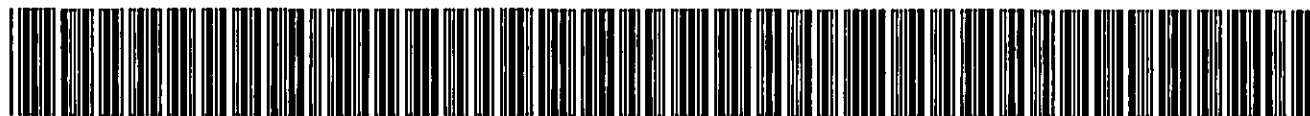


Date Printed: 04/23/2009

JTS Box Number: IFES_72
Tab Number: 39
Document Title: Election 1999: Register to vote
Document Date: 1999
Document Country: South Africa
Document Language: English
IFES ID: CE01786



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ELECTION 1999

REGISTER

TO

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Published by the Educational Support Services Trust
for the Independent Electoral Commission





Introduction

A message from the Chief Electoral Officer of the Independent Electoral Commission, Professor Mandla Mchunu

The 1994 election gave South Africa the beginnings of democracy. The democratic process must continue. Democracy must develop, grow, take root and it must be defended. Only you can do it.

Many people are getting excited about South Africa's next general election. It is near. But before we get there, you and as many South Africans as possible have to register to vote. If you do not register, you cannot vote. You cannot play the game if you are not on the field!

This is your last chance to register for the election. Please use it.

It is very important for us to register so that our names will be on the voters' roll. Please share this booklet with as many people as you can — especially people who cannot read for themselves. Each of us must register!

This publication was made possible through the financial support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).



Register to Vote!

South Africans will soon have their second chance to vote in democratic elections.

Are we happy with how South Africa is being governed? Do we want to tell the government that we think they are doing a good job and should carry on?

Or do we want to say, "No! You've had five years to show us what you could do, but we're not happy. We would like a different government."

Whatever it is that we want to say, if we don't vote, we don't count. And if we don't register, we can't vote. It's as simple as that.

Find out which registration station you should go to. You will be able to register only at one particular station and it may not be the one that is closest to your home.

Phone **0800 11 8000** (toll-free) for help.

Successful second elections are vitally important to South Africa. We need to leave intolerance, violence and oppression behind us for good. We can do that by playing our part in building a democracy that is strong and will last.



We will have another chance to register, from **9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. on Friday 5 and Saturday 6 March**, and from **9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on Sunday 7 March**.

Don't miss these last chances to register! Remember, if you don't register, you can't vote!



REGISTER NOW TO VOTE IN 1999

REGISTER TO VOTE 1



If you don't register,
you can't vote!

NEARLY 20 MILLION South Africans voted in this country's first democratic elections in April 1994.



86% of all potential voters did in fact vote in 1994! As we approach South Africa's second democratic elections, we cannot simply expect a similar miracle. Each one of us needs to participate actively to build a strong democracy that will last.

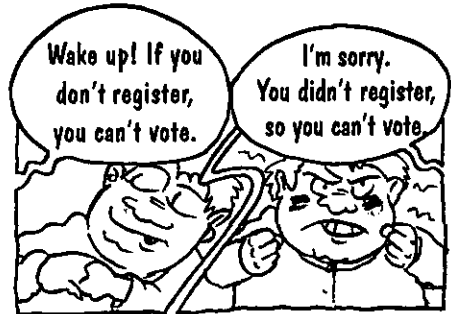
Why we should register

One vitally important way for us to participate is to register our names on the voters' roll and then to vote.

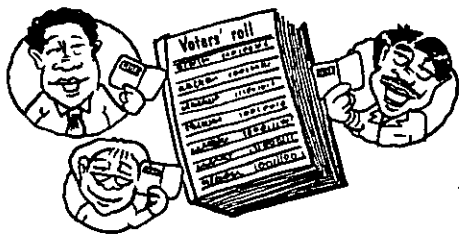
There are three important differences between the elections which will be held this year and the 1994 elections.

For these elections:

- X if you have **not registered** you will **not be allowed to vote**
- X each voter will be allowed to vote **only at one particular voting station in the area in which he or she lives**
- X there will be **only one day of voting** (not three as in 1994).



South Africa's first democratic elections took place under extraordinary circumstances. The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) had a very short time to do a very difficult job. The result was that we had to do without a voters' roll.



Register your name on the voters' roll.

Who can register to get on the voters' roll?

Anyone who is:

- ✗ 18 years or older
- ✗ a South African citizen
- ✗ in possession of a green bar coded ID, or a temporary ID or a temporary registration certificate. If you have none of these, apply to your local Department of Home Affairs.

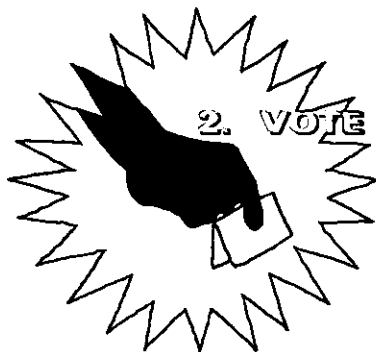
A voters' roll lists the name and voting district of every eligible voter in the country. This is a requirement of our Constitution, and a voters' roll ensures a successful election for the following reasons:

- ✗ **A voters' roll saves the country money**
The government does not have millions of rands to spend on elections when the basic needs of so many South Africans are not being met. By knowing how many voters live in

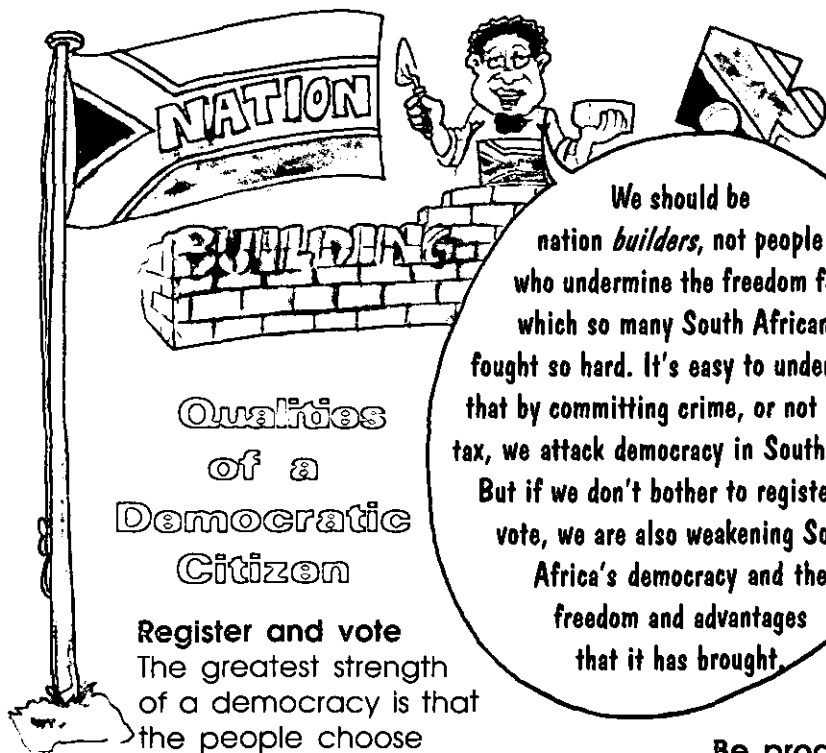
each part of each province, the IEC is able to target its resources most effectively.

- ✗ **A voters' roll makes it easier for people to vote**
South Africa has been divided into about 14 500 voting districts and each district will have a voting station. Each voting station will have fewer than 3 000 voters to deal with, so no one will have to stand for hours in a queue or travel for hundreds of kilometres to vote.

- ✗ **A voters' roll ensures fairness**
People get the national, provincial and local government that they want, and no one is allowed to vote twice.



It is important for each one of us to register so that our names will appear on the voters' roll.



Qualities of a Democratic Citizen

Register and vote

The greatest strength of a democracy is that the people choose the government. If we don't use our right to choose, we undermine our freedom.

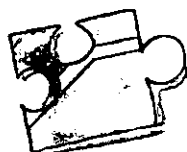
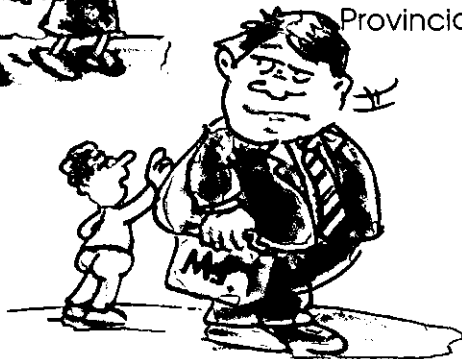
We should be nation builders, not people who undermine the freedom for which so many South Africans fought so hard. It's easy to understand that by committing crime, or not paying tax, we attack democracy in South Africa. But if we don't bother to register and vote, we are also weakening South Africa's democracy and the freedom and advantages that it has brought.

Be productive

Think differently.
Be an entrepreneur.
Become competitive.

Take part in government

Serve on local bodies.
Don't be afraid to criticise
or to ask your Members of
Parliament and the
Provincial Legislatures
what they
are doing.



Fight crime

Crime hurts all of us. Help the police in any way you can. Join a neighbourhood watch, but don't take the law into your own hands. **Obey the law.**

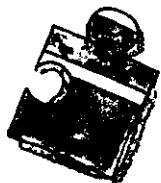


Be a teacher

Each one of us has something to teach. Share your knowledge and skills with others. Every parent is a teacher. Become involved in your children's education and at their schools.

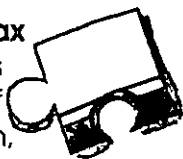
Get involved

Join a local group (a church or study group, a craft or self-help group, a sports organisation). Be an active community member.



Pay your tax

Tax money pays for all kinds of services — health, water, roads, welfare, police and many other things that we sometimes take for granted. If we don't pay tax, we steal from ourselves. Having paid our tax we should be sure that our government understands how we want that money to be spent.



Care for others

A successful, supportive and strong community takes care of **all** its members.

Care for the environment

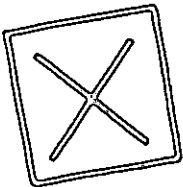
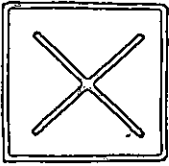
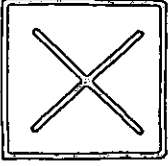
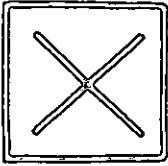
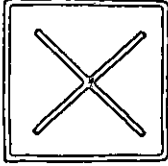
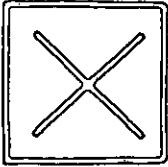
The earth supplies our food and many other needs. We should take care not to harm it. Save water. Recycle what you can't reuse. Plant a garden. Get involved in environmental conservation projects.

Care for your country

South Africa belongs to all its citizens. Each one of us is responsible for our country's well-being.



REGISTER TO VOTE 5



Have you
registered
yet?

Make sure that you
can vote in the 1999
Elections.

Register for your name
to appear on the
Voters' Roll. The
registration dates are
5, 6 and 7 March.

If you don't
register, you
can't vote.

If you have any
questions, phone (toll-free):

0800 11 8000

