What Can I Do

ABOUT APARTHEID AND VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA?

Despite recent press coverage of reform in South Africa, the system of apartheid remains in place. The majority of people in South Africa are still denied their right to vote and to share the great resources of their own country. The white minority government and its surrogates, such as the Inkatha Freedom Party, continue to attack the ANC and other democratic forces. We in the US must intensify our efforts to support the South African struggle for liberation and justice. Here are some suggestions for action:

1. **Educate yourself and others on the situation in South Africa.** Don't rely on the mainstream media. These are just some of the groups to contact:

   - **American Committee on Africa/Religious Action Network**
     198 Broadway, NY 10038 (212) 962-1210
     ACCA has videos and other resources on the current situation in South Africa, ideas for anti-apartheid work.

   - **Washington Office on Africa**
     110 Maryland Ave. NE, Suite 112
     Washington D.C. 20002 (202) 546-0408
     WCA lobbies Congress on S.A. issues

   - **Southern Africa Network (ELCA)**
     1821 W. Cullerton, Chicago, IL 60608
     (312) 421-5513
     Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility, 475 Riverside Drive, New York NY 10115 (212) 870 2294

   - **African National Congress**
     801 Second Ave. #405, New York, NY 10017
     (212) 490-3487

2. **Challenge misleading coverage of South Africa in the mainstream media.** The apartheid government is waging an international campaign to convince the world that apartheid is over. Write letters to the editor, op-eds and articles. Write to McKinney/McDowell to order their excellent media guide on how to get op-eds published and other media strategies. ($10 plus postage) 1325 G St., NW, Washington, DC 20005 (202) 737-6225.

3. **Join local anti-apartheid organizations.** Now, more than ever, the anti-apartheid movement needs your support. Call the organizations listed above to get contacts for groups in your area.

4. **Form a sister community** to link your city with a community in South Africa. Sister relationships can include sister unions, schools, churches and community organizations. Bring different groups together for regular meetings, coordinated actions and joint projects. Contact the US-South Africa Sister Community Project, 2601 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94110 (415) 824-2938.
5. Keep the pressure on the apartheid government through your local, state and federal governments, colleges and religious institutions. Many of these bodies still have money invested in corporations doing business in apartheid South Africa. The US movement calling for the divestiture of these funds has been one of the most powerful forces for reform inside South Africa. We must keep up the pressure. Find out the current investment policies of these institutions and press for no investment in South Africa until there are free and fair elections. Write your political representatives. For more information contact:

The Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs
122 C Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 783-7507

Lutheran Office for World Community
777 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
(212) 808-5360

6. Fight Racism in the USA. US foreign policy will continue to be racist as long as there is racism here at home. Identify and work with local organizations doing anti-racism work. Fight racism in the curriculum and other aspects of the educational system, etc. Contact the following groups for strategies for confronting racism in the US:

Crossroads Ministry
427 East 140th Street
Bronx, NY 10454
(212) 402-6336

People's Institute for Survival and Beyond
144 Johnson
New Orleans, LA 70116

Lutheran Human Relations Association of America
2703 North Sherman Boulevard
Milwaukee, WI 53210 (414) 871-7300

Ray Davis, DC Student Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
1314 14th St., NW, 2nd floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 483-4593

7. Join with Southern Africa Network (FELCA) as it works to end apartheid and racism in South Africa and the US; advocates for justice in all of southern Africa; and builds alliances with Lutherans, ecumenical and secular groups.

Individual membership is $25, and organizational/congregational is $100. Members receive a regular newsletter, use of SAN videos and updated information on speakers and resources available for local anti-racism/anti-apartheid work.