

**CRIME AND ITS IMPACT
ON HUMAN RIGHTS:
TEN YEARS OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS**



**south african
human
rights
commission**

HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH REPORT

*D
I
A
L
O
G
U
E
S*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword.	3
Executive Summary	4
Introduction	6
Human Rights Month Provincial Dialogues	8
Eastern Cape	8
Free State	10
Gauteng	12
KwaZulu-Natal	15
Limpopo	20
Mpumalanga	22
Northern Cape	26
North West	30
Western Cape	32
Media Coverage	33
Recommendations	36
Conclusion	40

Foreword

South Africa's democratic Constitution and rights framework, hailed as progressive, visionary and bold, has seen the ushering in of far reaching political, social and economic change over the past 13 years. However, the new dispensation has also brought with it new challenges in embracing a value system underpinned by human rights, a commitment to transformation and an open and responsive system of governance.

There is little doubt that ongoing crime (regardless of its nature) impacts negatively on the advancement of a human rights culture. Violent crimes affect the right to life, the right to personal security, the right to dignity and the right to bodily integrity. Sexual crimes against women represent, in the words of the Constitutional Court, the most *“formidable challenge to the self determination of women, while incidence(s) of child rape and abuse deny to children the special protection afforded to them by the Constitution.”* By the same token, non-violent crime such as corruption (in both state and non-state sectors) undermines social and economic development which in turn negates the enjoyment of human rights to varying degrees.

Apart from the tangible damage crime causes, it also has long-term effects on the moral fibre of the nation and impacts on the morale of its many direct and indirect victims. Furthermore high levels of crime tarnish South Africa's profile at the international level.

The transformation of the criminal justice system to bring it in line with acceptable human rights standards has led to perceptions in some quarters that the ability of law

enforcement agencies to effectively deal with crime is hampered by the need to comply with these human rights norms and standards.

In the long-term the most durable response to crime is to seek to understand its causes and to put preventative mechanisms in place. The South African Human Rights Commission (Commission) supports ongoing research to properly understand and analyse crime patterns and in this regard believe that regional and other mechanisms to deal with crime need to be properly understood and contextualised.

The challenge of combating crime requires a co-ordinated and spirited response. It is critical that the commitment to a partnership between the State and civil society is realised and that measures aimed at prevention as well as measures in response to crime are shared as part of the common vision and commitment to eradicate this formidable threat to our human rights culture, our moral destiny and our ultimate success as a nation.

The Commission would like to thank everyone who contributed to making the Human Rights Month (HRM) campaign of 2007 a remarkable event in its history. In particular, we wish to thank our Provincial Offices, without which the campaign would not have been successful. We would also like to thank all the municipalities and many community members and stakeholders who agreed to join hands with us in making this campaign a success.

Jody Kollapen

Chairperson, South African Human Rights Commission

Executive Summary

The Commission is one of the institutions established in terms of Section 184 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) to entrench constitutional democracy. Each year the Commission commemorates Human Rights Day (March 21) by embarking on a countrywide campaign to raise awareness about human rights. In 2007, the campaign was extended to one full month, hence the Human Rights Month (HRM).

Due to the significant high level of crime in South Africa, the Commission focused its HRM campaign towards addressing crime and its impact on human rights. To that effect, the Commission hosted countrywide Community Dialogues on “Crime and its impact on Human Rights: Ten Years of the Bill of Rights”.

The objective was to engage the whole country, especially rural communities on a dialogue on how crime has impacted negatively on the enjoyment of their rights. Furthermore, the Dialogue provided a platform for communities to take part in developing strategies and recommendations for effectively eradicating crime in their society.

Each province conducted at least two Community Dialogues, one for urban communities and the other for rural communities. These Dialogues were conducted in addition to traditional HRM activities, such as presentations, site visits, walk-about, workshops, etc.

The Eastern Cape Community Dialogues took place in Motherwell Township and Mount Fletcher. In both rural and urban communities, community members and other stakeholders expressed their concern about the involvement of youth in criminal activities. They firmly believed that the abuse of drugs and alcohol and lack of extra-mural activities are the key causes of crime. According to community members property crime such as shoplifting, housebreaking, vandalism and robbery is mostly committed by the youth.

The Free State Provincial Office hosted two Community Dialogues which culminated in a provincial conference wherein all the stakeholders and community members who participated in the Community Dialogues came together to table their resolutions. The first Community Dialogue was held in Vrede in the Phumelela Municipality on the border of KwaZulu-Natal Province, and the second in Zastron in Mohokare Municipality. Both areas were selected due to high incidences of crime in the farming communities. Incidences of crimes ranged from assault, stock theft, vandalism and burglary to illegal evictions and lack of access to essential services.

In Gauteng, two Community Dialogues were hosted, one in Winterveld, north-west of Tshwane, and the other, in Kattlehong, east of Johannesburg. According to community members in both areas, the level of violent crimes in their communities is unacceptably high and this undermines constitutional rights which everyone is entitled to.

In KwaZulu-Natal, the Provincial Office hosted a roundtable discussion in conjunction with the Democracy Development Programme, an NGO operating in the field of good governance and democracy. The discussion focused on, amongst others, factors contributing to ineffective responses to crime and the role of community courts in the criminal justice system. As in other provinces, crimes such as murder, robbery, assault and theft are prevalent.

The Limpopo Provincial Office hosted two Community Dialogues, one in Moletjie and the other in Polokwane. Community members raised a number of issues related to high rate of crime in our society. Amongst others, they highlighted the loss of moral values and use of alcohol and drugs by learners as the key causes of crime. One of the most prevalent and horrendous crimes crippling rural communities in Moletjie and other parts of Limpopo is related to muti murders.

Mpumalanga Community Dialogues took place in Lydenburg and Nelspruit. Various stakeholders identified sexual crimes against women and children and murder as prevalent in both urban and rural communities. Non-violent crimes such as corruption in both the government and private sectors appeared to contribute to the slow pace of service delivery.

The Northern Cape Community Dialogues took place in Louisvale and Paballelo. In both areas concerns were raised about the role and attitude of the police in responding to crime. Community members highlighted

some gaps in the criminal justice system. They mentioned, among others, the ineffectiveness and incompetence of the police in handling cases, and the delay finalising court matters. The result is that community members have lost faith in the criminal justice system.

The North West Community Dialogue took place in the Moretele Local Municipality. As in other provinces, community members and other stakeholders identified violent crimes such as the abuse of women and children, rape and assault as prevalent in the community. The involvement of the youth in criminal activities was raised as a major concern. Various stakeholders felt that there is a need to raise more awareness about the youth and their responsibilities. Non-violent crimes such as corruption and illegal connection of electricity and water were identified as impacting on economic and social rights.

In the Western Cape Community Dialogues were held in Cape Town and Ceres. Community members and other stakeholders were concerned about the high crime rate and the impact it has on the youth. One of the major concerns raised was the prevalence of gangsterism in some areas in Cape Town. Community members shared the same view with the Northern Cape communities about the ineffectiveness of our criminal justice system in responding to crime.

While levels of crime have increased considerably, crime does not affect all people uniformly. This has been illustrated in some of the submissions made in

the Community Dialogues. In both the rural and urban communities covered in this analysis, violent crime is generally more prevalent than non-violent crime.

However, corruption has been firmly identified as a form of non-violent crime which adversely impacts on social and economic development. Poverty, unemployment and moral decay have been identified in many instances as key factors exacerbating the situation. Various stakeholders and community members firmly believe that there is a strong relationship between age and crime as a wide range of crimes are committed by teenagers and young adults.

This report sets out specific findings and recommendations on the key issues raised during the Community Dialogues. Many of these recommendations pointed to a need for:

- Increased collaboration and networking to ensure effective responses to crime;
- Intensive youth programmes;
- Restoration of the moral fibre of society through civic education and human rights education;
- Implementation of risk and fraud prevention control measures;
- Improvement of economic and social conditions including the creation of sustainable jobs, skills development and training opportunities;
- Implementation of poverty alleviation programmes;
- Appropriate and relevant training of officials in the criminal justice sector.

The Community Dialogues culminated in a National Conference on Crime and its Impact on Human Rights: Ten Years of the Bill of Rights which took place at Sandton, Johannesburg.

Introduction

Each year the Commission commemorates Human Rights Day (21st of March) by embarking on a week-long campaign of educational interventions. The Human Rights Week (HRW) campaign involves activities such as workshops, community dialogues, site visits and walk-about. The Commission's two focus areas, namely the achievement of equality and the eradication of poverty influenced the strong rural community thrust of the campaign and afforded the Commission a further opportunity to bring all its functions to people on the ground. Some of the areas in which the Commission has held HRW campaigns include Rustenburg in the North West Province, Springbok in the Northern Cape and Nkomazi in Mpumalanga.

The Commission has historically identified a particular province as the focal point for HRW using the following criteria:

- Provinces where the Commission does not have an office;
- Provinces that are largely rural;
- Provinces where the Commission wants to support and raise the profile of its Provincial Office.

The HRW campaign has mainly been co-ordinated from the National Office, with Provincial Offices being encouraged to implement similar campaigns on a smaller scale. This arrangement has led to perceptions that HRW celebrations are a National Office event and therefore Provincial Offices are not necessarily obliged to conduct extensive activities. In addition, Provincial Offices where HRW celebrations have been held in the past did not design or implement follow-up or monitoring interventions after the event. This has led to perceptions that the Commission raises expectations and does not follow up with further activities to encourage service delivery in those areas.

In light of this, the Commission reviewed its HRW activities. Firstly, it extended its campaigns from a week to the entire month prompting the change to 'Human Rights Month'. Secondly, activities now take place throughout the country as opposed to being centralised to one designated province. Thirdly, the Commission has moved away from celebratory campaigns to more reflective and educative activities.

For the 2007 HRM campaign, the Commission through its national and all provincial offices conducted countrywide Community Dialogues on "Crime and its impact on Human Rights: Ten years after the Bill of Rights". This was motivated by a number of complaints and concerns received by the Commission on how crime has contributed to the violations of people's rights. Crime impacts

negatively on the full enjoyment of human rights, both economic and social rights as well as civil and political rights. In that respect, it jeopardises the universal benefits of the Bill of Rights. Consequently, addressing issues of crime is within the mandate of the Commission and its mission of empowering all people in South Africa to enjoy their human rights to their full potential.

The objectives of the Community Dialogues were to engage the whole country in a dialogue on how crime has impacted negatively on the enjoyment of human rights. In addition, the Dialogues provide participating communities with opportunities to participate in developing strategies and recommendation for eradicating crime in South Africa.

These Dialogues culminated in a national Conference on "Crime and its Impact on Human Rights: Ten Years after the Bill of Rights" where all the recommendations and suggested strategies on how to deal with crime were discussed.

This report constitutes a composite account of all activities conducted during the HRM campaign that took place throughout March 2007. It is divided into three parts. Part 1 provides an introduction to the report, with Part 2 giving an overview of all the Community Dialogues conducted in the Nine (9) provinces of the country. Part 3 looks at the media coverage throughout the month and Part 4 shares recommendations and conclusion.

Provincial Human Rights Month Campaigns and Dialogues

As 2007 marked the 10th anniversary of the coming into force of the South African Bill of Rights, Community Dialogues were also meant to explore and examine how crime has impacted on the enjoyment of rights in the Bill of Rights. The dialogues provided an opportunity to engage communities on ways of addressing crime in South Africa. Some of the provincial HRM campaigns were preceded by community profiling or situational analysis. For example the North West and Gauteng provinces conducted situational analyses in the targeted areas to collect data or information relevant for Community Dialogues on “Crime and Human Rights”.

The community profiling included determining, among others, the key role players in the community service delivery and what specific issues to focus on during the Dialogues with communities. The methodology used included conducting interviews with different stakeholders including, among others, the South African Police Service (SAPS), the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DOJ&CD), Tribal Council, municipalities and other structures.

The report of the community profiling/situational analysis directly influenced the design of the Community Dialogues in terms of issues to be addressed, key stakeholders to invite participation and the general format of the event.

This section of the report provides an overview of the various provincial dialogues.

Eastern Cape Provincial Dialogues

1. *Motherwell Township* in Port Elizabeth

Key Participants

Participants were drawn from a range of stakeholders such as Community Development Workers (CDWs), street committee representatives, members of the sector police forum, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), youth organisation representatives, faith-based organisations (FBOs), ward committee members, education sector representatives, Community Policing Forums (CPFs) and representatives of political organisations.

Type of Participants

The workshop was held at the Motherwell Community Centre on 13 March 2007. All participants came from an urban community in Motherwell Township, Ward 57 of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality. There were 21 participants including the Commission’s representatives.

Community Voices

The participants expressed concerns about crime in their community and how it affects everyone. Their major concern was the involvement of the youth in criminal activities and the decay of moral fibre of society. Young people grow up in communities where crime and violence have become the norm. In the discussion people shared

real-life experiences of living in a society ruled by criminals.

Impact of Crime

Freedom and security of the person

According to the participants domestic violence is rife in their community. Women and children are physically and sexually abused by men on a daily basis Although such cases are reported, they are not handled professionally by the police. Rape and murder were also mentioned as serious crimes violating freedom and security of the person. As much as these crimes violate the right to freedom and security of the person, they also violate the right to life, the right to human dignity and the right to privacy, among others. The abuse of drugs and alcohol by learners was thought to be the root cause of increasing violence in schools.

Human dignity

Rape and the abuse of women and children were identified as violations of the right to human dignity. While abuse of the elderly and people with disabilities is prevalent, very little is done to deal with such cases satisfactorily.

Property

Issues raised with regard to the violation of the right to property were shoplifting, car hijacking and vandalism. The participants also identified corruption as another violation of other rights and entitlements, including the

right to own property. Corruption denied people services such as housing.

Conclusion

The submission are a reflection of how urban communities experience crime in their lives. Human rights violations are therefore undermined on a daily basis as a result of crime.

2. Hill Gate in Mount Fletcher

Type of Community Participants

The workshop was held at the Tribal Council Offices on 19 March 2007. All 43 participants came from a rural community in Mount Fletcher at the border of Lesotho and South Africa. Key participants included the chief of the area, his councillors and teachers from various schools in the area.

Impact of Crime

Human Dignity

Participants identified rape, abuse of women and children and murder as prevalent in their community. The high rate of crime was attributed to the abuse of alcohol and lack of extra-mural activities in the community. Participants agreed that crime compromises not only the right to human dignity, but other rights such as the right to freedom and security of the person and the right to life and privacy.

Property

House breaking and robbery were identified as violations of the right to property. According to participants this type of crime is increasing and the police do not always respond positively to the complaints.

Conclusion

The submission at the Dialogue highlighted some of the challenges rural community members in the Eastern Cape are dealing with. Crime constitutes one of the gravest violations of human rights. Therefore, the government, communities and all members of society, must do everything in their power to contribute towards its eradications.

Free State Provincial Dialogue

The Free State Office hosted two Community Dialogues in Vrede on 15 March and in Zastron on 18 March, 2007. A third activity was elevated to a provincial conference after many stakeholders showed interest in the campaign. The Provincial Conference which was held in Bloemfontein on 21 March, 2007 (Human Rights Day) was a huge success. The speakers were selected from government, NGOs, CBOs, labour movements and religious organisations. The resolutions of the Provincial Conference were later tabled at the national two-day conference in Gauteng on 23 March, 2007.

The first Community Dialogue was held in Vrede in the eastern Free State on the border with KwaZulu-Natal Province in the Phumelela Municipality. This town was selected due the high incidence of crime and abuse of the rights of farm-dwellers in the surrounding towns of Memel, Warden and Vrede.

The second Community Dialogue was held in Zastron in the Mohokare Municipality. The meeting was held on a Sunday to accommodate the farm-dwellers who are not available during the week due to their work commitments.

Key Participants

People who attended were farm workers from surrounding farms of Memel, Warden and Vrede; NGOs and CBOs; members of the business community in Vrede; representatives of the police, and victims of crime and elderly people.

The main meeting was the Provincial Conference which was held in Bloemfontein's Mangaung Municipality on 21 March. Approximately 250 people attended the Provincial Conference. Audio recordings of the proceedings were produced.

The two dialogues were held on 15 and 18 March 2007.. The meeting in Vrede was attended by about 85 people and 70 people attended the meeting in Zastron.

Community Voices

In Vrede a community member related how he was victimised by a farmer who killed his chickens, stole his sheep, shot his dog, shot at him and attacked his children. He laid seven charges with the police, but the State refused to prosecute alleging lack of evidence. In another case the complainant stated that a farmer, accompanied by the police, attacked him and promised to shoot him if he did not cooperate.

Another moving testimony was from an elderly woman who complained that she was illegally removed from her farm and had lost everything she and her husband possessed.

Impact of Crime

Life

The community raised concerns that as a result of crime and vandalism many street lights in the township are not working and people's lives are in danger from criminals who lurk in the dark. The police urged the municipality to ensure that street lights are operational. However, the municipality had not responded at the time of the Dialogue.

Freedom of movement and freedom and security of the person

The people of Zastron complained that in areas where there are no street lights, it is difficult to travel to work at dawn because of fear of the criminals. This state of affairs impacted seriously on the freedom of movement and the right to safety and security of the person.

Property

The main issues that were raised with regard to the violation of the right to property through crime were theft of live stock allegedly by citizens from Lesotho. Suggestions were made that there should be more visible border patrols. Incidences of burglaries are rife. Police were accused of patrolling the main town and neglecting the townships. It was alleged that the police abuse police vehicles and use them for personal use, and do not attend to serious complaints.

Conclusion

As indicated earlier, the deliberation of the meeting were tabled at the Provincial Conference and further discussions took place. From the outset it was decided that the conference should produce resolutions reflecting the views of the people of the Free State on crime and its impact on human rights.

It was agreed that the Provincial Office would table the resolutions of the conference at the National Conference on Crime held in Gauteng, and to monitor the implementation of resolutions to ensure their implementation.

The resolutions were duly tabled at the National Conference, and they now form part of the monitoring mandate of the Free State office for the current financial year. Ultimately the Human Rights Month was successfully implemented to produce results that can be evaluated against specific deliverables in the form of the mandates contained in the recommendation.

In conclusion, the delegates entrusted and mandated the Free State office of the SAHRC to ensure the proper planning, implementation and monitoring of the recommendations of the Provincial Conference by all relevant stakeholders within reasonable time-frames.

Gauteng Provincial Dialogue

1. Winterveld

The Gauteng team conducted activities and interventions in Winterveld on 15 - 16 March, 2007. Winterveld is one of the poorest areas falling under the Tshwane Municipality in north-eastern Gauteng. It has high unemployment. The area consists of 1 658 plots originally sold to black farmers in the 1940s on a freehold basis. It is an informal urban settlement and a smallholding area of approximately 9 500 hectares. It is situated approximately 40 km north west of Pretoria, adjacent to Mabopane in the North West Province. It is both rural and urban in composition – with the northern part being rural and the southern part urban, called Klippan. Population densities are much higher in the southern part of Winterveld. In Vilakazi, the very southern part of Winterveld, densities are as high as 40 dwellings per square hectare on some plots.

Between 40 and 45 percent of the population is unemployed, and wages are low with just under half of the households earning less than R500 a month. Approximately one third

of the population is Tswana-speaking and the rest has a wide variety of cultural origins.

The community of Winterveld is on the periphery of major metropolitan areas. Its growth is rapid and unmanaged. There are also complex tenure arrangements. For income and additional services, it is depended on the adjacent metropolitan areas.

Key Participants

The Gauteng team visited a community centre, a police station and a youth centre in preparation for the Community Dialogue. The Dialogue was attended by local leaders, police officials, representatives of the Community Policing Forum and the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD), municipal officials and others. Approximately 200 community members attended. The Dialogue was conducted at the Winterveld’s Multi-purpose Centre, which consists of a clinic, library and community hall.

Community Voices

Like all other communities in South Africa, the community feels the impact of crime in their own localities. For example, the proliferation of informal settlements in the area has imposed additional burden on the municipality to deliver services. Where such services are not provided, community members turn to crime.

In addition, abuse of drugs and alcohol seem to have skyrocketed, which directly influences crime, especially among young people.

Impact of Crime

The community expressed that it has lost trust in the police. The perceptions by most people is that police collaborate with known criminals in the area. As a result, crime remains under-reported.

Environment

Due to poor or lack of street lights, the community feel unsafe. Muggings and burglaries happen at night. This has severely affected the community's right to freedom of movement and security of the person.

Freedom and security of the person

The community shared that rape is one the prevalent crimes and the victims often know their perpetrator who happen to be a relative, a family friend or a neighbour. This often makes the victims reluctant to report or follow through with the case. Many fear further victimisation and other negative consequences of reporting a close person known to the family.

Drugs such as tik are easily available in the area and a large number of young people are addicted. Young people commit serious crimes such as stealing household goods to feed their addiction.

2. Katlehong

On the 19–20 March, the team conducted activities and interventions in Katlehong. This township experienced political violence in the 1980s. Katlehong is located

35km east of Johannesburg and south of Germiston between two other townships – Vosloorus and Thokoza in the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan area of Gauteng. It was established in 1945, and has become a high-density area with serious overcrowding. For example, in each tiny yard, shacks are erected for the purpose of being rented out. One toilet often serves five to six families. Despite being surrounded by a huge industrial area, Katlehong experiences a high level of unemployment.

Key Participants

The Gauteng team visited a police station and two schools in preparation for the Community Dialogue held in Katlehong. As in Winterveld, the Dialogue was attended by local leaders, police officials, representatives of the Community Policing Forum and ICD, municipal officials, Khulisa (NGO), UNISA and others. Approximately 260 community members attended. Commissioner Leon Wessels was the keynote speaker. Commissioner Manthata also attended, and addressed the audience.

Community Voices

The lack of employment drives some of the people into criminal activities. Overcrowding in Katlehong makes it difficult for some parts of the area to be policed. However, the local Community Policing Forum does play a role in combating crime. The police complain about the lack of support and community involvement in crime prevention.

The shortage of housing and other service delivery are major cause of concern. In some parts of the township and

newly established informal settlements, the infrastructure is poor and makes policing work difficult to implement.

Impact of crime

Freedom of movement and residence

The local criminal elements control the streets in the area and instill fear in the community. They steal people's property by using force.

Human dignity

There is widespread abuse of drugs and alcohol especially among young people. The parents complain about lack of discipline, and find it difficult to instill a sense of discipline. Some of them do not attend classes regularly and do not do their school work anymore. When they are under the influence of alcohol and drugs, they are often abusive and uncontrollable. Parents are helpless because they cannot control or guide their children anymore.

Property

There are many burglaries in the township. Local shops and private homes are a target of break-ins. Criminals often use dangerous weapons, such as guns, to commit crime. The community feels it is not enjoying the protection of the law.

Freedom and security of the person

Community members expressed concern that the police in the area do not provide protection to victims of crime

against intimidation by perpetrators. This has led to perceptions that police collude with criminals and protect them at the expense of the victims of crime. As a result, the community has lost respect and trust in the police.

On the other hand, the police also shared their frustrations against community members. They complained that community members lay charges against criminals only to later withdraw the cases.

Victims of crime also refuse to bring forth evidence. Consequently, the police are unable to deal with crime effectively without the support of the community.

From the above, it is clear that there is lack of co-operation between the police and the community. This hampers any efforts to deal effectively with crime. Criminals may also take advantage of this division to further their criminal activities.

Environment

The police indicated that due to poor infrastructure such as the lack of street names and poor street lighting it is often difficult to track down criminals during emergencies. This is also a problem experienced by other emergency service providers such as ambulances who find it difficult to access the area.

It was mentioned that street names were tampered with or removed during the apartheid era to make it difficult for the police to easily identify and access the exact locations of "comrades" on the run.

Access to Information

There is lack of communication between the community and the police. In terms of the victim's charter, there should be reciprocal sharing of information between the police and victims. The community should not withhold information from police about criminals and their activities. Similarly, the police are expected to be transparent. In order to fight crime effectively, community should report criminal activities. Everyone has a duty to provide information about any criminal activities to either the Community Policing Forum or the police.

Conclusion

The municipalities should increase the level of service delivery in their jurisdictions. One of the ways of decreasing the level of crime is to increase the capacity of the police, by creating more employment, and by rolling out effective service delivery to communities. The duty of fighting crime is not only the responsibility of the police, it is also a responsibility of all stakeholders – the police, municipalities, communities, Community Police Forums, civil society structures, faith based organisations and business.

KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Dialogue - Roundtable Discussion

The Roundtable discussion was held at the KwaZulu-Natal office of the Commission in Durban.

Key participants

On 14 March 2007 the Commission Office in KZN, in partnership with the Democracy Development Programme ,co-hosted a roundtable discussion on "Crime and its Impact on Human Rights: Ten years of the Bill of Rights."

The meeting was chaired by Professor Karthy Govender and attended by 18 representatives of civil society, government and the Chapter 9 Institutions.

Dr Rama Naidu, Executive Director of the Democracy Development Programme (DDP), was invited to open the session. Dr Naidu welcomed this opportunity to co-host this Roundtable with the Commission as the DDP believed firmly in the need for public engagement towards constructive resolution of problem. He urged participants to move beyond simply complaining about crime to becoming actively involved in finding ways of eradicating crime in communities.

As a contribution to this discussion, the DDP prepared a concept paper on the link between crime and human rights.

The discussion

In facilitating the discussion, Professor Govender appealed to participants not to focus on the problem of crime as this had been widely discussed. He encouraged participants to rather focus on developing an understanding as to where shortcomings and failures resided, and how communities could generate ideas to deal with crime. The discussion was facilitated around a set of broad questions, which Professor Govender posed for participants to reflect upon.

The role of community and crime

The following was noted:

There is a growing tolerance of certain types of crimes. This allowed communities to become complacent, and believed that there are certain crimes that may not be reported to the police. This notion is further compounded by the belief that only police are responsible for responding to crime. There is a need to acknowledge that the police alone are not going to effectively respond to crime. There is a great need for community partnership. However, the role played by communities in responding to crime needs to be properly managed as the growth of vigilantism is becoming a big problem.

A critical question is: what would be an appropriate role for communities in their “engagement with crime prevention and mitigation?”

One participant observed that people do not voluntarily take on a community-policing role. The observation was

that usually the involvement emanates from a sense of frustration and desperation because of the effect crime has on communities.

There are a number of ways that people respond to crime, firstly through community activism and secondly through repressive policing. It is acknowledged that apartheid history is one of repressive policing. This legacy remains with us and is manifest in the fact that people are still reluctant to approach the police. The challenge is to transform our system towards democratic policing. What we need is a long-term solution, and not the usual knee-jerk reactions to acts of criminality.

The role of community courts in the criminal justice system

A study on the effectiveness of community courts undertaken by the University of KwaZulu-Natal on behalf of iTrump’s Richard Dobson found that while community courts, such as those operating in KwaMashu and Point Road served a critical function, their functioning has been hampered by the lack of cooperation and agreement among the stakeholders. As this was a pilot initiative, the ability to address these blockages was important if the pilot project was to be scaled up. It was noted that despite these challenges, the community courts appeared to be an effective response to crime, and that that evidence by way of statistics on the project confirmed this assertion.

A concern was raised about the lack of understanding of the concept of ‘diversion’. There were perceptions

that creating community courts was part of a diversion programme. Diversion in the true sense of the word means that the person concerned must be diverted away from any form of court, be it a magistrate or community court.

Factors contributing to ineffective responses to crime

Lack of Community Cohesion

Recent studies commissioned by the Civil Society Advocacy Programme (CSAP) were referred to, and indicated that the lack of social cohesion in communities was an important contributing factor to crime prevention and mitigation. This has been found to be true in areas such as Point Road and Albert Park in the Durban CBD.

A concern was noted that the models of crime prevention were premised on an assumption of community cohesion, an assumption which did not hold true. It was important that models of intervention were designed for specific environments and not a 'one size fits all' formula.

It was noted that Safer Cities initiatives implemented by local government was precisely aimed at fostering better relationships between communities and community policing forums and facilitating greater co-operation between relevant stakeholders in the fight against crime.

Case back logs within the justice system impact on the right to a fair and speedy trial and as indicated earlier, sometimes trials are delayed for up to two years.

Lack of better environmental planning and urban design

It was noted that environmental and urban planning factors could also contribute to crime reduction and mitigation. Therefore, town planners need to take these factors into consideration when designing living spaces for people.

Poor gun control measures

There was agreement that this remained a contentious issue as gun owners claim the right to protect themselves. There is a problem in defining what constitutes "reasonable and proportionate force" that victims may use in reacting to situations of crime.

Research suggests that there is an increase in the violent nature of crimes being committed. Questions were asked as to whether this was an inevitable consequence of poor and ineffective gun control in South Africa. There was consensus that greater gun control was paramount.

Delay in promulgating enabling legislation

It was noted that while South Africa has a plethora of Bills which are intended to create a more enabling environment for crime prevention and mitigation, a number of these policies and legislative initiatives had not been promulgated into law. Many of these Bills have been extensively consulted on, informed by years of research and are fairly comprehensive. Examples include the Child Justice Bill, the Sexual Offences Bill and the Children's Bill. A call was made for fast-tracking the promulgation of these Bills.

It appeared that the factors inhibiting the Bills from being adopted were mainly related to cost considerations. It was argued that the costs of inaction were actually higher to the State with regard to rehabilitation, internment and social costs. The absence of an overarching policy framework means that our responses to vulnerable children (including homeless children) are inadequate.

Police attitudes to petty crime and to crime against vulnerable people

A problem noted by many participants was the failure by police to record petty crimes. Participants felt that this in some way condones certain acts of crime as being negligible. Another issue that generated much discussion was the role of the police in responding to crime against vulnerable groups in society. Examples quoted included the following:

- Sex workers who did not find police sympathetic when they reported incidents of violence against them.
- Farm workers who reported incidents of violence which were not lodged as formal complaints by the police. Participants were advised that crime on farms had been the focus of a dedicated Commission study previously.
- Elderly people also suffered indignity and secondary abuse by the police and officials in the criminal justice system. The Age in Action representative reported that the elderly experienced extortion not only by their lawyers but also by the Department of Social Development when accessing a grant or a pension.

A specifically vulnerable group was identified as people who are mentally disabled or mentally ill. Forensic psychiatrists from Fort Napier reported that the current system prejudiced and added secondary trauma for this category of people. This was illustrated by the following example:

Offenders whose hearing is impaired were sometimes sent for observation as they were considered unable to give evidence, while in fact the only need was for an interpreter. This was supported by the Disabled People of South Africa (DPSA) who reflected that the police and the broader criminal justice system did not have sufficient interpreters and appropriate equipment for people with disabilities such as Braille printers. It was also indicated that the police lacked anti-bias training for officials. In addition, the role of Equality Courts needs to be explored by the sector to ensure that the rights of disabled people are not infringed.

Justice and police officials appeared to lack any skills or understanding of how to work with such categories of people. As a result, the reaction was mainly to institutionalise such people even though they may not be guilty.

As a result of this lack of understanding of people who are disabled or mentally ill there is a general perception that such people are more susceptible to criminal behaviour even though there is no evidence to support this perception. There is a need to draw a distinction between someone

who is a slow learner as opposed to someone who has a mental disability or someone who is mentally ill. The responses need to acknowledge these differences.

Lack of effective rehabilitation programmes

The lack of effective rehabilitation programmes was noted as an area of concern. The notion of restorative justice needs to be implemented across the criminal justice system. Overcrowding in prisons also does negate effective rehabilitation and is a violation of offender's rights.

It was reported that a privately owned prison in the Free State has full rehabilitation programmes. However, most of the inmates are on multiple life sentences and the effect of the rehabilitation would be felt within the prison community but not in society in general. There was consensus that these private model prisons were financially unsustainable.

Lack of impact assessment on government interventions to address crime

A call was made to ascertain whether government programmes, such as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence have the desired impact on crime. There is a lack of an effective system for measuring impact and hence we may continue to waste scarce resources on programmes that are not effective. The police are often the first point of contact for both victims and offenders. The community's experiences of the entire criminal

justice system can be tainted by poor treatment at this initial level. Therefore, it is important that we address the negative perceptions of the police. However, a word of warning is that we should not engage in 'police-bashing' as this approach fails to appreciate the important work done by the police.

Impact of crime

Life

It was noted that there is a growing tendency to crime as a result of socio-economic conditions. Poor households illegally connect electricity. This action is condoned by the community. Illegal connections have exposed people to dangerous and hazardous circumstances. For example, blind people have walked into these illegal connections, and got electrocuted, while there are instances where children have been killed by live wires.

Human dignity

Non-violent crimes have to be addressed. Not only do they compromise our socio-economic rights, they also impact on the victims' right to human dignity. The impact is felt in poor quality services and workmanship communities receive. This includes housing, health care, food and social security. Fraud and corruption abound.

The examples of Tony Yengeni and Shabir Shaik show how corrosive corruption and fraud are to the moral fabric of society.

Conclusion

It was noted that the media reflected fairly widespread calls for the retention of capital punishment. The general consensus was that there is no evidence to support the argument that death penalty serves as a deterrent to crime.

Limpopo Provincial Dialogue

Dialogues were held at Moletjie, a rural area in the magisterial district of Seshego under the area of Kgoshi K.S Moloto and at M.J. Gateway Lodge in Polokwane.

Key participants

The event at Moletjie was held on 13 March 2007 at Moletjie Mošate in the Limpopo Province. It was held in the community Tribal Hall at the tribal offices of Moletjie under the chieftainship of Kgoshi K.S. Moloto within the Capricorn District.

This is a rural area, which is strategically located at the centre of the Moletjie area and is close enough to the main road to facilitate the use of public transport.

In Moletjie, the Dialogue was attended by more than 100 people. The Commission invited various participants across the whole spectrum of society who included traditional leaders, elderly people, rehabilitated offenders, disabled people, learners, teachers and victims of crime.

The Polokwane Dialogue was held on 15 March 2007. It was held at M.J. Gateway Lodge which is situated just 15 kilometres from Polokwane. The Dialogue in Polokwane was attended by 34 people including civil society such as the Right to Work Campaign, government officials and community members.

Community voices

Representation from the elderly

Representatives of the elderly expressed serious concern about elderly people who have been robbed of their old age pension grants in their homes. Their children who collaborate with criminals are the perpetrators of crime.

Representation from disabled groups

A representative of disabled persons gave a chilling account of a physically disabled lady who was also visually impaired. The lady was attacked and raped in her home. Due to her physical disability, she was unable to identify her attacker.

Learners

Learners from Seshego and Makgabo High Schools reported that they are often assaulted on their way from school. Young girls are often assaulted and raped by criminals who wait for them at remote areas.

Rehabilitated offenders

A rehabilitated and well-known offender told the gathering

that he used to be a member of a notorious gang in Seshego. He described how he used to break into other people's homes and steal their property. He also described how he committed armed robbery at old age pension pay points. He was ultimately convicted and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. His life was reformed while he was in prison, and is now spreading the message to the youth that crime does not pay.

Traditional leaders

A representative of traditional leaders raised the issue of lack of faith in the criminal justice system. He talked about criminals who are arrested and later released by the police. He stated that even when criminals are convicted, they often escaped with light sentences not fitting the crime they committed.

Representative from Department of Education (DOE)

A representative of the DOE indicated that society feels that everyone has become a prisoner in the sanctity of their own homes. He has personally experienced burglary and car theft more than five times. The following were noted as well:

- Female learners are being raped and impregnated by their teachers and fellow students.
- Learners are abusing drugs in schools. Drug lords have taken control, and take advantage of the children's poor economic plight. They offer children money as an incentive to sell drugs on school premises.
- The society has become unfriendly. There is no longer

trust. For example, even if somebody offers assistance, it is not seen as generosity.

- The society has grown unsympathetic towards fellow human beings. For example, people no longer offer assistance when someone is attacked or experiencing a criminal act.

Impact of crime

The area of Moletji is a rural area where poverty, unemployment and lack of education are rife. The majority of the community participants had no formal education and clearly most of them did not know about their rights.

Life

The Moletji area is well known for its high crime rate. Most of the speakers from the community said they could not walk freely at night and feared criminals. Although murder was not raised as an issue, it was brought to our attention that people often got murdered in the area.

Moletji is known nationally for its high crime rate. In 2005 young schoolboys, Sello Chokoe and Tshepo Matloga, who were murdered. Sello's private parts were tampered with. The incident occurred about 500m from where the Dialogue took place. The place is located among the hills and bushes which have become a hiding spot for criminals.

During the Dialogue it was agreed that crime has a negative impact on the right to life. People's lives are taken away almost daily. Most of the killings in the Polokwane area

take place at night, at shebeens and during hijackings and robberies.

Freedom and security of the person

It was reported that most of the violent incidents occurred at home. Many of the speakers raised concerns about being physically assaulted by their children. There were also reports of domestic violence between spouses. A senior member of the royal council encouraged community members to report such incidents to the tribal authority rather than the police.

Property

Although invitations were sent out to business people, they did not attend the event. As such we did not get any indication of incidences of shoplifting and burglaries at their business premise and homes. Community members mentioned sporadic incidents of theft in their homes. No incidents of fraud were mentioned but this doesn't mean it can be ruled out.

Conclusion

Most people appeared to be confused as to who the beneficiaries of human rights are. Most of them think human rights are intended for the benefit of criminals rather than victims, for law-breakers rather than law-abiding citizens, for educated people rather than illiterate people and for urban dwellers rather than those who live in remote rural areas.

There is a need for public awareness campaigns on human rights. There is also a serious need to make people aware that rights go hand-in-hand with responsibilities.

It was pointed out that there is a need for cooperation and collaboration between the community, the Department of Correctional Services, the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DOJ&CD) and the Department of Safety and Security.

Mpumalanga Provincial Dialogue

Lydenburg

Thaba Chweu Municipal Hall, Lydenburg (Mashishing), Mpumalanga.

Key participants

The targeted group was community members from a peri-urban area. The participants were a mixture of young, adult and elderly people. There were 85 participants in total. Among the participants were members of the community, NGOs, government departments, CDWs, the police as well as local pupils. During the Community Dialogue, participants were encouraged to share their views on the impact of crime on their human rights.

The event was held on 13 March 2007. The Community Dialogue was held at the Municipality Hall at the offices of the Thaba Chweu Local Municipality in Lydenburg.

Community Voices

One participant complained about corrupt traffic officers, and that not everybody had access to the traffic department. The people who go to these offices to access services have to pay a bribe to be helped. This creates the impression that for people to get access to certain services they need to pay money. This disadvantages those that do not have money or cannot afford to pay bribes. This in turn violates their right to just administrative action.

Another instance of corruption occurs at the pension and social grant pay points where people are expected to pay bribes for the grants which they are entitled to. Often people think they are supposed to pay these “fees” (bribes) and do so out of desperation. Those who cannot afford to pay are disadvantaged as they are not able to access their socio-economic rights.

A former sex worker also gave an account of corrupt police officers. She said the police knew who the sex workers were and would often randomly detain them. Instead of taking them to the police station and charging them, they solicit bribes from them in return for their freedom. The police usually ask the sex workers for sexual favours. This participant contends that the actions of the police unfairly violated her right to freedom of movement and also her right to human dignity.

A former convict also complained about harassment from corrupt police officials. The officials know that he is a

former convict and they accuse him of selling dagga in his shop, which he denies. The police usually ransack his shop, threaten to arrest him and imprison him and take goods in the shop without paying for them. The only way he survives the onslaught by the police is to pay them a bribe. This is a violation of his right to human dignity, his right to property and his right to freedom of trade, occupation and profession.

Impact of crime

Life

Concerns were raised by the participants about the prevalence of murder in the Mashishing area. A specific murder case involving a woman whose body was found in the veld after she had gone missing for sometime was discussed. This woman was raped and murdered but her body was found about three days later. This is a murder that gripped the small community of Mpumalanga Province. The community agreed that this was a gruesome murder and an unequivocal violation of the right to life.

The Department of Health was also criticised for its delayed response to emergencies. Some of the deaths are a blamed on the ambulance service not being provided on time. Where death does in fact occur under these circumstances, the right to life is violated. The community views this as criminal behaviour because emergency vehicles are often used for personal errands.

Freedom and security of the person

Inspector Molapo of the SAPS shared crime statistics with the participants. From his presentation, it became evident that rape is prevalent in this area, particularly in the Central Business District. The community also complained about the mushrooming of illegal shebeens where the youth spend most of their time drinking alcohol and smoking illegal substances. It was suggested that these activities often led to violent or criminal behaviour by the young people, and thereby violating the right to freedom and security of the person.

The participants also decried prison escapes where these would be impossible unless the prisoner was assisted by the police or prison officials. This compromises the right to freedom and security of the person because the detainees and prisoners who escape are potentially dangerous people who have committed or are suspected of having committed serious offences.

The rape of girl children was also identified as an infringement to freedom and security of a person. These crimes usually go unreported due to the fact that the violator is the breadwinner of the same family where the violation took place. In some instances parents (mostly mothers) do not want to believe their children is accounts over the alleged violators, who are in many instances their lovers.

The participants complained that the many illegal shebeens in the area are no-go areas during night time when the

revellers in the shebeens are drunk. They complain that the youths in these shebeens rob them of their possession and money when they go pass these places. This is a violation of the right to freedom of movement.

Property

The participants agreed with each other that it is unfair for people to steal from others who have worked hard to acquire their property. The crime of housebreaking was also identified as a violation of the right to property and had increased in recent years. The presentation by the police confirmed that housebreaking is on the rise.

2. Mbombela

Nelspruit, Mbombela Municipality, Mpumalanga

The targeted group was community members from an urban area. The group comprised mainly of the youth. There were 66 participants. Among the participants were Government Centre for Information Systems (GCIS) officials, the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Department of Safety and Security, the Young Communist League, the ANC Youth League as well as pupils from various schools within the Mbombela Municipality. The event was a dialogue where participants were encouraged to share their views on the impact of crime on their human rights.

This Community Dialogue was undertaken on 7 March, 2007. The event was held at the Municipality Hall at the offices of the Mbombela Local Municipality in Nelspruit.

Community Voices

The most gripping and emotionally draining account came from a young school girl. The parents of this girl were no longer together and her mother started a new relationship with a man she later married. The girl's new stepfather molested her, but the mother did not believe her allegations. The girl said that her rights as a child were violated, and was hurt that even her mother did not protect her rights.

There was a general account of the abuse of the right to freedom of movement in an area called Pienaar where the crime rate is very high, according to the residents. They complain that there are certain areas that they cannot go to because criminals rape, murder and rob them at random.. The rate of house-breaking in the area is considered to be very high, so much so that it is considered a risk to own property in the area.

One school girl complained about the high rate of drug abuse in schools. She said the boys go to the school toilets where they indulge in a variety of drugs. After taking the drugs, the boys harass girls and there is general fear among female pupils that they might be raped due to the boys' violent nature once they are under the influence of drugs. This compromises their safety in the school environment.

Impact of crime

Life

The female learners from secondary schools complained

about unsafe school environment where rape is prevalent. One of the respondents alluded to the fact that as much as rape compromises the right to dignity, privacy and freedom and security of the person, it also compromises one's right to life. This, she said, resulted from the high rate of HIV/AIDS infections in our country. It follows therefore that the person who rapes might actually infect the victim with the virus. Although the victim does not die immediately, her right to life may have been violated.

Another violation of the right to life that was presented was the theft of electric cables. This, it was contended, could cause electricity at a health facility to fail. If at a time that the power fails there was an intricate operation that was being performed, the surgery may be compromised. In the event that the patient dies, their right to life may have been violated by the cable thief.

Freedom and security of the person

The participants in this category identified a number of criminal offences as a violation of the right to freedom and security of the person. There was one particularly gruesome account of the rape of disabled children who are left in the care of other adults because their parents cannot afford to take them to specialised schools.

The rape of girl children was also identified as a violation of the right to freedom and security of the person. There was also concern about what is commonly known as 'date rape'. There was also an account of car hijackings and the trauma that goes with it.

The account of the residents of Pienaar is a clear example of where the right to freedom of movement is violated. Residents cannot go to certain areas within the township at certain times (mostly at night) because of the robberies that occur in those areas when it is dark.

Property

The crime of corruption was also identified as a violation of the right to property. For example, people who under normal circumstances would not qualify for RDP houses, are allocated houses after paying bribes.

Conclusion

The issue of crime is a social problem that is hampering the country’s progress. It is understandable that most people are angry about this epidemic. Some of the suggestions such as the return of the death penalty are testimony to the rising frustration caused by crime.

Northern Cape Provincial Dialogues

1. Douglas

The Community Dialogue was held at the Breipaal Community Hall in Douglas, which lies within the boundaries of the Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality. This is a rural location.

Key participants

The key participants at this event were members of

Youth against Crime and Community Development Workers (CDWs) under the leadership of Mr Raymond Motsemme.

An invitation was extended to the entire Breipaal community to participate in the dialogue. About 80 people attended the Community Dialogue, which was held on 7 March, 2007.

Community voices

The community was encouraged to share their experiences of how crime has impacted on the full enjoyment of their human rights as guaranteed in the Constitution. The following are some of the accounts by members of the community who attended the Dialogue:

“There are all sorts of serious crimes happening in Douglas that affect us as a community. The ones I can mention to you are murder, rape, robbery and theft. Police do not give immediate attention to crimes other than domestic violence. For example if a murder is committed they arrive at the scene after one to two hours, but if you report a domestic violence case there is instant reaction from them.”

“Unlawful evictions of farm workers from farms are rife in the area. The farmers refuse to co-operate with the local municipality to make sure that the farm workers have access to water and proper housing.”

“I think that the people who commit murder should get harsher sentences; they are released back into the communities after

one or two years and commit the same crimes. This is very frustrating because they infringe on our rights to live in a society free from violence. “

“I reported a case in 2005 where a staff member from the Department of Correctional Services drove through my fence almost colliding into my house. I have not received any feedback from the police since 2005. They keep on telling me that they are still busy doing follow-ups. I am really disillusioned by the inaction of the police!”

2. Louisvale - Upington

The Dialogue took place on 13 March, 2007 at the Louisvale Community Hall in Louisvaleweg. The area lies within the boundaries of the Siyanda District Municipality and is accessible to all the community members. This is a peri-urban location.

Key participants

The key participants at the Community Dialogue at Louisvaleweg were the Kolie Matthys, Director of the South African Police Service, Siyanda region; Mr Isaks, the Chairperson of the Louisvaleweg Community Policing Forum; Mrs Bernadette Ntoba of the Bopanang Centre for Abused Women and Children; and members of the Commission, Mrs N Kgwasi, Raynold van Heerden, Peter Toto, and Constance Pita.

The general community was invited to the dialogue and 40 people attended.

Community voices

The following are some of the accounts given by members of the community who attended the Dialogue

“My house was burgled at night. The criminals used my daughter’s bedroom window to break in. They could have done anything to her and that is very scary just thinking about it. We are no longer safe in our communities. I reported the case to the police. Due to poor investigation my case was thrown out. The police do not do their work. If they can’t protect us, who are we supposed to turn to for help?”

“Older persons in our community are really vulnerable. They are left on their own. At night they have to walk in the dark to get to the toilets which are situated outside their houses. An old lady has been raped due to this situation.”

“Emotional abuse is happening on a daily basis in our homes. This has far reaching effects on the children in the household who end up committing crime themselves. It causes them to believe that this is the way to solve problems. The police refuse to take cases of domestic violence that are not of a physical nature. For example if a person is emotionally or verbally abused the police refuse to follow-up the complaint. This results in the victim taking revenge on the abuser and in most cases, this results in death and imprisonment.”

“Most gruesome crimes are committed by people under

the influence of alcohol. The biggest problem in these areas is alcohol. This is perpetuated by the fact that money is readily available through the misuse of child grants and payments for restitution of land.”

3. Paballelo - Upington

Key participants

The whole community was invited to attend the Dialogue. Only 30 people registered.

The Dialogue was held at the J. Shimane Community Hall in Paballelo, which lies within the Siyanda Municipal boundaries and is accessible to all community members. This is a peri-urban location.

Community voices

One participant indicated that police do not respond timeously to their calls. The community felt frustrated and helpless because many negative things which happened in the community could be prevented if the police did their job properly. The following are some of the comments from the presentations:

“We do not feel free to go the police with our problems because we know nothing will come of it.”

“We get mugged by people when we walk back home from work. Women get raped and our homes get burgled. When we point out the perpetrator the police still do nothing.”

“When older persons in the community are mugged the police are very slow to react. People would wait at the police station while the police officers talk on their cellular phones or to their colleagues about trivial issues. They totally disrespect older persons and the community.

“There are not enough policemen in Paballelo therefore they are not visible. We also experience a communication problem between the police and the community. Policemen can’t speak our language!”

Impact of crime

Life

The communities visited were very concerned about their safety. They indicated that they experienced a great deal of crime related to murder, robbery and rape.

One of the main complaints is the fact that police and medical emergency personnel do not respond to their calls with the necessary urgency. One illustration used was that of a person being attacked and possibly bleeding to death before the ambulance arrives.

The police also take their time to arrive at the scene. As a result, criminals escape arrest. Murder and rapes do not stop because criminals know that they will get away with it due to the tardiness of the police. This leads to frustration and a feeling of complete disappointment and hopelessness.

Freedom and security of the person

Communities do not feel safe in their own neighbourhoods due to criminal activities. People are living like prisoners in their homes and they are not able to enjoy their basic human rights as guaranteed by the Constitution. Community members don't feel safe to walk in the streets anymore, especially over weekends when criminal activity increases. Older persons are taken advantage of especially when they receive their pension money. They may be robbed, raped or swindled the little money they have. The communities unanimously agreed that something drastic should be done to curb crime and make South Africa a country where everyone feels free to live a happy and peaceful life.

Property

Housebreaking, cellphone grabbing, stock and car theft are rife in the Northern Cape. Robbery and theft are regular occurrences which are, according to the communities, on the increase because the police don't always respond to calls.

Conclusion

The negative impact of crime is evident if one looks at communities and how they interact with one another. People don't respect each other any more. Older persons in the communities are disrespected and youngsters do not have positive role models in the communities that they can emulate. There are no moral and value systems in the households. People are too scared to stand up and speak out because they fear intimidation by other community

members. The people are afraid to be witnesses in criminal cases. The result is that criminals are released from detention because of insufficient evidence. The community is frustrated and despondent because so many promises have been made to them with no results. The different government departments, NGOs and community members need to work more closely together to come up with long-term solutions to this problem.

It appears as if one of the reasons for the high crime rate is the fact that so many parents have forgotten what it means to be parents. They should take responsibility for the proper upbringing of their children. Education starts at home where the child is prepared for the future. If the correct foundation is not laid things are bound to go wrong. In general, people feel that crime places limitations on their rights as human beings, and the situation is getting out of control.

People feel that accused and convicted persons have more rights than victims. We have to make a great effort to ensure that we treat victims of crime with care and respect and debunk the notion that criminals have more rights than them.

The community also suggested that churches can also play a major role in curbing unlawful activities. Morals and values have deteriorated because people have moved away from religion.

The communities also feel that tavern licenses are too easily available. They contend that the licensing

procedure should be reviewed and tighter requirements be implemented, especially with regard to operating times. They believe that these licenses should also be subject to annual renewal at a cost, which may discourage new applicants.

Finally, the police should be visible and should conduct regular raids of illegal shebeens.

North West Provincial Dialogue

The Provincial Dialogue was held on 15 March, 2007 at Moretele Community Hall in Moretele, North West Province. The main objective of the Dialogue was to bring together various communities around Moretele Local Municipality to discuss the impact of crime on the enjoyment of human rights and how various stakeholders have contributed towards combating crime.

The key participants were representatives of civil society organisations, as well as staff of the Commission. The total number of participants was approximately 350.

Community voices

Community members agree that in addition to poverty and unemployment the causes of crime could be identified as being a general scarcity of social responsibility as well as a lack of extra-mural activities for the youth.

Crimes such as domestic violence may be the result of cultural beliefs and patriarchal attitudes. Some areas experienced conflict caused by lack of service delivery and tensions related to municipal demarcation, which resulted in crime.

The community identified two types of crime. These are violent crimes (contact crime) such as murder and non-violent crimes such as housebreaking and copper cable theft. They informed us that the crime rate is high in the area. During the rainy season there was a definite increased incidences of crime.

Impact of crime

Freedom and security of the person

Participants identified rape, assault, the abuse of women and children and housebreaking as rife in some areas. It was further mentioned that the police should have a mechanism of dealing with such cases effectively and efficiently as these crimes compromise not only freedom and security of the person but also other rights such as the right to life and the right to human dignity.

The community also complained about the mushrooming of taverns and shebeens where the youth spend most of their time. Mention was made of the gross abuse of alcohol and drugs, particularly “nyaupe” (pills which are crushed and smoked). These activities induce youth violent behaviour which often leads to criminal activity.

The community's perception of the bail application process is that it allows the alleged perpetrators to be released to the streets and pose a threat to the community. This further fuels perceptions that the criminal justice system is inefficient.

Property

The community indicated that non-violent crimes such as corruption and fraud hamper service delivery in many communities. As a result many households do not have access to basic needs such as water, sanitation and electricity.

It was suggested that major crime is committed by the government itself. Though resources are allocated for the creation of job opportunities, government officials use these resources to benefit themselves. Fraud and corruption denies many people opportunities and services and as a result people resort to crime. One of the participants referred to the violence in that area which was a result of the municipal demarcation process.

For example, Ward 10 which falls under Gauteng and has good infrastructure is divided by a road from Ward 11 which is under the North West Province and has poor infrastructure. This must surely contribute to conflict which may manifest itself as pure criminal activity.

He also indicated that the nearest public hospital is not accessible to people because of the distance.

Life

Theft of copper cables is rife and has resulted in the shortage of electricity in some areas. It was noted that the illegal connection of electricity and water compromises the right to life. Some community members have suffered severe injuries as a result of accidentally walking into ditches/holes (dug for the purpose of illegal connections) at night. Police indicated that it is quite difficult to arrest the perpetrators without the assistance of the community. It was further indicated that the community is afraid to expose the perpetrators as it is not clear to what extent whistle-blowers are protected by the law.

Conclusion

Many of the recommendations pointed to collaborative efforts and the need for greater social responsibility. The community of Moretele Local Municipality acknowledged that there is a need for more awareness campaigns on human rights and moral regeneration. From the deliberations it was quiet evident that the impact of crime is felt all across the country needs urgent attention before it is too late.

Western Cape Provincial Dialogue

1. Cape Town

The first Community Dialogue was held in the Cape Town offices of the Commission on the 19 of March. The focus of this dialogue was on urban communities in and around Cape Town. The target group included community participants and NGOs working in communities where crime was rife. There were 22 participants present.

The key participants were representatives of NGOs, statutory bodies and government departments.

2. Ceres

The second Community Dialogue was held in Ceres at the Ceres Town Hall. The targeted group included members of the rural communities in the Witzenberg Municipal District in and around Ceres and Prince Alfred. There were approximately 80 community participants present.

On 21 March 2007 the Chairperson of the Commission was invited to share the platform with the Premier of the Western Cape and Deputy Minister of Home Affairs at a Human Rights Day event in Masiphumelele at Masiphumelele High School near Fish Hoek. This is a community which has been severely affected by violence against non-national Somalians. A strong message against racism and xenophobia was sent. The event was organised by the Premier's Office. The Commission was permitted to display its banners and to distribute materials to approximately 2000 people who were in attendance.

Community voices

Participants related their experiences of crime and the impact it has had on them. They were generally concerned about the high crime rate – one participant commented that it was “out of control”. There was also concerned that correct statistics needed to be provided to give a clear picture of the situation. Participants felt that the media fuelled perceptions of crime and its impact on communities. There were concerns about young people growing up in communities where crime and violence have become the norm rather than an exception. Violence against women and children remains foremost and gangsterism is rife in the Western Cape.

Other concerns raised by participants included:

- The lack of implementation of the Victims Charter;
- Fragmented service delivery;
- Lack of resources in fighting crime;
- Difficulties with minimum sentencing and the impact of overcrowding in prisons;
- Too much emphasis on targets and not impact and outcomes
- De-sensitisation and resilience amongst children on the Cape Flats;
- People having little faith in the criminal justice system;
- Crime as a deterrent to business/tourism and growth counteracts against investment in destination marketing.

Impact of crime

Life

Murder obviously impacts on the right to life. The high levels of suicide is cause for concern. Visitors to South Africa fear for their lives.

Freedom of movement

Many people felt that the potential for violent crime impacts on our freedom of movement. Fear of crime prevents people from exploring the city and moving around freely. Crime hampers economic growth, especially in disadvantaged areas.

Property

Participants felt that respect for property has been lost. This is visible in incidents of theft and vandalism. People have stopped reporting burglaries or if they do, it is simply to get a case number for insurance purposes.

Conclusion

Many participants remained optimistic about the future and felt that more can be done to deal with crime. It was essential to introduce and build a human rights culture to foster a caring and sharing society. All participants were appreciative of the initiative by the Commission and hopeful that something positive would come of it.

Media coverage

Media interventions and engagements

A media strategy was adopted to ensure that much needed awareness was raised on the Community Dialogues and the National Conference.

The objectives of the strategy were to:

- Inform the general public on the community debates taking place;
- Ensure coverage of these dialogues and the national conference;
- Facilitate broader participation from communities;
- Highlight the Commission's work in the media;
- Lead the debate on crime and human rights;

This was a multi-pronged approach focusing on national, regional and community radio as well as print media. Invitations to the media were sent out three weeks prior to the Community Dialogues and the national conference followed by weekly reminders.

Use of community media: Radio and print

Community radio plays an integral part in disseminating information to rural and urban communities alike as they operate in local languages and form part of the fabric of communities. Likewise community newspapers reach people who are unable to access mainstream newspapers.

The Commission engaged with community media in the following ways:

- (1) Radio talk-shows – Commissioners, Heads of Programmes and Provincial Managers availed themselves to participate in community radio station talk shows.
- (2) Community calendar – Community Dialogues were noted on community radio and newspaper calendars.
- (3) Coverage of dialogues and conference – Community radio and press were invited to cover the events.
- (4) Commissioners and Co-ordinators were encouraged to write opinion pieces for community newspapers.

Due to limited resources, both financial and human, community radio stations opted to do telephonic interviews, rather than attending the national conference.

Regional and Commercial Radio Stations

The public broadcaster was informed of the activities taking place in the various provinces. The radio stations drew up their programmes with slots allocated to the Commission.

Motsweding FM dedicated the whole month to human rights awareness and conducted daily interviews on different human rights issues and topics. Radio 2000 also conducted a number of interviews about Human Rights Month, and specifically on the conference’s Provincial Dialogues.

Media interviews

Below is a table of interventions by Provincial Offices

Limpopo

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
05/03/2007 06/03/2007 07/03/2007	Munganonene FM	Afrika wa vulavula Afrika wa vulavula Gingirikani	Human Rights and Community Dialogue
12/03/2007 12/03/2007 12/03/2007	Mohodi Community Radio Moletjie Community Radio	Radio Talk Show Radio interviews	Impact of crime on human rights
07/03/2007	Thobela FM	Wena o Reng Rena re a kgona	Human Rights Human Rights and Equality
21-23/03/2007	Capricon Voice newspaper		Human Rights Dialogue and rights of the elderly
13/03/2007 21/03/2007	Phalaphala Phalaphala	Afternoon drive Afternoon drive	Homosexuality Background on Human Rights Day

Free State

In conjunction with the Free State Office of the Premier, a media statement was issued on 18th March 2007.

The statement indicated the importance of human rights and the roles of the Commission and the Premier's Office in the National Conference.

Free State

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
21/03/2007 21/03/2007	SABC Radio News	Lesedi FM Umhlobo Wenene	Human Rights and Community Dialogue
23/03/2007	SABC	Lesedi FM	Human Rights and Community Dialogue

Eastern Cape

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
13/03/2007	SABC	Umhlobo Wenene	Role of Commission
14/03/2007	SABC	Umhlobo Wenene	Crime & Human Rights
19/03/2007	SABC	Umhlobo Wenene	Meaning of Human Rights and planned activities
20/03/2007	CKI FM		Crime and Human Rights
20/03/2007	SABC	Umhlobo Wenene	Significance of Human Rights Day

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
21/03/2007	SABC	Umhlobo Wenene	Challenges raised by communities on the main event
21/03/2007	SABC	iKwekwezi	Crime and Human Rights
26/03/2007	CKI FM		Conference Resolutions on Crime and Human Rights
02/04/2007	CKI FM		Conference Resolutions on Crime and Human Rights

Mpumalanga

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
16/03/2007	SABC	Ligwalagwala - Talk show	Crime and its impact on Human Rights

KwaZulu-Natal

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
21/03/2007	Ukhozi FM	Breakfast show	Human Rights /
21/03/2007	Ukhozi FM	Current Affairs	Human Rights
21/03/2007	ECR		Day / Health
21/03/2007	Lotus FM		Inquiry
23/03/2007	Gagasi		
26/03/2007	East Coast Radio		

Western Cape

No media engagements

Northern Cape

No media engagements

North West

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
21/03/2007	Moretele FM	Midday show	Crime and its impact on Human Rights

Gauteng

Date	Media	Programme	Topic
12/03/2007	TNT Radio	Current Affairs	Crime and its impact on Human Rights
21/03/2007	SABC	Radio 2000	Crime and its impact on Human Rights
21/03/2007	SABC	Radio 2000	Crime and its impact on Human Rights

Recommendations

At the end of each Community Dialogue various communities and stakeholders made recommendations which were tabled at the National Conference on Crime and its Impact on Human Rights.

The following are recommendations as per province:

Eastern Cape

- Development of youth programmes
- Creation of job opportunities
- Introduction of neighbourhood watch system
- Strengthen relationship between police and the community
- Strict monitoring of taverns and other liquor vendors by police
- Continuation of crime prevention mechanisms by SAPS
- Implementation of inter-sectoral approach to awareness campaigns

Free State

- Improve socio-economic conditions of the previously disadvantaged in an accelerated manner, including the creation of sustainable jobs, skills development, training opportunities and facilitation of provision of business opportunities, especially to the youth.

- All government departments must ensure that poverty alleviation programmes are efficiently implemented and monitored.
- Restore of the moral fibre of society through civic education which encompasses cultural values including Ubuntu.
- Accelerate service delivery by all provincial and local government structures through the implementation and monitoring of their Integrated Development Plans.
- Enforcement of the Extension of Security of Tenure Act and all other applicable labour laws by the judiciary and law enforcement agencies in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and government departments.
- Fast-tracking of case backlogs in the judicial system especially those cases related to crimes which impact on the enjoyment of human rights.
- Implementation of risk and fraud prevention control measures by all government departments so as to eliminate the risk of corruption in government.
- Provide all police and other law enforcement agencies with necessary training that would ensure effective prosecution.
- Raise awareness in communities about the roles of government, chapter 9 Institutions and other relevant agencies.
- Strengthen community involvement in policy making and implementation through education and relevant campaigns.

- Ensure integrated planning and coordination between government departments and civil society.

Gauteng

- Provide 'citizens arrests' training
- Improve lighting and recreational facilities
- Improve information sharing with the police
- Improve street numbering to response times
- Rebalance victims' versus perpetrators' rights
- Establish SAHRC offices in townships
- Provide incentives for police community forum members
- Encourage the use of information centres
- Implement moral regeneration and skills development programmes
- Develop conflict management programmes for the youth

KwaZulu-Natal

- Build sustainable relationships with Community Policing Fora
- Develop indigenous models for community policing for the environment
- Create opportunities for greater inclusion of specific vulnerable groups, such as the elderly

- Focus on creating awareness of human rights and how to deal with violations of these rights, even if the violations are perpetrated by government officials
- Create social cohesion in communities (for example, in Gugulethu they host street parties and in so doing build cohesion amongst residents)
- Focus on prevention
- Inculcate values of intolerance towards criminal behaviour within homes and communities. Discourage people from buying stolen goods.
- Appropriate and relevant training of officials in the criminal justice sector is urgently required. This may involve reviewing the existing training curriculum.
- Lobby for a greater focus on neighbourhood policing for SAPS cadets as part of their training
- Increased partnerships between stakeholders
- Find creative ways to celebrate positive crime prevention and mitigation initiatives
- Challenge and break down racial stereotyping of perpetrators and official government responses

Limpopo

- Introduce human rights educational programmes in communities
- Rebuild trust in government and its ability to fight crime
- Empower communities in order for them to participate in the fight against crime

- Put effective, coordinated strategies in place to fight crime.
- Resuscitate and/ or introduce sport and extramural activities in schools

Mpumalanga

- Install and maintain street lights to improve visibility at night
- Impose heavier sentences for serious crimes such as rape and murder
- Tighten security measures in schools
- Tighten security and police visibility at social grants pay points
- Introduce human rights programmes in communities
- Proper training of police officials
- More Community Policing Forum members to be trained
- Create more job opportunities to alleviate poverty and thereby lessen crime
- Communities should work together with police to combat crime (Community Policing Forum)
- Communities must adopt a zero-tolerance approach towards crime
- Implement of moral regeneration programmes
- Introduce of anti-crime forums in schools
- Resuscitate and/ or introduce extramural activities for the youth
- Introduce a support system for victims of crime

Northern Cape

- Introduce an alcohol free day/weekend to lessen the effect of crime in the community
- Allow submissions from communities to the legislature on the regulation of trading hours and days for shebeens and taverns in the community
- Make the Government Gazette accessible to communities to ensure greater public participation
- Involve the youth in crime prevention programmes
- Involve relevant stakeholders such as the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture and the National Youth Commission in youth activities
- Ensure a collaborative approach to crime prevention
- Ensure that shelters for abused people are accessible to communities

North-West

- Introduce recreational activities for the youth which will assist in keeping them away from criminal activities
- Establish Community Policing Fora in all police stations
- Establish committees made up of community members and the police
- Ensure intense and relevant training for police officials
- Mobilise all sectors of society, i.e. the government, civil society organisations and statutory bodies

- Involve all stakeholders in community development programs
- Involve the youth in crime combating projects
- Introduce human rights educational programmes in communities
- Implement effective crime prevention strategies by the government and other stakeholders
- Resuscitate and/ or introduce extra-mural activities in schools
- Improve of economic and social conditions in communities

Western Cape

- Increase collaboration and networking amongst stakeholders to ensure effective services to victims and crime
- Government support for NGOs like the Trauma Centre
- Introduce moral regeneration programmes for the youth
- Implement intensive interventions to support the family unit
- Restore trust in criminal justice system
- Establish a human rights approach to dealing with crime
- Create sustainable job opportunities
- Resuscitate and/ or introduce extramural activities for the youth.

Conclusion

The new approach to Human Rights Day celebrations, i.e., the Human Rights Month Campaign ensured maximum participation by all offices of the Commission on an equal basis. The approach was more effective and sustainable in terms of ensuring that current human rights issues such as crime feature as a key priority for the Commission.

Through Community Dialogues the Commission was able to engage with a variety of stakeholders in its endeavour to develop sustainable human rights-based methods of combating crime. The greatest benefit was in creating a platform for communities to talk about their experiences of crime and how it impacts on the enjoyment of their human rights.

Appendices

Free State

Key participants in Community Dialogues:	Adv Mothusi Lepheana (SAHRC)
Programme Director:	Mr Motaung (Opening (and Welcome)
Honourable Mayor:	Mr Vusi Nkonde
Court Manager:	Mr Themba Macu
Victim Empowerment Centre:	Mr Paul De Villiers
Free State Provincial Department, Regional Head:	Mr Ngwenya
Crime Victim for Memel:	Mr Masondo
Station Commissioner:	Ms Windy Dinala
Member of Community Policing Forum:	Mr Mazibuko
Head of Correctional Facility:	Mr Vusi Nkonde
Member of Business Community:	Ms Nobesuthu Masholugo
District Head, Department of Land Affairs:	Adv Robert Lesabane (SAHRC)
Way Forward:	Mr Thapelo Kgabeginyane
Recorders and Register Takers:	& Mr Thabang Keswa (SAHRC)
Logistics:	Mr Dume Kobeni
Panellists	Senior Magistrate: Mr Van Rhyn
Farmers Union Representatives:	NAFU and Agri FS
Station Commissioner:	Mr Stapelberg
CPF Chairperson:	Mr Charlie
Rape Victim Support Centre:	Ms Khethiwe
Head of Prison:	Mr Dumane
Department of Home Affairs:	District Head
Way forward:	Adv R Lesabane (SAHRC)
Vote of Thanks:	Ms M Phethu (SAHRC)
Key participants in provincial conference	Commissioner Leon Wessels(SAHRC)
Programme Director:	Ms Gertrude Mothupi
The Honourable Executive Mayor:	Adv Mothusi Lepheana
SAHRC:	
Panellists	
Tshepong Victim Centre:	Ms Pinky Sempe
Agriculture FS:	Mr Pieter Moller
SAMWU:	Mr Joe
FS Rural Development Association:	Mr Buti Chakache
Bloemfontein Chamber of Commerce:	Mr Nape Kgomo
Family Advocate's office:	Adv Sangu
Provincial Commissioner SAPS:	Mr Mashigo
SA Council of Churches:	Rev Jeremiah Lesshope
Forum for Democracy and Human Rights Education:	Mr Khosana Tladi
Recommendations	Commissioner Paul Helepi and Mr Justice Loape

Vote of thanks:

Commissioner L Wessels (SAHRC)

Other Stakeholders:

NGOs, CBOs, victims of crime, members of churches, unions, Special Programmes, representatives including those from the Premier's Office, HOD's of different departments, private sector, chapter 9 institutions, SAPS, ward councillors, media, etc

KwaZulu-Natal

Roundtable Discussion on Crime (14/03/07)

SAHRC:

SAHRC:

University of KwaZulu Natal:

Department of Justice:

Department of Health:

Department of Health:

Age in Action

Disability People South Africa:

SHPSA:

CSAP:

Democracy Development Programme:

Democracy Development Programme:

Democracy Development Programme:

SAHRC:

Disability People South Africa:

Office of the Public Protector:

SAHRC:

SAHRC:

Eugene Raphaelane

Daniel Areias

Monique Marks

Semenyane Makume

Dr N Raymond

Fort Napier Hospital

Dr J Dunn

Fort Napier Hospital

Sindi Nene

Bulelwa Mbolekwa

Sibisiso Xaba

Shirin Motala

Rama Naldu

Julie Day

Dumusani Nyalwa

Kevashinee Pillay

Bulelwa Mbalekwa

Varsha Sewlal

Tanuja Munnoo

Commissioner K. Govender

Limpopo

Moletjie:

Key Participants

Office of the Premier:

Age in Action Organisation:

Senior citizens requested by:

Disabled Persons SA:

Commission on Gender Equality:

Rehabilitated offenders:

South African Council of Churches:

Psychologist:

Mrs C Maswanganyi

Mr C Molokomme

Mrs Kabe Kwena

Ms Makele Mashabela

Ms N. F. Sebata

Mr Peter Masenya

Ms Sebata

Mrs Randy Mashele

Local Schools Principal:

Learners Representatives

Traditional Leaders including members of the Royal Council

Academics and the community at large

M.J. Gateway, Polokwane: Key Participants

Keynote Speaker:

Right to work Campaign:

Rehabilitated Offender:

Correctional Services:

Moral Regeneration Movement:

Commission on Gender Equality:

YWCA:

Education Representative:

SACC:

Psychologist:

Mr Ngoetjana

Makgabo High School

and Seshego High School

Moletjie Tribal Authority

Mr Nevhondwe

Mr Mpho Ramaano

Mr Peter Masenya

Mr Segooa

Mr Selaelo Nkube

Mr Mahloko

Ms Masipa M.P.

Adv Mr Theledi

Ms Sebata

Ms Randy Mashele

Mpumalanga

SAHRC:

Legal Officer:

Education and Training Intern:

Legal Intern:

Research Intern:

Research Intern, Head Office:

Keynote speakers:

Principal of Lesedi Primary School:

South African Police Service:

GCIS:

Department of Safety and Security:

Ms Lufuno Mmbadi

Mr Charles Kgoale

Mr Dennis Banda

Mr Themba Mthenjana

Mr Khulani Mokoena

Mr Moeletsi Liphapang

Mr Palane

Inspector Molapo

Ms Jabu Majola

Ms Rosina Mahloromela

Northern Cape

Key Participants:

SAPS:

Community Policing Forum:

Centre for Abused Women and Children:

Department of Social Development:

SAHRC members:

Director Kolie Matthys

Mr Sampson-Chairperson

Mrs B Ntoba-Bopanang

Ms Maryna Louw

Mrs N Kgwasi; Raynold van Heerden

Peter Toto and Constance Pita

North West

Keynote Speakers:

SAHRC: Commissioner Tom Manthata
Premier North West: Mr Jerry Thibedi , (MEC Safety and Security)
The Mayor Moretele Local Municipality: Ms A Molekwa
Khulisa Crime Prevention Initiative: B Tshabalala (Rustenburg Office)
DOJ&CD: Chief Magistrate Mary Ann Swanepoel
SAPS Makapanstad: Inspector Lehabe
Kgosi Mathibe of Mathibestad
North West House of Traditional Leaders Kgosi Nawa

Community Participants:

Ward Councillors, Ward Committees, SANCO, SAPS, SASA, Magistrates from Temba Magistrate Court, SADTU, Moretele ANC Delegate, Moretele Community Development Workers, Kgomo-Kgomo and Mathibestad Community Policing Forum, representative from the NW Department of Social Development (Rustenburg) , NW Department of Health (Temba), Tribal Councils representatives from Kgomo-Kgomo, Ratjiepan and Makapanstad, NAPTOSA (Makapanstad), CVARD Moretele, Bua Media Moretele, Businessman (Bojanala), and LTS (Bojanala)

Western Cape

Manenberg Peoples Centre
Legal Resources Centre
Department of Social Development
Atlantis Community Policing Forum
Independent Complaints Directorate
Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum
Centre for Constitutional Rights
Queensbury Investigators
University of Cape Town
New World Foundation
Department of Community Safety
UCT Law Clinic
NICRO
CAFDA
Trauma Centre for Survivors of Violence and Torture
Parliamentary Unit of the SAHRC
Cape Town Tourism

Gauteng

Speakers

South African Council of Churches: Rev Gift Moerane
Ekurhuleni Municipality: Councilor Ndebele
Khulisa Crime Prevention Initiative: Thabo Monyatsi
SAPS Katlehong: Captain Nyamende & Sen Supt Buthelezi
University of South Africa: Richard Morodi
Independent Complaints Directorate: Adv Poopedi
SAHRC: Commissioners Manthata & Wessels

Participants

Katlehong Local SAPS
Eden Park SAPS
South African National Civic Organization (SANCO)
Khanya Family Centre
Khulisa Crime Prevention Initiative - Khulisa
South African Council of Churches (SACC)
University of South (UNISA)
Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD)
Ekurhuleni Municipality
Katlehong Resources Centre
Katlehong Community Development Workers (CDWs)
Eketseng High School
Phumlani Secondary School Learners
Community Policing Forum
Women's Forum
ANC members / ANC Youth League
Community members
Ward committee
Progress Play Group
Youth / Youth Forum
Phumzile Creche

D I A L O G U E S

SAHRC CONTACT DETAILS

HEAD OFFICE

Gauteng

Private Bag 2700, Houghton 2041
Tel: (011) 484 8300 • Fax: (011) 484 7149

PROVINCIAL OFFICES

Eastern Cape

PO Box 1854, Port Elizabeth 6001
Tel: (041) 582 4094/4302 • Fax: (041) 582 2204

Free State

PO Box 4245, Bloemfontein 9300
Tel: (051) 447 1130/3 • Fax: (051) 447 1128

KwaZulu-Natal

PO Box 1456, Durban 4000
Tel: (031) 304 7323/4/5 • Fax: (031) 304 7323

Limpopo

PO Box 4431, Polokwane 7000
Tel: (015) 291 3500/4 • Fax: (015) 291 3505

Mpumalanga

PO Box 6574, Nelspruit 1200
Tel: (013) 752 7528292/3458 • Fax: (013) 752 6890

Northern Cape

PO Box 1816, Upington 8800
Tel: (054) 332 3993/4/5293 • Fax: (054) 332 7750

North West

PO Box 9586, Rustenburg 0300
Tel: (014) 592 0694 • Fax: (014) 594 1089

Western Cape

PO Box 3563, Cape Town 8001
Tel: (021) 426 2277 • Fax: (021) 426 2875