

## **Apartheid in Practice**

*The following laws are taken from a booklet entitled "Apartheid in Practice," produced in 1976 by the Department of Public Information at the United Nations. The booklet is now distributed by the Center Against Apartheid, with support from the United Nations.*

- **1949, Act #5, Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act**  
Prohibited marriages between white people and non-white people.
- **1950, Act #21, Immorality Amendment Act**  
Prohibited any romantic relationship between white and non-white people.
- **1950, Act #30, Population Registration Act**  
Required every South African to be racially classified as either black, coloured (mixed), white, or Asian.
- **1950, Act #137**  
A white man who tells a group of Africans that the apartheid laws are unjust and should be disobeyed is guilty of an offense punishable by a fine or imprisonment for one year, or both.
- **1950, Act #44, Suppression of Communism Act**  
Outlawed communism and the Communist Party in South Africa. The definition of communism was very broad and included anything that called for radical change in the government—so it could include anyone who called for an end to apartheid.
- **1951, Act #27, Bantu Building Workers Act**  
Prevented black Africans from performing skilled work in any areas except those designated for black occupation.
- **1951, Act #46, Separate Representation of Voters Act**  
Led to the removal of all non-whites from the voters' roll—anyone who was not white could not vote in South Africa.
- **1951, Act #52, Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act**  
Gave the Minister of Native Affairs the ability to move blacks from public and privately owned land and force them into resettlement camps.
- **1952, Natives Laws Amendment Act**  
Limited the amount of blacks who could live in white towns by stating that the only native Africans who could live in white towns had to be born there or have lived or been employed there continuously for no less than 15 years. Even then, they could be removed if the government chose.
- **1952, Act #67, Natives (Abolition of Passes and Coordination of Documents) Act**  
Forced black people to carry identification (which included a photograph, address, employment record, tax payments, and encounters with the police) at all times.

- **1953, Act #47, Bantu Education Act**  
 Established a Black Education Department and compiled a curriculum suited to the “nature and requirements of the black people.” The aim of this law was to prevent black Africans from receiving an education that would allow them to work in positions that they were not allowed to hold under apartheid.
- **1954, Act #97, Interference of Education Act**  
 “No white man may spend a few hours each week in his own home voluntarily teaching his African servants to read. If he does so, he is guilty of a criminal offense.”
- **1953, Act #13, Idle Act**  
 A black African boy, aged 16, who has left school and lives at home with and is supported by his parents, but does not work, may, at any time, be arrested without a warrant by a policeman who “has reason to believe that he is an idle (lazy) person and contributing to the downfall of society.”
- **1953, Act #49, Reservation of Separate Amenities Act**  
 Enacted (passed) segregation in all public areas including buildings and public transportation.
- **1959, Act #34, Bantu Investment Corporation Act**  
 Created banks and other financial institutions in the areas designated for black people—so, separate banks for blacks.
- **1959, Act #45, Extension of University Education Act**  
 Prevented black students from attending white universities.
- **1970, Bantu Homelands Citizen Act**  
 Removed black South Africans as citizens and required all black people to become citizens of the homelands designated for their ethnic group.