw her to the time when there were no flames,' he said. While she was burning somebody called an ambulance which came shortly after the flames had been extinguished. Ms Tamboer was rushed to Settlers Hospital but died later that night. The superintendent of the hospital, Dr Briscoe, said that Ms Tamboer was brought in with 90 per cent burns. Jessie's younger sister, who is now looking after the two children, said that Jessie had for some time been depressed. Early last year her husband, Solomon Little, was shot and killed by a policeman in Port Elizabeth. They said at the time that he had been involved in a burglary and had resisted arrest. 'Jessie did not have enough money to bury him and she could not forgive herself for that. At times she would just suddenly start sobbing without any apparent reason', Julia Tamboer said. Jessie shared two rooms with her sisters and their children and her mother. Because it was so crowded they would take turns at not sleeping at home. Of the 15 people, only one person had a job, while four others received money from old age pensions and disability grants. 'But Jessie had no money, she could not buy food for her children and could not send them to school. In May she went to the Grahamstown Area's District Relief Association (Gadra) and was given some clothes. Agency workers told her she should get birth certificates for her children. She then went to the Department of Home Affairs to get the birth certificates but was told to wait for three months. 'She could not wait that long,' Julia said. Grace, who in talking about the death of her mother and now having to look after her five-year-old brother, Paul, displays a maturity far beyond her 13 years, says that her mother had tried her best to look after them. 'She was a good mother and cared a lot for us. She wanted to work but could not find anything . . . After she was taken to the hospital she sent a message to her mother asking for forgiveness and to look after me and my brother', Grace said.

From Uprooting Poverty



IDAF

Germiston Old Location, Witwatersrand, July 1988. Jansen's house was broken down by the authorities for rent default. She and her three children have nowhere else to live and have been sleeping in the open veldt.



'This child is Francesco Managane Sigao. He's six. He comes from Chibuto in Mozambique. He's traumatised by what happened to him at the time of his kidnap. According to what we can find out, when the bandits arrived at his home, they seized all his family, and then they put the family inside a hut and made him set fire to it. His family thought the bandits had gone off to burn other houses and they tried to get out, already in agony from the smoke. And then the bandits who were still outside grabbed them and killed them with machetes and axes, hacked them to death, put them in an oil drum, made a fire and put it on the fire. Then they took the boy away with them. So now in effect, he's completely alone, a child of six — and what's happening here is because he's thinking about them, what happened to them, it's traumatised him and he won't talk.'

*Reinaldo Mucavel, Director Languene Centre, Mozambique
Chain of Tears*

'On the second day, I was taken to Kempton Park Police Station. I was given electric shocks. I was stripped and put in a rubber suit from head to foot. A dummy was put in my mouth so I could not scream. There was no air. They switched the plug on. My muscles pumping hard, no signs on my body. I couldn't see anything.

When they switched the plug off they took the dummy out and said I should speak. When I refused, they put the dummy back and switched on again. After a long time they stopped. I was stripped and put into a refrigerated room naked. I was left there. In the fridge it was also something like 30 minutes. Then they brought me out again and put me back in the electric shock suit. I was then taken into another interrogation room. My hands, feet and head were tied around a pole and bright search lights turned on. I could not remove my head from those search lights. And then they brightened them straight into my face. I felt my mind go dead. I couldn't see. I cannot even read at this present juncture. I was dizzy. I was beaten again for the whole day. I have scars on my right hip, in my head and on my back.

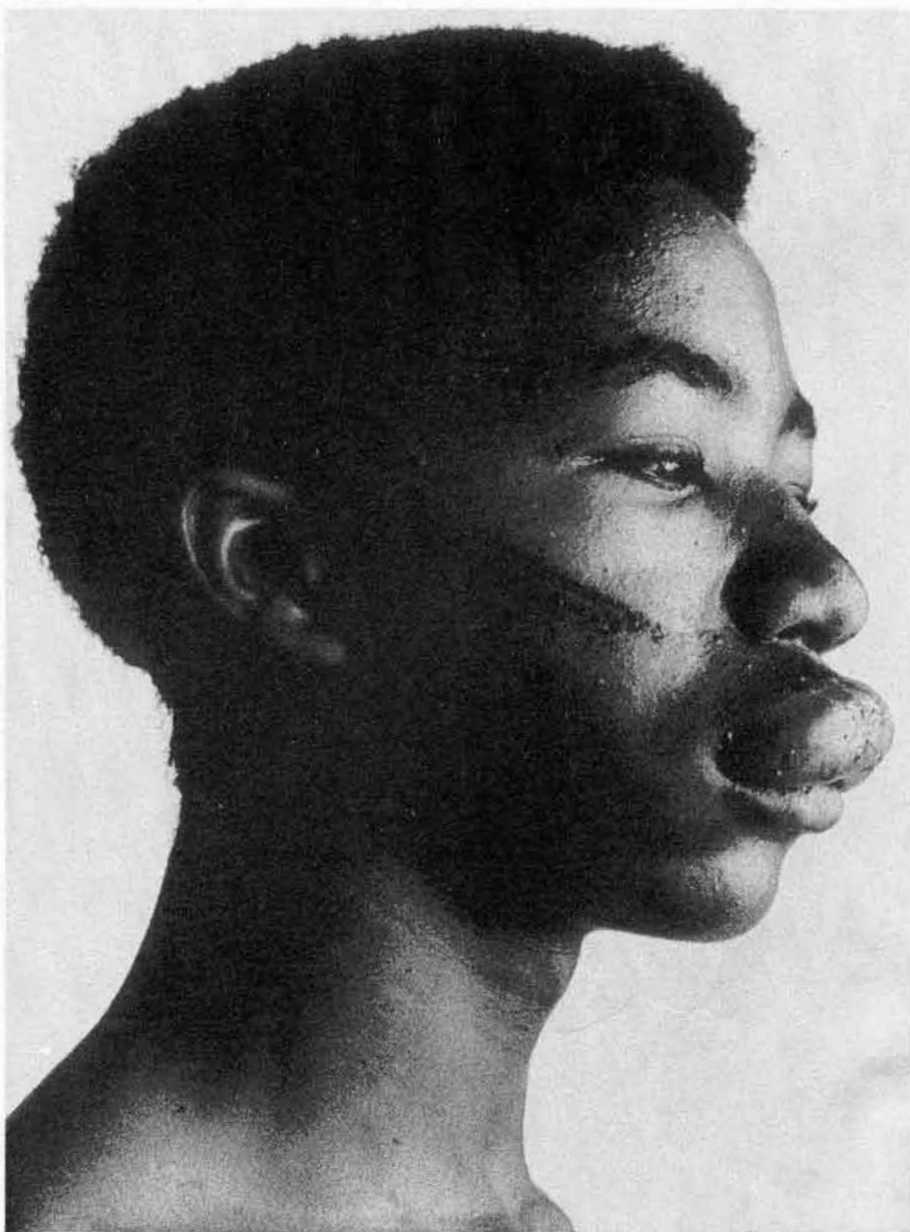
I was then taken to Modderbee Prison. I was given no medical treatment. I was given ice cubes for my swollen face. I was in prison for three months. I spent two weeks in solitary confinement. Sometimes I would be there for two weeks and then they took me out again. They were changing. It depends, because if they've detained somebody from the membership of the organisation and maybe if that somebody has revealed certain information about me to them, then they came to my cell telling me, 'So-and-so has told us about you.' And then, 'It seems you were telling us the wrong information and you are not

prepared to say the right information.' So then they took me back to the solitary confinement.

Maybe after two weeks then they would take me out again and if they detain somebody I would go back again. I was beaten in prison, but only with fists. After my release I

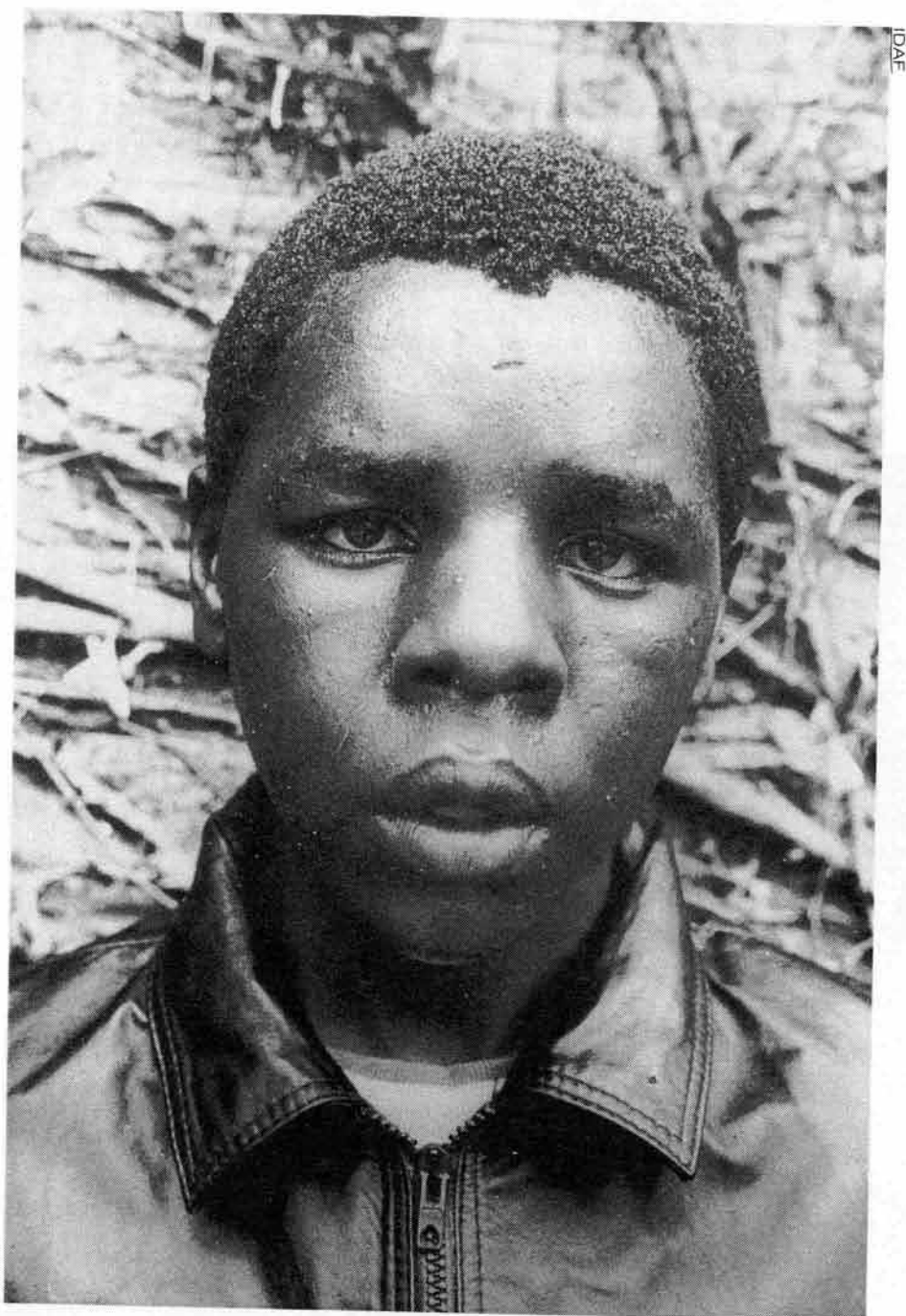
was to report at 7am and 7pm at the police station. I didn't. I spent five months in hiding after my release before leaving. I could not attend school. My family do not know where I am.'

Buras Nhlabathi, from Children of Resistance, edited by Victoria Brittain and Abdul S Minty



This 17 year old boy from the East Rand was beaten by South African security forces whilst studying at school during the stayaway to commemorate Sharpeville and Uitenhage, March 1988

'Johnny is real. He used to be a lively youngster, full of life and fun until he fell into the clutches of the security system of the apartheid regime. It is not quite clear what the police did to Johnny . . . What is certain is that he went in a lively, healthy and normal youngster and he came out a walking human vegetable. The police did something to him. It is quite important for the world to know Johnny is no figment of a feverish imagination. I saw him, with my own eyes in Khotso House, Johannesburg.'
Archbishop Desmond Tutu in his foreword to *The War Against Children, Lawyers Committee.*



'Portius Blasius is a 15 year old school boy from the Oblalantu district in Namibia. He had his face severely burned when members of the South African Defence Force pressed him against the red hot exhaust of a military Buffel truck. Portius was being questioned on the whereabouts of SWAPO fighters of which he had no knowledge. Two soldiers from the SADF were later found guilty and fined R500 (approx £100).'
Namibia — Apartheid's Forgotten children, *Oxfam Publication*



IDAF

'He said that he went out one morning and was on his way to the fields when he stepped on something. It exploded and he fell to the ground with his leg blown off. This child is an orphan, he has lost his mother and father . . . The mine was planted by UNITA.'
Dr Duma, Director Kuito Hospital, Angola
Chain of Tears, a Channel 4 Production



KEITH BERNSTEIN

WHAT CAN WE DO?

In September 1987, the Rev. Frank Chikane, General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches issued a moving challenge to the international conference on 'Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa':

'We have come here to share our pain and our suffering, particularly of our children. We just hope that there are still people in the world who have enough moral instinct to be moved by our witness to act decisively and make it impossible for the apartheid regime to live a day longer. We also hope that those who collude with this inhuman regime will be ashamed of their action and withdraw their support for the system.'

We have a duty to respond to this challenge. There is much that can be done.

TELL THE TRUTH

Help people find out what is really happening to children in Southern Africa because of apartheid:

- arrange a video showing of one of the following excellent documentary films available:

Chain of Tears — a Debonair production for Channel 4. An excellent film which shows the plight of children in Angola, Mozambique and South Africa. Distributed by Concord Films.

Any Child is My Child — IDAF — the video of the Harare Conference. Includes the testimony of children plus statements from Archbishop Huddleston, Oliver Tambo, Angela Davis and Glenys Kinnock.

- read more about the facts. Books and pamphlets include:

Children of Resistance Edited by Victoria Brittain & Abdul S Minty. IDAF 1988

(Testimonies from the Harare Conference highlighting the courage and plight and the resilience of children from children, parents, doctors, lawyers).

Children on the Frontline A Report for UNICEF 1989

(Highly recommended report on the impact of apartheid, destabilization and warfare on children in Southern and South Africa).

Apartheid's Violence Against Children IDAF 1988

The text of the Working Document of the Harare Conference examining the violent means the regime uses when children seek to change the conditions).

Schools and Teachers Under Apartheid A WUS Briefing 1989

(A current report on the situation of South Africa's school system).

A Case for Change Leeds Development Education Pack 1989

(An active learning pack, exploring issues of human rights, repression and protest through a variety of active learning methods).

Learning About Apartheid BDAF/ILEA 1988

(A comprehensive resource guide to books, films, videos and organisations).

Children in South Africa: Repression and Resistance

IDAF Information Notes and Briefings 89/3

Hidden Lives, Hidden Deaths South Africa's Crippling of a Continent by Victoria Brittain, Faber & Faber

- Invite a speaker to address any organisation which you are involved in. A panel of speakers is available with expert knowledge or experience of the effects of apartheid on children in Southern Africa. Those on the panel include:

- participants at the Harare Conference

- professional experts who have worked on projects in Southern Africa

- experts from Southern Africa at present in Britain.

SHOW YOUR SOLIDARITY

Inside South Africa many of the organisations and individuals who have sought to provide care and protection for children have been subject to arbitrary banning and restrictions. For example the Detainee Parents Support Committee which performed an invaluable task in trying to monitor the detention without trial of children was banned with 16 other

non-violent anti-apartheid organisations in February 1988. This makes it even more important for the international community to strive to achieve what all the Commonwealth Heads of Government themselves identified at their Vancouver Conference in 1987 as being vital — that we try 'to guarantee the children of South Africa the special protection to which their vulnerability entitles them.'

- Make representations to the South African authorities calling for the release of all children detained without trial in South Africa.
- Approach your Member of Parliament and the Government to seek their support for such representations.
- Support efforts to secure the end of the bannings and restrictions on organisations and individuals who are involved in the protection and care of children.

AID FOR CHILDREN

Initiatives such as the 'Tribute to Nelson Mandela at Wembley Stadium and Comic Relief have raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for projects for children in Southern Africa. The Wembley Concert alone raised £600,000 which was distributed through seven British agencies to projects for children in Southern Africa.

But much, much, much more is required. A new fund has been created to serve as a channel for funding such projects — the 'Trevor Huddleston Children's Fund'. Fifty per cent of the funds raised will be channelled through the seven agencies which were beneficiaries of the Wembley Concert — the other 50% will be used for educational and campaigning work in Britain in support of the children of Southern Africa.

Help raise aid for the children of Southern Africa by:
— publicising the work of projects in Southern Africa
— raising funds for the Trevor Huddleston Children's Fund
— making donations directly to agencies working in the area

A special Committee on Children has been established by SATIS (Southern Africa the Imprisoned Society) which includes the British participants to the Harare Conference and seeks above all to 'Free the Children From Apartheid'.

If you want further information or advice please contact the Bishop Ambrose Reeves Trust, the SATIS Committee on Children or the Trevor Huddleston Children's Fund all of which are based at:

13 Mandela Street London NW1 0DW Tel: 01 387 7966 Fax: 01 388 0173

Thousands of children have been orphaned, lost or abandoned as a result of war in Mozambique. Save the Children, one of the beneficiaries of the Trevor Huddleston Children's Fund, is helping to reunite them with their families.



LIST OF USEFUL ADDRESSES:

African National Congress (ANC)
28 Penton Street
London N1

Anti-Apartheid Movement
13 Mandela Street
London NW1 0DW

**British Defence and Aid Fund for
Southern Africa (BDAF)**
22 The Ivories
Northampton Street
London N1 2HX

**Catholic Fund for Overseas
Development (CAFOD)**
2 Romero Close
Stockwell Road
London SW9 9TY

**Catholic Institute for International
Relations (CIIR)**
22 Coleman Fields
London N1 7AF

Christian Aid
Interchurch House
35-41 Lower Marsh Street
London SE1 7RT

Concord Films
201 Felixstowe Road
Ipswich
Suffolk IP3 9BJ

**International Defence & Aid Fund
for Southern Africa (IDAF)**
Canon Collins House
64 Essex Road
London NW1 8LR

**Leeds Development Education
Centre**
151-153 Cardigan Road
Leeds LS6 1LJ

Mozambique Information Office
7a Caledonian Road
London N1

Oxfam
274 Banbury Road
Oxford OX2 7DZ

Save the Children Fund
Mary Datchelor House
17 Grove Lane
Camberwell
London SE5 8RD

SATIS
c/o 13 Mandela Street
London NW1 0DW

Scottish Committee of the AAM
52 Enoch Square
Glasgow G1 4AA

Southern African Resource Centre
8 Backfields
Sheffield S1 4HJ

SWAPO of Namibia
96 Gillespie Road
London N5

Third World Publications
151 Stratford Road
Birmingham B11 1RD

UNICEF-UK
55 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A

United Nations Association
3 Whitehall Court
London SW1A 2EL

Wales Anti-Apartheid Movement
43 Glenroy Street
Roath Cardiff

War on Want
37-39 Great Guildford Street
London SE1 0ES

World University Service (WUS)
20 Compton Terrace
London N1 2UN

FOOTNOTES

- 1 According to Section 1 (v) of the South African Child Care Act (No 74 of 1983), 'Child Means any Person under the age of 18 years'.
Article 1 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that a child is 'every human being up to 18 years'.
- 2 **The War Against Children** Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights, New York, 1987 page 127
- 3 **Children of Resistance** Edited by Victoria Brittain and Abdul S Minty, Kriptown Books, London, 1988 *passim*
- 4 Human Rights Commission — verbal communication
- 5 **Children on the Frontline** UNICEF, Switzerland, 1989, page 10
- 6 **Ibid**
- 7 **Frontline Southern Africa** Keith Bernstein and Toni Strashburg, Christopher Helm, London, 1989, page vi
- 8 The African National Congress (ANC), established on 8 January 1912, is the longest-established and best known liberation movement in South Africa. It has profoundly influenced all liberation struggles in Southern Africa. Its basic policy document, the Freedom Charter, adopted at the Congress of the People in 1955, envisages a non-racial democratic South Africa, and has been widely endorsed by the organisations that comprise the Mass Democratic Movement, a broad coalition of anti-apartheid forces that emerged in 1988/89. The ANC was banned by the South African regime in March 1960.
- 9 Throughout this publication the word 'black' refers to all three non-white groups, who do not have the vote and who constitute 86% of the population.
- 10 a **Whirlwind Before the Storm** by Alan Brooks and Jeremy Brickhill, IDAF, London, 1980, *passim*
b **Never On Our Knees** by Brigid Strachan, United Nations Association Youth, London, 1985, page 17
- 11 **The War Against Children** *op. cit.* page 7
- 12 a **A Study of Detention and Torture in South Africa** by Sandler and Foster, Institute of Criminology, University of Cape Town 1985
b Detainees Parents Support Committee
c **Critical Health** no. 26, May 1989
- 13 **The War Against Children** *op. cit.* page 117
- 14 **Ibid** page 119
- 15 **Children on the Frontline** *op. cit.* page 58
- 16 **Ibid** page 25
- 17 **Ibid** pages 106-108
- 18 HWA statement, 1988 cited by **Race Relations Survey 1987/88**, South African Institute of Race Relations, Johannesburg, 1988, page 793
- 19 **New Nation** 28.5.87
- 20 **The Sunday Star** 17.1.88
- 21 **Children on the Frontline** *op. cit.* page 13
- 22 **Children in South Africa, Repression and Resistance** Notes and Briefing 89/3 Sept 1989
- 23 **Children on the Frontline** *op. cit.* page 75
- 24 **Uprooting Poverty: the South African Challenge** by Francis Wilson and Mamphela Ramphele, David Phillip Cape Town, WW Norton New York 1989, page 131
- 25 **Ibid**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Bishop Ambrose Reeves Trust (BART) is a registered Charity (No. 246894) with the following objectives:

- to promote and disseminate knowledge and understanding of the theory and practice of apartheid
- to fund research into different features of apartheid, such as its history and economy
- to make public the results of such research through books, pamphlets, films and other publications.

The Trust is named in memory of Ambrose Reeves who served as Bishop of Johannesburg from 1948 until his deportation from South Africa following the Sharpeville massacres. He was the president of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement for ten years until his death in 1980. The Trust welcomes donations and covenants in order to enable it to further its work.

If you would like to make a donation to our work, or would like to receive further information, please contact:

**BISHOP AMBROSE REEVES TRUST
13 MANDELA STREET LONDON NW1 0DW**

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