

BOPA-Net

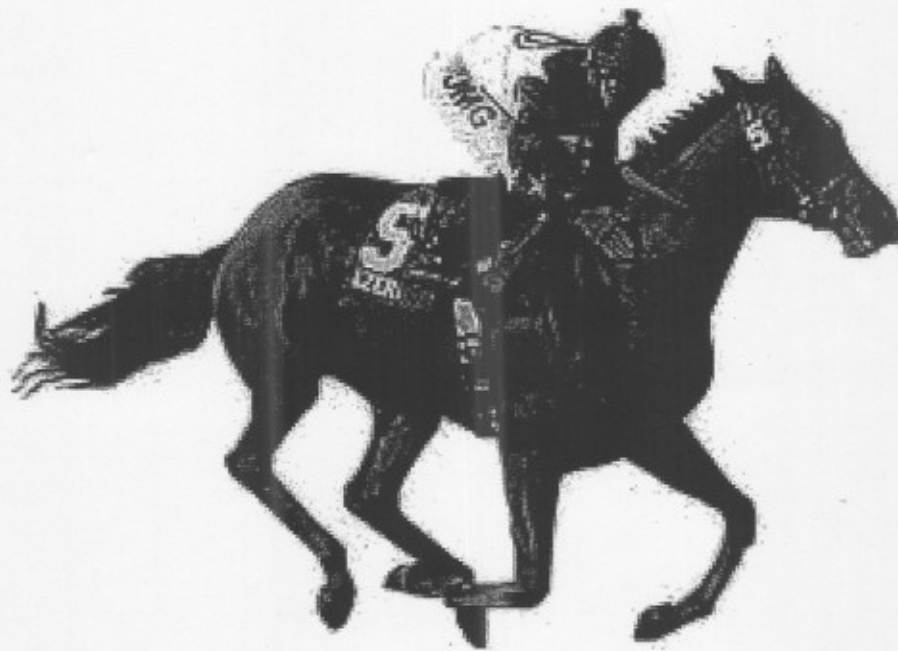


A VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR MASS TRANSFORMATION & EMPOWERMENT

Member - SANGOCO No. [REDACTED]
(BLACK OWNERS & PUNTERS ASSOCIATION)

PRESENTATION TO THE PMG: SPORT & RECREATION

TRANSFORMATION & CHALLENGES WITHIN THE HORSERACING INDUSTRY



By Hanif Manjoo- Chairman: Bopa Net
[REDACTED] (06/09/2011)

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(1) INTRODUCTION

My presentation will be seen as radical by some as it comes from a former activist, first-hand experience and no mincing of words.

17 years after our new democracy, it is a major indictment on our leaders, the ANC and Government that there is common acceptance that there is no need for transformation, and that, there have been no challenges within the horseracing industry!

We have been bombarded with calls for nationalisation of the mines, etc., where the assets are deemed to belong to the country. Such calls are in direct conflict with what was done within the horseracing industry, where the assets belonged to the people.

We have also heard former comrades (now capitalists) and socialists (now socialites) saying 'I did not join the struggle to be poor!', 'It's not a crime to be rich!', etc. In effect, we have abandoned the mass and what the Freedom Charter stands for.

I trust that, at the end of my presentation, we all will have answers; knowing where we come from, and having a clear idea of where we are going to and what's to be done to take this sport of horseracing to the people, where it rightfully belongs.....under the direction of the Dept of Sports & Recreation!

(2) THE BARRIERS AND COSTS THAT PROHIBIT INCLUSION OF NON-CAUCASIANS WITHIN THE HORSERACING INDUSTRY

STRUCTURES

The various structures of the horseracing industry are set up in a confusing web of operator, control and regulation (cross-pollination being starkly evident!) as against its components, such as owners, trainers, grooms, punters, jockeys, breeders, etc. The intricate relationship between these two is such that there is no responsible body/organisation which should be answerable for the transformation of the industry.

Let's identify some of them and their roles/functions:

1. NATIONAL HORSERACING AUTHORITY (NHRA)

- (i) This is the controlling and regulating body for the industry
- (ii) Besides protecting the integrity of the 'sport' via disciplinary action, it issues colours and licences to potential owners, trainers, breeders, jockeys, spelling farms, etc.
- (iii) It receives its income from the fees it charges and receives additional funds from the operator (Phumelela/Racing Association/Gold Circle)
- (iv) Its officials for national and the regions are elected by the members (who can be owners, trainers, etc).

To own and race horses, one has to apply for colours. For an individual, the fee is R2 400.00 whilst for a company, trust, syndicate or CC- R5 855.00.

This is the first barrier for entry; its high cost.

My view (endorsed by a former DTI Director Mr A Sooklal), that this should be drastically reduced to permit more people to enter the industry.

Currently, we have-

- (i) Not a single African trainer country-wide. In total, 2 Indians (in KZN) and 1 Coloured/Indian (W Cape) out of 400-odd trainers;
- (ii) Less than 5% of owners are blacks (of which not even 1% is African);
- (iii) Amongst the officials, there is a preponderance of whites....and that is not going to change for years to come! For instance, the CEO has been and is a Caucasian.

Herein, I requested the following information from the NHRA-

1.
What are the relevant racial compositions of your current Chairman and CEO?
2.
Has there ever been a black occupying these positions?
3.
What is the racial composition (numbers-wise) of your national and all the regional offices (with positions)?

No acknowledgement or response.

2. GOLD CIRCLE RACING

Whilst this is deemed to be a Section 21 Company, its operations tell a different picture.

Below, I have copied the various officials of the regions which tells its own story about non-Caucasian representation:

KZN Chapter	Gold Circle Board	Western Cape Chapter
KZN REGIONAL BOARD DIRECTORS	DIRECTORS	WC REGIONAL BOARD DIRECTORS
T N Pillay (Moga)(Chairperson)	M J R Mauvis (Chairperson)	V L Thurling (Chairperson)
W B W G Kobusch (Vice Chairperson)	N Butcher (Vice Chairperson)	R B Dunn (Vice Chairperson)
N Butcher	P De Beyer	J R Bloomberg
P V Lafferty	Ms L A Futeran	E Braun
D A Latimer	G T Hawkins (Chief Operating Officer)	I Cronje
M J R Mauvis	P L Loker (Commercial Director)	P De Beyer
R Moodley	P Mnganga	T F Fowler
L Nunan (Babu)	R Moodley	Ms L A Futeran
G Petzer	A J Rivalland	Mrs L King
A J Rivalland	G A R Sturlese	G Knowles
G A R Sturlese		V H Marshall
M Tembe		Ms P L V Mickleburgh
		A A Mohamed
		J Ramsden

The following is copy of what I requested from them:

The Chairman/CEO

Gold Circle Racing

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE : TRANSFORMATION OF HORSERACING

I shall appreciate your co-operation in furnishing the following info asap (which is required for presentation to Parliament):

1.
What race is the current CEO?

Additionally, has there ever been a black CEO of Gold Circle?

Mr G Hawkins has been appointed CEO of Gold Circle (having left Gauteng as a commentator, manager, marketer, etc). Was this position advertised?

Why was a black not considered with suitable qualifications?

2.
I note that the article on Transformation has been removed. Herein, there was ample mileage given to Gold Circle's empowerment / transformation initiatives (with BEE verification) with having set up and paraded Mr Bhekinkosi Bulana as the first black African trainer.

Mr Bulana has now ceased to train as Gold Circle allegedly unilaterally withdrew its support / funding as per Mr G Hawkins.

3.
How many other black African trainers have been supported/promoted by Gold Circle?

4.
We understand that you have a Gold Circle Transformation Fund. How broad-based is this and what is its function?

Looking forward to your prompt responses.

Thanking you, With regards

Hanif Manjoo
BopaNet - Chairman

Acknowledgement but no response.

3. PHUMELELA GAMING & LEISURE
This is the entity that former MEC, Finance Jabu Molekethi, unilaterally corporatized.

A request for information has not been acknowledged to date as ff:

The Chairman/CEO
Phumelela

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE : EMPOWERMENT- EMPLOYMENT EQUITY & BEE INITIATIVES

I SHALL APPRECAITE IF YOU COULD KINDLY SUPPLY ME WITH THE FOLLOWING INFO REGARDING THE ABOVE WHICH IS ON YOUR WEBSITE ASAP:

1.

As for Employment Equity, what percentage of the components are Indian, Coloured and African amongst the various levels of management;

2.

As for your BEE initiatives, what is the pro-rata shareholding of Indians/Coloureds and Africans within the companies established (Hospitality, Maintenance, IT, etc)?

Herein, to whom does the balance of the share-holding (presumably whites) belong (name/s of the directors) and their positions in Phumelela, Racing Association, NHRA, etc?

3.

As for the shareholding (BEE), is this restricted to a handful or spreads across a broad base?

If so, how many?

Was the offer to participate advertised to invite other members of the public from the previously disadvantaged groups?

Your prompt response will be appreciated.

Thanking you,

With regards

Hanif Manjoo
BopaNet – Chairman

NB: The info is required for a presentation to Parliament.

No acknowledgemnt!

4. RACING ASSOCIATION (RA)

Committee

Finance:

Mr. L Wainstein
Mr. C Gerber
Mr. M Currie

Industry Liason:

Mr. L. Wainstein
Mr. P. Miller
Mr. T. Raath
Mr. A. O Connor

Trainer Liason:

Mr. L. Wainstein

Jockey's Remuneration:

Mr. L. Wainstein
Mr. T. Raath

Marketing:

Mr. L. Wainstein
Mr. T. Raath
Mr. P. Naidoo
Mr. A. O Connor

Import / Export:

(Racing South Africa) Mr. C. Gerber

TBA Liason:

Mr. C. Gerber

Handicapping Steering:

RA Staff

Merle Parker, Penny Broodryk, and Angie Basel serve on the Marketing & Member's Communication Committees.

Larry Wainstein : Chairman E-Mail:

Nicholas Nofal : Operations Manager E-Mail:

Vanessa Moodley : Office Administrator E-Mail:

Merle Parker : Assistant to C.E.O E-Mail:

Natalie Turner : Financial Accountant E-Mail:

Cynthia Elsholz : Bookkeeper E-mail:

Penny Broodryk : Member Relations Officer E-Mail :

Angie Basel : Events Co-ordinator E-Mail:

Maggie Sithole : Office Assistant

Office number: 011 683 3220

Office Fax number : 011 683 3222

Members from this body made a presentation to you. Examining the composition of officials above, there are 3 blacks only (Peter Naidoo, Vanessa Moodley and Maggie Sithole).

Is this transformation that they referred to?

5. THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (TBA)

Information requested from this body:

The Chairman/CEO
TBA

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE : TRANSFORMATION WITHIN THE TBA

Kindly advise us with the following info which we are preparing for presentation to Parliament:

1.
What are the races of your current Chairman &CEO/General Manager?
2.
Have you ever had a black in any of the above positions?
3.
How many of your members are black percentage-wise and in total numbers?
4.
Do you support and have a framework for meaningful transformation of the TBA?

Your prompt responses will be appreciated.

Thanking you, With regards

Hanif Manjoo
BopaNet-Chairman

Nothing again!

OBSERVATION:

The attitude of not even acknowledging correspondence (unsavoury/awkward) by the industry's sectors is shocking....and predictably consistent!

There is also the concern of conflicts of interests e.g., an individual can sit on 2 or more boards of the above bodies..... and such has already been done!

This alone reinforces not just the justification for Government intervention, but that the Dept of Sports & Recreation takes immediate control over it!

(3) SOLUTION & WAY FORWARD

THE EQUINE INDUSTRY

The equine industry, in terms of this presentation, involves, inter alia-

1. The horseracing industry, with all its trappings of race tracks (all-weather and grass), TV & radio relays, owners, trainers, jockeys, breeders, grooms, etc. including hurdle (steeple chase / hunt) racing and trotting races;
2. Polo horses;
3. Show jumping & Dressage, etc;
4. Includes what is known as 'Bush Racing'.

NATIONAL HORSERACING BOARD

In the total absence of transformation within the horseracing (which is presented as a sport in one breath, and, a business in the next!), our proposal is as follows:

- (1) The Hon. Minister of Sports and Recreation (with the endorsement of the PMG), bring horseracing under its direct control (including the betting operation which includes Sports Betting, the NHRA, RA, etc;
- (2) An enquiry be launched into the entire horseracing industry, from corporatisation, examining (inter alia) such aspects as transformation, asset stripping, conflicts of interests, nepotism, non-accountability, inconsistent and credible control and regulations, etc.

Consider a scenario whereby all soccer clubs are taken over by a single entity, stadia are shut down to utilise just one per Province, anyone wanting to play soccer must pay a fee, nobody else can stage a soccer match, one must be family or friend of the chairman for any position / tender, etc?

- (3) A National Horseracing (Equine) Board be established and assigned the functions of regulating, control and meaningful transformation of the entire Equine Industry;
- (4) The Board to take possession/ownership of all the assets of the industry (race tracks & Province/local municipality leased/donated/sponsored property);

- (5) The Board to have relevant, independent interest groups (owners, trainers, jockeys, grooms, punters, etc) represented for its administration and operation;
- (6) Operational management could be outsourced to a strategic partner/s. The gambling side only could be corporatised / privatised.
- (7) The Department must not tax the entity for a period of 10 years;
- (8) All revenue (profits) generated must be for the explicit promotion of generally, the equine sports, and specifically, horseracing;
- (9) The Board can acquire/establish its own race tracks, set up syndicates, promote trainers, etc, with emphasis on the previously disadvantaged.

JOB CREATION

It is estimated that at least 20 000 new jobs will be created. Thousands more will be available in setting up and running the various projects.

ENSURING VIABILITY

A cardinal strategic feature to ensure that the entity remains perpetually viable is to give a stake to punters, who are the backbone of the industry.

Herein, the proposal is-

1. About R10-million be set aside each year from operating capital;
2. R7-million be used to purchase about 200 horses privately from breeders or from national auctions;
3. These horses will be placed in the care of trainers locally who support meaningful transformation;
4. 50% of ownership in these horses be awarded free to at least 2 000 punters country-wide;
5. The entity retains the other 50% and will pay for the keep (training) of the horses (this is the balance of R3-million);
6. At the end of the year, after deduction of all expenses from the total winning stakes amassed by the runners, each punter will receive a pro-rata dividend.
7. Where a winning horse is trained /owned by a HDI, an additional 10% will be added to the winning stake; this will encourage blacks to enter the industry.

Here is the spin-off-

1. The punter, who has even 0.01% share in a horse, will place his bet on the horse when it runs;
2. This will in turn boost betting turnover and tax revenue for the department;
3. If the year-end dividend is high (with our horses performing well!), that punter (who can afford to) can then join our club where he will pay for membership and share expenses
4. Alternatively, s/he can purchase his/her own horse/s to run for him/her.

OVERVIEW OF HORSERACING

INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Horseracing is a major economic role-player in numerous countries in the west and east, such as USA, Britain, France, Ireland, Germany, Dubai (Arab Emirates), Hong Kong, India, Macau, Australia, New Zealand, etc.

Amongst the world's leading owners / breeders are the Makhtoum family of Dubai, the Aga Khan, the Queen, Coolmore Stud in USA, etc. who own some of the most expensive horse-flesh in the world, with their own stud farms and private race tracks.

HORSERACING IN AFRICA

The only thoroughbred horseracing is found in Kenya, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The overall majority of owners and trainers are whites (mostly former British colonialists)

SOUTH AFRICA: BACKGROUND

Horseracing was introduced into this country by the British over 200 years ago. From the outset, it remained the preserve of whites only (as in the other African countries to the north).

The first African black to get his colours to own and race horses was Mr Richard Maponya, who had to wait almost 6 years before being granted permission, around 1969 (the colours he chose for his horses to run in embodied those of the African National Congress....then banned!). For the next five-odd years, he could not enter the whites only Owners & Trainers Section, and had to sit on the hard concrete floor of the "Non-White" section (Silver Ring) to watch his horses run. Eventually, Mr Maponya (at one time, the biggest racehorse owner in the country) quit when some of the white trainers and owners started harassing him and paying grooms to harm (spike) his horses so that they do not win.

Up until 1969, blacks were trainers in the old Free State. Most notable amongst them was a trainer called Champion and jockey Ismail Temenya. They were allowed to race / ride horses on Kimberley and the Goldfields tracks. They could not enter horses to run under their name at Newmarket, Germiston and Turffontein race tracks in the old Transvaal. An owner/trainer from Soweto (Mr Khumalo) used to cart his horses from Goldfields to Kimberley in his own truck.

There were separate entrances for black jockeys and trainers at Kimberley. The track and its running width can still be recognised at Goldfields.

From 1969, blacks were barred from owning/training/riding horses in terms of the Separate Amenities and Group Areas Acts. Nobody is bothered about this aspect of horseracing's history.

Today, 17 years into our new South Africa, there is an embarrassing absence of blacks (especially Africans) from the horseracing scene as owners and trainers, whilst the majority of punters are blacks.

The various, historical constraints placed on blacks have resulted in our present situation. There are more foreigner white trainers than local blacks- the industry does not reflect the demographics of our country in any way. Under the present dispensation (corporatised entities in Phumelela and Gold Circle Racing), there is no hope whatsoever of blacks ever playing a meaningful role (let alone in terms of demographics) in this industry.

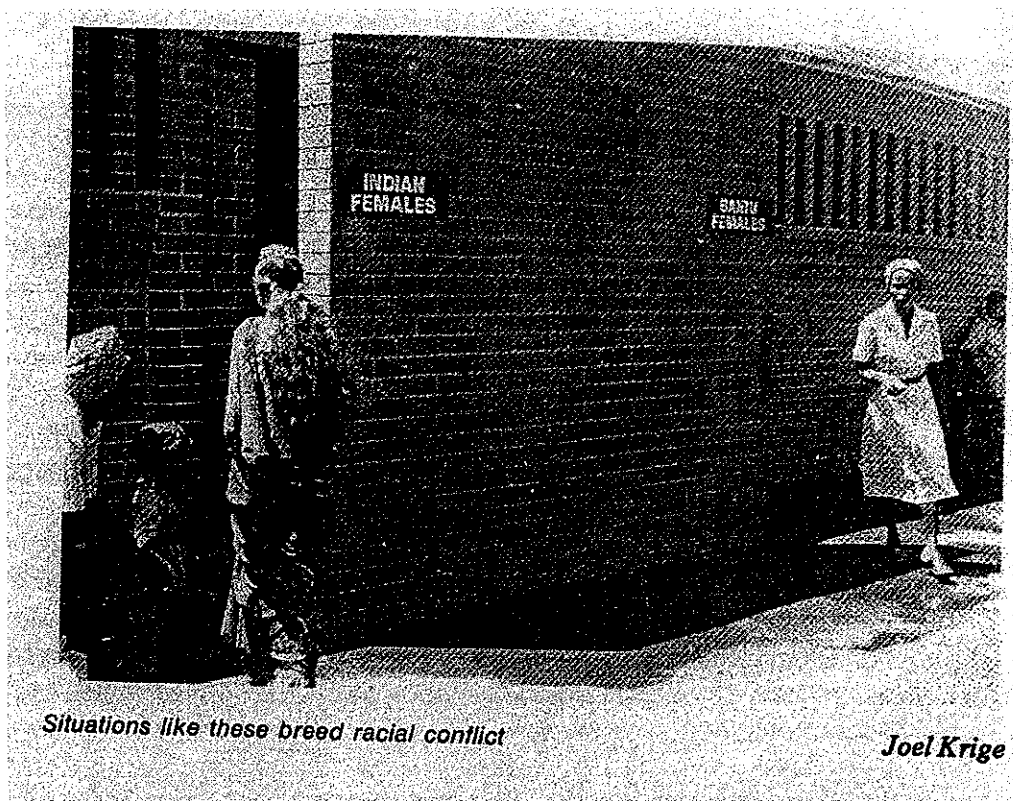
This is the very crux of the approach to Government to intervene now, and facilitate the meaningful transformation of the entire equine industry so that posterity can also participate and excel in the various sectors as both a sport and a form of entertainment.

Another distasteful development has been on the pretext of transformation, where not only decent people lost their jobs, but there has been this covert manipulation where 'black' means different things in the various Provinces to suit the local agenda.

Example: KZN, Indians are deemed 'black'; and in WC, Coloureds/Khoisan; whilst, in the rest of the country, it's Africans.

In this way, they are perpetuating 'apartheid' mentality by styming & demonising genuine, committed, concerned people from across the spectrum, who love the game as a sport.....to come together!

The acid test is: did our struggle heroes sacrifice their lives for such a charade?



('Apartheid- our picture'- by YS Meer and MD Mlaba, 1982)

They continue to do so today. White capitalists have co-opted Indians in KZN, Coloureds/Khoisan in Western Cape and Africans in other areas.....insidiously perpetuating 'apartheid' right under our noses!

PROFILE ON HANIF MANJOO

MHA MANJOO – BA (UNISA) 1983- Printer,
Editor/Publisher of community newspaper *Mini Mail*.

Currently assisting Cde Thula Bopela (MK veteran) to launch his book on the struggle ‘And then there was Freedom Day...’

Member: ANC- Jhb Inner City; SACP- Jhb Central; SANCO- Johannesburg Central.

Involved with Dr AK Tshabalala (Dept of Health) in the Lanseria Airport precinct amongst the various squatter camps (Thabo Mbeki, Mzwala, Malaatjie, Drummond, Lucky 7, etc), promoting Primary Health Care awareness, motivating residents to set up cooperatives to conduct their own sustainable micro-agricultural activities, distributing clothing, self-help projects, etc.

Served as follows (circa 1957 to date)-

- Chairperson, Bopa Net, ex-racehorse owner: fighting for meaningful transformation of the white, elitist, racist dominated horseracing industry (BOPA- Black Owners & Punters Association) together with Jess Kyriacou, C Simoto, Bekinkosi Bulana, Roy Morgan, etc.
- Gauteng Gambling Board, former member - empowerment proponent
- Saccawu - Makro, shop steward, time of **Duma Nkosi** (former ANC.MP, now Exec. Mayor, Erhhukuleni)) and **Papi Kganare** (Free State Legislature)
- Sanco / Ilima, consultant to **Moses Mayekiso & M Hlongwane** (President)
- Ikhwana Islamiya- an NGO, Development Manager
- Late **Kate Zuma**- partner in travel agency, together with **Vivian Reddy**
- Empowerment/Financial consultant to taxi operators- local & trans-border (Topica, Eastern Cape, etc)
- Compiled & printed posters for SACP/ANC/COSATU, with **Raj Pillay** and **Nelson Ngale** (who liaised with now Min. **Charles Nqakula** at his Yeoville residence often), during mass marches / meetings after release of Madiba
- Arranged transport for mass march with Raj Pillay (for Walter Sisulu, Jessie Duarte, Geraldine Fraser, M Lekota, etc),) to Jhb Central Police Station just before start of CODESA
- National Council of Sports (Nacos) - delegate
- Southern Natal Tennis Union - councillor, PRO
- Stanger Businessmen's Association – founder and chairman. Patrons were **Chief Buthelezi & Tap TapMakhatini** (SA boxer). We made out a case for ethanol from sugar cane!
- Secretary - Stanger Ratepayers Association; anti-SAIC & UDF.
- Editor/Publisher of free-sheet newspapers on KZN North Coast (with Raj Pillay ‘Mlungu’) circa 1980

- Author 'Acu-Punter' - analysis of horseracing

OTHER INFO-

- Worked with **Samora Machel** - Stanger Bakery (60's)
- Drove **Chief Albert Luthuli** while he was banned in Kwa-Duguza (Groutville). Was present when Chief Luthuli brought to Stanger Hospital after allegedly being knocked by a train. Alerted the press about the 'accident.'
- Joined African National Congress Youth Brigade circa 1958, with founders **Fathima Meer, Yacoob Khan & Sam Kikine** (trade union activist).
- Led student protest against arrest of Nelson Mandela in Stanger. Graffiti on wall of whites-only swimming pool '*Hang Vorster! Free Mandela!*'
- Natal Indian Congress activist & leader on KZN North Coast: Rates, anti-SAIC & UDF Campaigns (with **Frene Ginwala**- ex-Speaker of House, **Dr Jerry Coovadia**, **Pravin Gordhan**- Commissioner, SARS, **Archie Gumede**, **Griffiths Mxenge**, **Farouk Meer**, **R Ramessar**, **Rabbi Bugwandeen**, **Robin Cranko**, **Adv. Nupen**, **Justice Zacharia (Zak) Yacoob**, etc.
- Circulated copies of BBC banned video "*Prisoners of Conscience- Nelson Mandela*"- the Rivonia Trial
- Amongst the initiators in liberation movement for international trade & cultural boycotts. Colleague was **late Stanley Nkosi (Gallo Records)**, where we called on overseas black artists & musicians to boycott 'apartheid' SA.
- With **AQ Mangerah**, confronted **Barclays Bank** (early '70's) in Kwa-Duguza, on separate counters serving black and white customers. Embarked on national campaign and were successful in having banks remove racist barriers country-wide.

Besides, was involved in various welfare/community projects (Child Welfare, Aged, Disabled, School Parents Committees, etc); staged Stanger Trade Fair, administrator of soccer, tennis, golf, cricket, youth movement, etc.

Agitated for **Africans to be granted trading rights in Indian business areas & black school children to be admitted in Indian schools**, circa 1970.