

# SOUTH AFRICA

## Unit Notes



## **SOCIAL:** *Information about people and society*

- **AFRIKAANER:** A white person in South African that is of Dutch descent
- **BOER:** White Dutch farmers in South Africa
- **BANTU:** name given to the collection of 400 tribal languages in South Africa
- **REPRESSION:** Not having the same rights and opportunities as other people
- **RACISM:** hating a group of people based on the color of their skin
- **SEGREGATION:** separating two groups of people in society
- **LANGUAGE**
  - **South Africa has 11 official languages**
  - About 60 percent of white people and 75% of Coloureds use Afrikaans as their first language. Afrikaans was developed from Dutch.
  - Most other whites and Coloureds speak English as their first language.
  - Many Black Africans speak **Bantu languages:**
    - Ndebele (which Africans call isiNdebele)
    - Sepedi
    - Sesotho
    - Swazi (siSwati)
    - Tsonga (Xitsonga)
    - Tswana (Setswana)
    - Venda (Tshivenda)
    - Xhosa (isiXhosa)
    - Zulu (isiZulu)
- **DAILY LIFE**
  - Many South Africans love sports, and the country's mild climate enables people to spend much of their leisure time outdoors.
  - Association football (soccer) is the country's most popular sport.
  - Cricket and rugby football are traditional sports among white South Africans, although people of other races also participate.

## **POLITICAL:** *Information about a country's government, laws, and leaders*

- **BRITISH COMMONWEALTH:** 53 countries from around the world, including South Africa, that had been under British control
- **APARTHEID:** legal segregation of blacks & whites in South Africa from 1948-1990
- **NELSON MANDELA:** first black president of South Africa
- **GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE**
  - The Republic of South Africa has three capitals.
    - Parliament meets in **Cape Town**, the legislative capital.
    - All government departments have their headquarters in **Pretoria**, the administrative capital.
    - The highest court meets in **Bloemfontein**, the country's judicial capital.
  - President - Current is Jacob Zuma
  - 5 year terms, eligible for two terms

## **ECONOMIC:** *Information about money, wealth, & trade*

### **SOURCES OF WEALTH**

- Natural resources: Gold, diamonds, platinum
- Industry: South Africa is the most industrialized country in Africa

### **CHALLENGES**

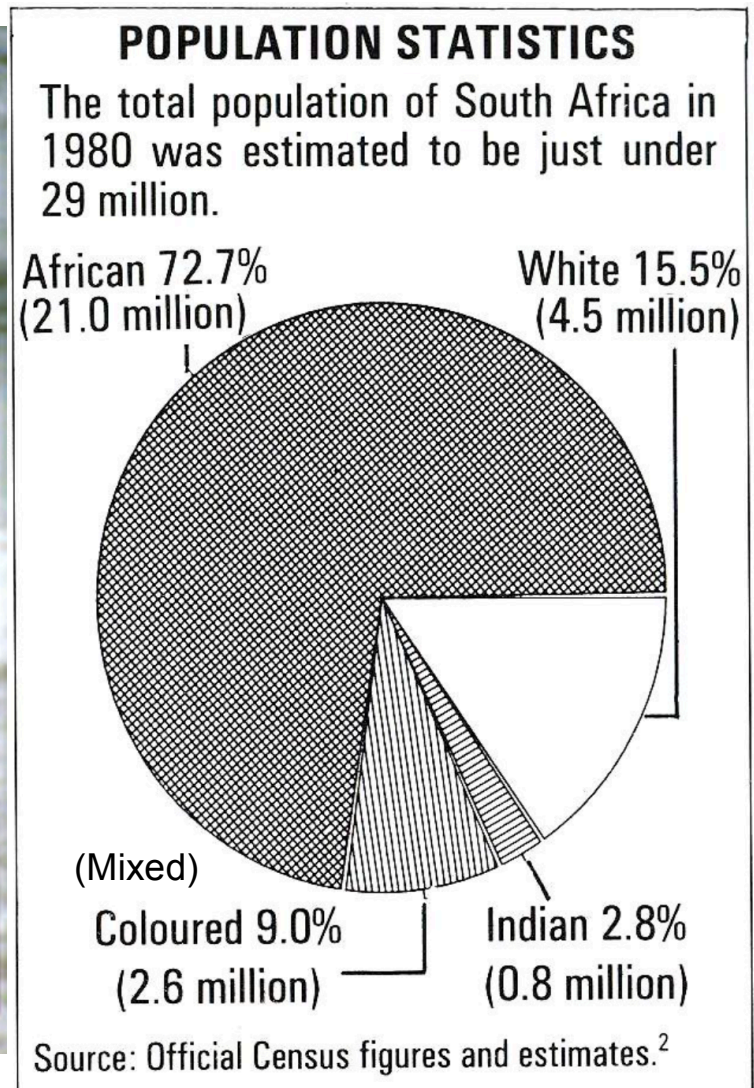
- Better standard of living for the poor. Many people are living in poverty.
- Improve education and basic services for poor
- Prevent the spread of AIDS and how to treat those who have it

## **ENVIRONMENTAL:** *Information about geography & natural resources*

- **LOCATION:** South Africa is located at southern tip of the continent of Africa. It is bordered by the Atlantic and Indian Oceans
- **CLIMATE:** Mild climate (temperatures range from 50-80 degrees Fahrenheit).
- **NATURAL RESOURCES**
  - **Largest producer and exporter of the world's gold each year**
  - Also has large deposits of diamonds, chromite, platinum, and coal.
- **ENCLAVE:** a smaller country located inside a larger country
  - There are two enclaves inside South Africa that are generally poor and depend on South Africa a great deal: **Swaziland & Lesotho**
  - Lesotho, an enclave in South Africa, is an important source of water

## **DEMOGRAPHIC:** *Information about where people live & why*

- **WHITES**
  - Whites make up **9% of South Africa's population**
  - Afrikaner (Descendants of Dutch farmers)
  - Other Whites
- **BLACK AFRICANS (BLACKS)**
  - Blacks make up **80% of South Africa's population**
- **COLOUREDS**
  - Coloureds make up **11% of South Africa's population**
  - Any mixture of races
  - Asians and those from other places



# APARTHEID

an Afrikaans word meaning "the state of being apart," was a system of racial segregation of blacks & whites in **South Africa** enforced by a series of 317 laws from 1948 to 1994

## I. History that led to Apartheid

- **1600** - The first European settlers come to the Cape of Good Hope.
- **1652** - Dutch, German and French come to Cape for religious and economic motives
- Dutch Boers (farmers) begin to move north and live with native Africans and a new culture develops: The Afrikaner or the white African tribe.
  - Language - mix of Dutch and various African languages.
  - Religion - devoutly Christian and very racist. (They believed they were the chosen people in a hostile world.)
- **1795** - British seize control of the Cape and area..more Boers are driven north.
- Many Afrikaners died in battles with "natives" while adapting to harsh land and climate. Hatred of the British and Blacks deepened Afrikaner solidarity.
- **The Boer War 1899-1902**: British want gold and diamonds discovered on Afrikaner land. A fierce war ensued with atrocities on both sides, Britain wins ultimate control and makes South Africa a commonwealth.
- **1910** - Independence granted. Afrikaners dominated government (only 13% of total population)

## II. Apartheid Begins

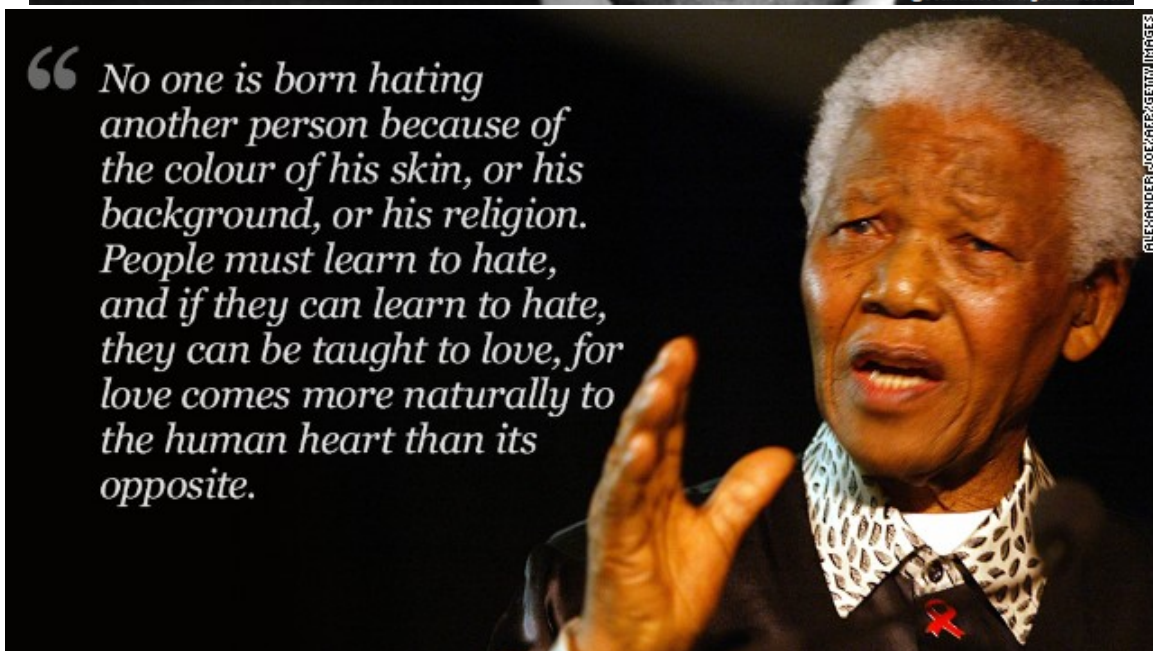
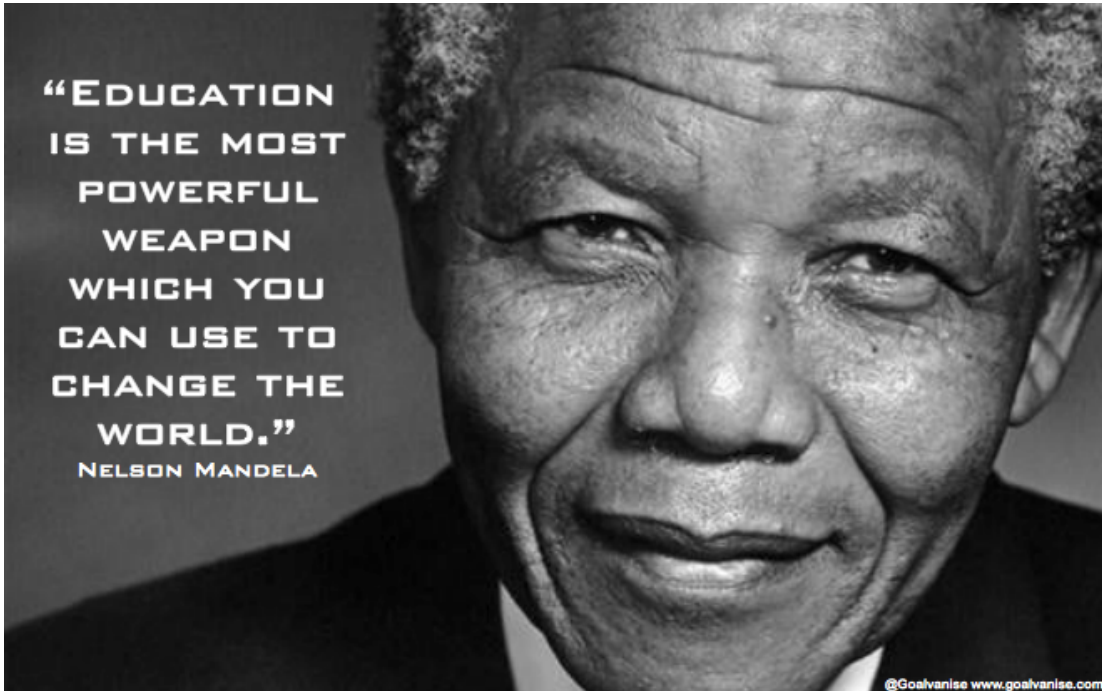
- **1948** - Afrikaner Nationalist Party gained control of the South African Parliament, and established the system known as apartheid.
- **1950** - Population Registration Act
- **1951** - Bantu Authorities Act
- **1953** - Public Safety Act and Criminal Law Amendment Act
- **What did Apartheid do??**
  - All citizens were classified by race
  - Marriage and sexual relations across color lines were made illegal
  - Separate residential areas; whites get all of the best, over 80% of the population was crowded into areas which covered less than 13% of the total land mass.
  - Economic development was outlawed in black "homelands." Jobs were made available only in white areas.
  - All non-whites must carry a passbook at all times
  - All public places were segregated
  - Black schools were intentionally underfunded.

## III. Resistance and Protests by the Blacks

- **1950s** - Resistance begins
- **1960** - Sharpsville Massacre (first outbreak of violence). 69 people were killed and 180 wounded by South African police.
- **1964** - Nelson Mandela rose to leadership of the African National Congress (ANC), but was arrested and imprisoned for 26 years.
- **1976** - Soweto Riot - thousands of students protest in a black township in Johannesburg.
  - The government killed 600 students and arrested thousands.
- **1983** - protests continued and government declared a state of emergency and 30,000 more blacks were jailed.
- International pressure began to mount.
  - **1974** - South Africa was expelled from the UN.
  - **1976** - They were banned from the Olympic Games.
  - **1986** - U.S. Congress banned new investment by U.S. companies.

#### IV. Apartheid Ends

- **1989**- F.W. de Klerk becomes Prime Minister, bowing to international as well as internal pressure negotiations begin.
- **1990** - Nelson Mandela is released from prison and the ANC works with the government to write a new constitution that would put an end to Apartheid.
- **1994** - Mandela is elected as the first Black President of South Africa



# INVICTUS

## **Summary:**

A 2009 film directed by Clint Eastwood, starring Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon. The film is a look at the life of Nelson Mandela after the fall of apartheid in South Africa, during his term as president, when he campaigned to host the 1995 Rugby World Cup event as an opportunity to unite his countrymen. The title comes from the fact that Mandela had the poem written on a scrap of paper on his prison cell while he was incarcerated. In the movie, Mandela gives the “Invictus” poem to his national rugby team’s captain Francois Pienaar before the start of the Rugby World Cup. In reality, Mandela provided Pienaar with an extract from Theodore Roosevelt’s “The Man in the Arena” speech from 1910.

## **Major Characters:**

Nelson Mandela  
Francois Pienaar

## **Major Themes of the Film:**

1. Racism
2. Forgiveness
3. Inspiration
  - a. One man inspiring another
  - b. One man inspiring a team
  - c. One team inspiring a nation
4. Social Prejudice
  - a. The unfair treatment of a person, racial group, minority based on prejudice.
5. Statesmanship
  - a. A wise, skillful, and respected political leader





# Invictus

BY WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY

Out of the night that covers me,  
Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be  
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance  
I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance  
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears  
Looms but the Horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years  
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,  
How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate,  
I am the captain of my soul.

## **THE MAN IN THE ARENA**

*Excerpt from the speech "Citizenship In A Republic"*

*delivered by Theodore Roosevelt at the Sorbonne, in Paris, France on 23 April, 1910*

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.