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ELECTION 1999

REGISTER

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for the Independent Electoral Commission





Introduction

Message from the Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Judge Johann Kriegler

A democracy needs active citizens to survive and prosper. All South Africans should have their say in how their country is run. Very soon, they will have the opportunity to do so by voting in the general election. But only those who have registered will be able to vote.

This is not the Independent Electoral Commission's election. It is not the government's election. It is the people's election. It is your election. It is not the country's government. It is the people's government. It is your government.

Without your involvement, participation and vote, you become an observer. South Africa's Constitution gives you the right to vote. It is also the duty of responsible South African citizens to vote. **I urge you to register during the last remaining registration campaigns and to make your election a success.**

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!

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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.

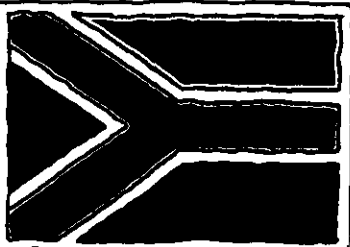


We will have another chance to register, from **9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m.** on **Friday 29 and**

Saturday 30 January, and from **9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.** on **Sunday 31 January**. There may be one further opportunity to register.

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

**REGISTER NOW
TO VOTE IN 1999**

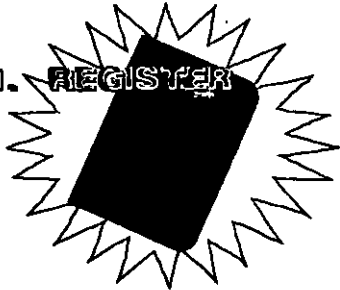




If you don't register, you can't vote!

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

1. REGISTER



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.

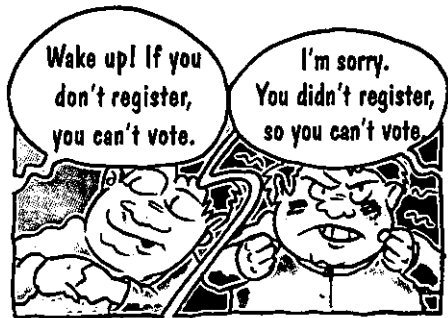
Why we should register

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.

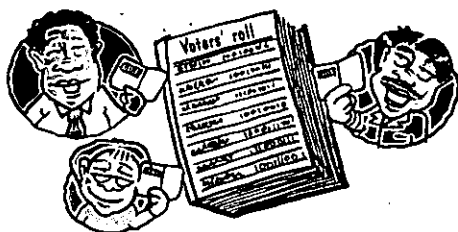
For these elections:

- 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.

2 REGISTER TO VOTE



Register your name on the voters' roll.

Who can register to get on the voters' roll?

Anyone who is:

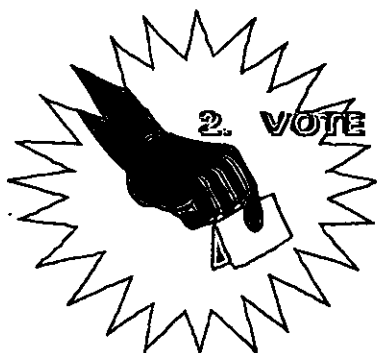
- X 18 years or older
- X a South African citizen
- X in possession of a green bar coded ID, or a temporary ID or a temporary registration certificate. If you have none of these, apply to your local Department of Home Affairs.

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:

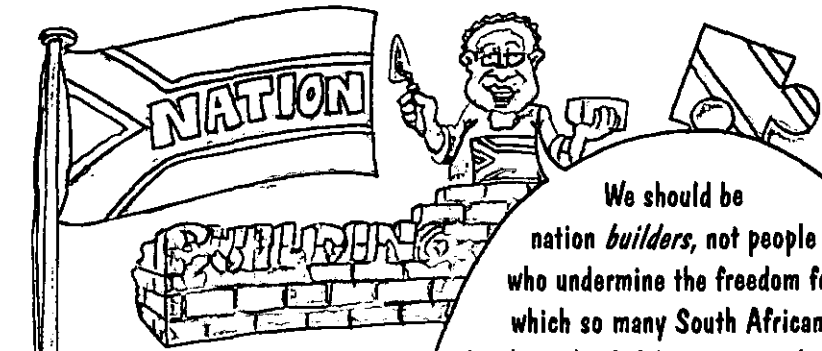
- X **A voters' roll saves the country money**
The government does not have millions of rands to spend on elections when the basic needs of so many South Africans are not being met. By knowing how many voters live in

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

- X **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.
- X **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.

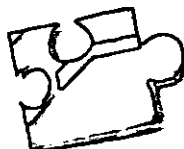
We should be nation *builders*, not people who undermine the freedom for which so many South Africans fought so hard. It's easy to understand that by committing crime, or not paying tax, we attack democracy in South Africa. But if we don't bother to register and vote, we are also weakening South Africa's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

Be productive

Think differently.
Be an entrepreneur.
Become competitive.

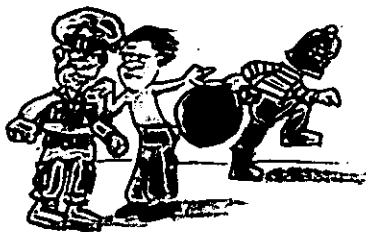
Take part in government

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

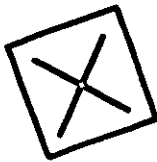
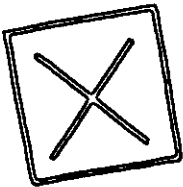
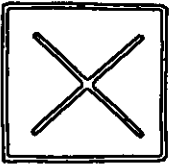
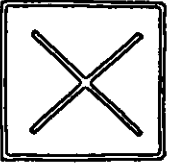
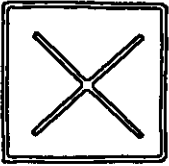
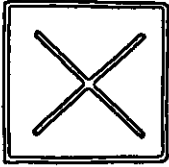
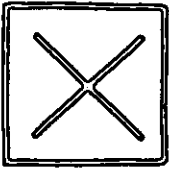
The earth supplies our food and many other needs. We should take care not to harm it. Save water. Recycle what you can't reuse. Plant a garden. Get involved in environmental conservation projects.

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 next registration dates are 29, 30 and 31 January.

There may be one further chance to register. Look out for the dates.

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

If you have any questions, phone (toll-free):
0800 11 8000

