

PC16/571/3/20

# COMMITTEE FOR NON-RACIAL EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

2nd Floor,  
106 Retief Street,  
Pietermaritzburg,  
3201

Our Ref.:



P.O. Box 170,  
PLESSISLAER  
4500

Your Ref.:

Tel: (0331) 21758

18th June, 1980

Dear

Re: APPEAL FOR FUNDS

One of the main sore points of South African life is discrimination in education. What is even more disturbing is the manner in which the Church seems to have been conforming to what is basically an evil system. In recent years the blacks in the church have intensified their criticism of Church Schools. In the last three years the first significant change has now come about with the church's decision to accept the principle of non-racial education and to open the doors to Black children.

Significant as the move is, it has nevertheless, now brought to the surface other practical considerations. One of these is finance. Like the integration of 5-star hotels, the church schools can only admit a few black children -- mere tokenism. We can now no longer criticize the church schools in Synods and Assemblies, because racialism is now camouflaged and has put on a capitalist cloak.

This has prompted some parents in Natal, in the Durban -- Pietermaritzburg area to devise a strategy to get more black children into these church schools.

We believe that this is one way of making the church to help in the overall transformation of the South African Society.

We believe that subterfuges like high fees and high entry language qualifications will be used to keep black children out, hence eternal vigilance is a real imperative.

We believe that the argument that this policy may lead to "elitist education" does not hold water, because the children are faced with a choice between slave education, and the so-called "elitist education". For Black children this a matter of life and death.

We believe that education is a basic human right which should be free and compulsory.

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However, in the interim stage with the future in mind, pupils should be given every possible opportunity available.

This Non-Racial Education Committee appeals to friends all over to help meet this great challenge.

The following are the needs per child we hope to cater for:-

1. Boarding fees (boarding schools are preferable because of transport problems)
2. School fees
3. Book fees
4. Transport to and from school
5. Uniforms
6. Fees for extra-mural activities and
7. Where possible pocket-money.

On average, to provide the above needs, we shall need about R1000 per child per year. With a hundred children to start with, that means a yearly budget of R100,000.00.

The money we receive will be invested through a Trust fund, the Deed is presently being drawn, and it is from the profits that we hope to raise the required figure of R100,000.00.

Donations should please be sent to:

The Committee for Non-Racial Education in South Africa,  
P.O.Box 170  
PLESSISLAER  
4500.

Yours faithfully,

*N Swane*

SECRETARY

*P. B. Swane*

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The Committee for Non-Racial Education in South Africa.