

# PEOPLE AGAINST RACE CLASSIFICATION (PARC)

[www.parcса.co.za](http://www.parcса.co.za)



## A. OUR AIMS:

- (1) To fight, and terminate, any form of race classification.
- (2) To encourage non-racism amongst all people.

## B. WHO ARE WE?

We are people who oppose the official referencing and classification of the South African population in terms of: “Black”, “Coloured”, “Indian”, and “White.” These classifications were a cornerstone of the system of apartheid. (We are supposed to be living in a new era now!) We are a civil rights group, politically non-aligned.

## C. THE CORNERSTONES OF APARTHEID.

The three cornerstones of Apartheid [(1) the Population Registration Act of 1950, (2) the Group Areas Act of 1950, and (3) the Immorality Act of 1957] were rightfully **SCRAPPED** in 1991 (by the South African parliament). We believe, therefore, that it is unconstitutional to bring any of these ACTS back as part of the Post Apartheid Era. The fact that the *Population Registration Act of 1950* was **SCRAPPED**, give **job - recruitment officers**, government or private organisations, **no legal right** to classify any South African citizen by race! What criteria are being used by the present government to determine the race of a South African citizen? The use of race classification (in spite of the fact that the relevant Act was scrapped) to facilitate the implementation of the **Employment Equity Act** (on e.g. its Z83 forms), in applications for **state jobs**, should be challenged in the Constitutional Court of South Africa! It seems to us, however, that although everyone is in favour of a society free of racial categorisation, this ideal is speedily abandoned when (as often occurs) material interest (job opportunities, promotions, land, government handouts, etc.) becomes a major consideration.

## D. SOUTH AFRICA BELONGS TO ALL ITS PEOPLE.

We call on all South Africans to support us in driving this campaign! Let us “**PARC**” the **RACE CARD**. We will take all steps, including legal ones, to rid South Africa of this scourge, that has once again led to discrimination against those who do not meet the preferred criteria of the present government. Race thinking causes division, arrogance, stereotyping, and hatred amongst people. **GENERALISATION** is wrong, because both good and bad people can be found in all groups. We should work towards reconciliation, unity, harmony and respect towards each other in our communities. Discern the PERSON! Be COLOUR-BLIND!

Is not the most important classification that we are all **SOUTH AFRICANS!**?

**\* Right is always right even if nobody does it. Wrong is always wrong even if everybody does it.**

## E. HOW CAN YOU HELP?

As a **protest** against race classification criteria, we ask you to tick the “**Black African**” block on all forms that require it. By doing this the government or any institution cannot determine whom to benefit and whom to discriminate against. If we keep the status quo whereby each and everyone fills in his or her particular race block, nothing will change! Also, wear our PARC T-shirt with the following wording on it: ***I'm not a Coloured, Black, Indian or White person. I am a SOUTH AFRICAN.*** If you support this initiative, please e-mail us at the following address: [glensnyman1@gmail.com](mailto:glensnyman1@gmail.com). Visit our website and check out our **Plan of Action** and regular updates.

## **Did you know?**

### **(1) FOREIGNERS BENEFITTING MORE THAN SA CITIZENS.**

(a) On the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008 the **South African Constitutional Court** ruled that **South African Chinese people** fall within the ambit of the definition of “**black people**”, in the Employment Equity Act, and the Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) Act. The Chinese people were declared “Coloured”, under the apartheid regime, and Japanese people had “honorary white” status. Why can’t Chinese people currently be grouped under Indian/Asian criteria? (b) Also, if a “black” person from another African country becomes a South African citizen after a few (5) years, that person will obviously tick the **Black African** block when applying for a state job. This means that in applying for a job, foreigners will find themselves at the front of the queue, ahead of non-black South Africans.

### **(2) TICK FOR THE BENEFITS!! TICK BLACK AFRICAN.**

Self-classification is your constitutional right. If all South Africans tick the **Black African** block, the government or any institution will not get the statistical information it needs to determine whom to discriminate against. If you do not fill in the race classification blocks, according to your “true racial lineage”, **the authorities have no legal right to deny you your choice**, because there is currently no law under which you could be prosecuted for so doing. They also have **NO RIGHT** to alter your choice at their discretion because you have the **RIGHT, and FREEDOM OF CHOICE**, which group you want to be associated with, and what identity you wish to assume. A person should get a job based on his competence and qualifications, not because of the colour of his skin. It is unfair to expect, from people born in the post-apartheid era, that they should take responsibility for what has happened in the past, and be punished for it!

### **(3) IS COLOUR AN IDENTITY? NO!**

There are coloured people who look like white people; white people who look like coloured people; coloured people who look like black people, and black people who look like coloured people! There is no “pure” race in the world, we are all mixed. It is not possible meaningfully, scientifically, to differentiate, to classify, people on the basis of their skin pigmentation. The word “Coloured”, for instance, was used by the apartheid government to describe people who could not be accommodated within their divisive pigmentary definitions. People should conduct themselves in such a way that their behaviour, attitudes and lifestyles are acceptable to everyone. Watch the movie **SKIN, based on the true life-story of Sandra Laing**, and you will see the destructive effects race classification had on her during *apartheid*. No single person can claim the right to talk on behalf of ALL the people of his or her race group. **Stop referring to people as “Coloureds”, “Indians”, “Blacks” or “Whites”. Times have changed!!**

### **(4) EDUCATION DEPARTMENT’S LEARNER RACE CLASSIFICATION.**

Today people from different races marry each other. What is the race of their children? Is race labelling necessary? The Education Department encourages innocent children **to apply racial stereotypes**, through registering them according to race groups on their school databases (CEMIS). Tertiary institutions use race classification data, to confer on those who qualify, preferential treatment in the matters of course enrolment and bursaries. Bursaries awarded to students should not be based on race!

### **(5) WHAT RACE STATISTICS ARE USED FOR:**

Government measures the economic progress our country makes according to the progress made by certain race groups only. This is wrong! Government should use a **socio-economic barometer** to determine how many people still need jobs; how many still live under the breadline; the living-standards of people; education levels; etc. Government doesn’t need to know how many members of a specific race group live in the various residential areas. Quality services should be provided to everyone. If we address poverty, inequality will take care of itself. We should do away with the generally accepted **LABELLING**, which implies that each of us belongs to a distinct race group.