Harvard and Radcliffe Alumni/ae Against Apartheid (HRAAA) is a non-profit corporation, organized for charitable and educational purposes. HRAAA was formed to promote the welfare of Harvard University by encouraging alumni/ae of Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges and of Harvard University to participate more actively in University affairs. In particular, HRAAA seeks to encourage those University alumni/ae who are morally opposed to the investment by the University in corporations having a business presence in South Africa to make their views known to the University through such means as conferences, meetings, letters, and responsible voting in University elections.

In its two year history, HRAAA has focused its attention on the annual Harvard University Board of Overseers election. Each year, five positions on the Board of Overseers, which is one of two governing boards of the University, are filled by a vote of all the living alumni/ae of the University. Candidates can win a place on the ballot in one of two ways: the first is through the nomination of the Harvard Alumni Association, and the second is by petition requiring a certain number of alumni/ae signatures. HRAAA annually supports petition candidates in the election, and may in the future support candidates nominated by the Alumni Association. All of the HRAAA-sponsored candidates are distinguished graduates of the University who are committed to the task of making the University a more socially and morally responsible institution, through divestiture of its South Africa related investments and other means. In 1986, one of three HRAAA candidates, Gay Seidman '78, won a seat on the Board, and in 1987, two additional alumni/ae supported by HRAAA, Consuela Washington JD '73 and Peter Wood '64, gained Overseers' seats. HRAAA will similarly support candidates in the 1988 election.

It is the view of HRAAA that the election of such candidates will indicate to the University the views of its alumni/ae on the divestiture issue and will hasten the University's actions in this area. In this way, the University would better fulfill its role as a leading educational institution by demonstrating to its students, alumni/ae, faculty, and staff, as well as the general public, that ethical and moral considerations can and should be taken into account in the management of University affairs. Additionally, HRAAA feels that the annual support of petition candidates for the Board of Overseers benefits the University community by opening up the governing structure of the University to greater diversity and greater participation.