

37.1.27

1. LIVING UNDER APARTHEID

Ap was system of democracy for Whites only. - that is four-fifths dont hve vote. Skin colour alone decides all. How you live.

WE lived typically: W's only suburb, schools, holidays.

This was normal, ^{Controlled by laws.} Illegal to drink wth b. friend in own home.

We enjoyed all privileges o being white. But oppsed to Ap.

For children - schizo lives. ^{Parents different.}

To be 'normal' meant adjustng yrself to Ap.

2. HOW AP MAINTAINED ITSELF

- . Minority can only maintain governance over majority by force & violence.
- . To maintain such society requires suppression o all human rights
- . More & more drastic measurs needed
- . State needs build machinery of suppression & ^{structure of laws}
- . In SA led to prolongd detention without trial, solitary confinement, torture, murder.

Military & Security police: training camps for Death Squads, operating within & outside (exiles):

C C B. - SPECIAL FORCE - VAKPLAATS-

z Angola

Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique

Even England - ANC; France, September.

CASE OF LAPSLEY

3. IN 1994 CHANGE CAME

Wth all power, W minority gvt no longer maintain hold

Negotiations: Mandela, ANC (legalised 30 yrs).

Transfer o power. 2½yrs ago, 1st demo election

Ap legally at end (tho conditions nt changed), but learning democracy.

NOW QUESTION: HOW TO DEAL WITH CONTAMINATED PAST?

- * Not unique SA question
- * How prevent happening again?
- * Who blame, who bring to trial? Who punish?
- * Heads o gvt who made laws, financed orgs, prisons, deaths?
- * Or Generals & Colonels o Sec police, Army, CCB, who organised killings? (e. de Kok - prime evil)
- * Or men under their command who actually carried out abductions, disappearances, assassinations?
Who shot 67, 42 in Botswana raid, constantly went over borders, bombed, burnt (Dirk Coetzee)
- * Death squads who were trained to carry out murders - not even knowng victims?
- * Or technicians who devised cunning letter bombs & car bs.
- * Or right down t line - Ws, who kept Ap in power 40 yrs?

4. OTHER COUNTRIES FACED THIS ISSUE

- * Nuremburg, leaders. 50 yrs later, still tracng killers.
- * Chile Dictator Pinochet; now demo gvt, But P still in charge o army. Never acknowledged or apologised; threats & torture still take place
Commission for Truth: 3,000 disappeard - has shed some light,

- * Argentine. 9,000 abducted. Investigations, but halted bcos army still has power.
 - * Mozambique Peace aftr yrs bitter war. Villages traditional ceremonies o healng & cleansing
 - * Bosnia Also seekng leadrs, but only 2,3.
- In all countries, people want to know, loved ones.

5. TRC - UNIQUE & DIFFERENT WAY

Durng negotiations reps o Ap state demanded new gvt should give amnesty for all misdeeds o past.

Compromises hd to b made. TRC is result o negotiations & Compromise.

AIMS: (Booklet)

- * Basd on belief tt truth o humn rights violations cant b suppressed or forgotten

Must be made known, investigated, recorded.

TRC gives opp to victims to relate sufferng, to relarives ~~to~~ to tell own stories o murdered sons, etc.

TRC also invites perpetrators to give full account o everything they hve done, & will then grant them amnesty.

TRC thus hears both victims & perpetrators. Truth-telling combined wth amnesty is its most original feature.

- * But it means that murderers may go free. Brian mitchell and Trust Feed.

*Thru TRC people learn fr 1st time how lovd ones died. Without amnesty, never would be known.

Forgiveness- LAPSLEY, G-Ash.

Makng truth known is in itself form o justice
Requires acknowledgemnt o wrongs, evaluation o morality
behind deeds - not necessarily remorse.

6. DRAWING A NATION TOGETHER

Ap. was just tt - apartness. Us in W suburbs, B's in black townships. How to reconcile divided nation?

TRC is opening up truth

Did W's know wht going on? (Germans)

They will tell u now they didn't know. But now must confront it: Max du Preez, weekly.

Wilfully insulated selves against realities o whole Ap system. Less ignorance than careful, calculated avoidance.

NOW BEING SHOWN OWN GUILT & CO(MPLICITY).

Reconciliation is part o revival o conscience - a shared & painful journey from wrong to right.

SA method o reconciling deeply divided nation made

possible becos in SA there were people like Lapsley, selves, who stood out against injustice, bridged t divide.

- * So impossible in 1994 to say 'B's won over W's'. No absolute racial divisions. Blk nationalism in SA did not become racist.

7. WHAT IS MEANING TO YOU? SIGNIFICANCE?

If silent in presence o injustice, u assist perpetrators.

* if live in immoral society yr acts must transcend simple legality.

* where u see cruelty, injustice, never say 'but it's law.'

* never explain violations 'only carrying out orders.'

BRITIAN IS NOT AN IMMORAL SOCIETY

But things tt should not be toleratd - ~~Public~~ public inaction permits racialism.

Brit opposed UN resolutions against Ap. Sent arms
& assistance to Ap gvt.

Thatcher - terrorist.

On other hand, boycotts, trade & sports important.

Subverting you. Be outraged by wht is wrong, unjust.
Accept responsibility for anything tt
perverts or despoils yr country.

Germany & SA teach same lesson: Evil flourishes if 'good' pe
remain silent.

When wrong flourishes it is not bcos o them it is bcos o
us.

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