

2 APARTHEID BEGINS



Apartheid laws, such as the Separate Amenities Act, were deeply humiliating and dehumanizing.

Segregation hardens into Apartheid, 1948

Many whites feared the growing black urban population.

In 1948, a white political party led by Afrikaners won election. The National Party promised to solve racial fears by creating a new extreme form of segregation: Apartheid.

Apartheid stripped black "Africans," "coloureds" and "Indians" of all rights.



Under the Group Areas Act, the government declared neighborhoods "white" and kicked out all other residents. Here, women wait to depart from Johannesburg's once-thriving multi-racial Sophiatown as demolition begins, 1956.

APARTHEID – noun: "In South Africa, the government's policy of strict racial segregation and political and economic discrimination imposed on non-European people."

Apartheid rules and regulations

- You will be classified by the government as "white," "coloured," "Indian" or "African."
- You will carry a "pass" at all times. If you do not have your pass, you will be jailed.
- If you are not white, you cannot use any "white" public facilities – schools, restrooms, transportation.
- If you are not white, your schooling will be severely limited.
- Coloureds must live in "coloured" areas, black Africans in "African" areas, Indians in "Indian" areas.
- If you are not white, but working in a white area, you must leave at nightfall.
- If your family has different skin shades, you may be forced to live apart.
- It is illegal to marry someone outside your racial group.

These laws were just the beginning....



It was now illegal for interracial couples to get married – or to have sexual relations. Above, magistrates peer through a bedroom window of Dr. Zurena Desai and Professor Blacking, a white/Indian couple. They were found guilty under the Immorality Act, and fled to Britain.