

Dear friends,

Thank you all who read my occasional eclectic thoughts and randomly collected information. I am pleased and feel encouraged when you ask why a new Newsletter has not yet appeared. I write this at a time when Covid-19 infections, poverty and hunger will be the story of South Africa for a long time to come.

Hundreds of desperate men each morning, some with paint brushes, some with spanners – to show the skill they offer - line roads leading from poor areas. They hope someone driving by will offer a day's casual work. Only a small number of lucky ones get a day's work.

Devastating unemployment is not abstract – affecting 'them over there' - we now have friends and friends of friends who are deeply affected in the economic crises the virus triggered.

### 1. Soup kitchens.

Running soup kitchens, lots of them, **is a new feel-good factor for the better-off** in South Africa. It speaks of kindness and charity toward those hungry and desperate. Some want to believe that this can be a 'change' opportunity – their assumption is that the eyes of the complacent have been opened.

President Cyril Ramaphosa (CR) recently spoke of his vision for a new economy:

*"We must transform and restructure. We are operating under an economy both colonial and racist. We need a reset of the economy for inclusive growth"*. The objective one might hope is to re-build South Africa with more egalité. CR and soup-kitchen people are purveyors of positive spin – but are CR and they serious? Columnist Terry Bell asks, *"Are we on the cusp of a new, more egalitarian and democratic post-pandemic world or are we merely transitioning to yet another change of form, but not of substance — and one that may be even nastier than what preceded it?"* Read Terry's article *Compassion and capitalism do not mix*. I subscribe to his analyses. However much we need soup-kitchens and positive sentiment, I fear that any hope of more egalité in the future is misplaced. Read also Terry's blog for more on the subject: <https://terrybellwrites.com/>

### 2. Unemployment

Unemployment is surging and will continue to grow without any reversal in sight. Government chooses the figure of 30% unemployed, the Statistician-General adds categories that hike this figure up to nearly 40%. Real unemployment is likely to be higher. Youth unemployment – 18 to 24-year olds - is officially at 60%. Tourism – our only growth industry before the virus crisis, was a massive employer but will not rebound any time soon. The mining industry is in decline and this country is not big in the manufacturing stakes. Our education and skill levels lag ever further behind other developing countries, making it difficult to imagine which share of global products we can produce in exchange for what we buy internationally. And to boot, we head for unprecedented debt – an impossible interest mountain.

Social instability awaits us in these circumstances. This will test our democracy to its core. Lockdown rules and their enforcement have shown Cabinet Ministers lacking in accountability or transparency and the army and police deployed to enforce the regulations, widely transgress and violate citizens' rights; at least 12 people have been killed.

### 3. Measures to shape post-Covid South Africa.

- **Building the National Health System now**. The ANC, some time back, put up proposals, the essence of which is to considerably lift the bar of access to essential health services for all citizens. One underlying element would be for private health care, paid for by a tiny elite of citizens, to partially subsidize the services the majority population currently don't have access to. Such NHS would be the first real way to balance one disparity between

poor and rich. But the plan is stuck – meandering endlessly in the avenues of those with a vested interests in the status quo. The stats tell it all: around 16% of South Africans have private health insurance which absorbs 70% of SA doctors working full-time in the private sector. The public health sector is staffed by 30% of doctors, the providers of healthcare for 84% of the population.

- **Inheritance tax is a hot subject**, raised recently by Prof Pierre de Vos from UCT. Needless to say – despite all the provisos he built into his thesis – he met with immediate condemnation. He rightly argues that inheritance from one generation to the next is wrong, unfair and builds systemic inequality. I urge you to read: <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2020-06-15-inheritance-law-another-look-at-the-generational-transfer-of-uneared-privilege/>

Related to above debate is the proposal – not just in South Africa – of a wealth tax. Below article appeared in the valuable African on-line publication *The Conversation*:

Coronavirus: why South Africa needs a wealth tax now

A wealth tax on the top 1% of South Africans could raise R143 billion. This corresponds to 29% of the R500 billion COVID-19 package announced by the government.

- Thirdly: A **Universal Basic Income Grant** would provide **basic** economic security to each individual, regardless of marital, family or household status from the moment of birth until death. It should be paid with no means testing, at regular intervals, and without direction or restrictions on how to spend it.

Covid-19 measures aim to provide temporary relief for those without an income. SASSA (Social Security Agency) is responsible for child support grants, state pension pay-outs and more. Its complicated, even sophisticated systems posed challenges in the past – and are doing so again right now. SASSA is constantly accused of failing those in desperate need. Since massive unemployment will be with us for the long haul, it makes sense to use this moment to implement a long-term **Basic Income Grant (BIG)**. It makes the fewest administrative demands and escapes complicated selection filters. BIG has been tested in Namibia and Mozambique. The BIG debate has gained new impetus. Google both Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII) and Black Sash, South Africa for articles on this subject.

Can the compromised and corrupted ANC government be trusted with the funds the above programmes might release? No, emphatically No under current circumstances! But don't let that question cancel the need for the debate. The fight against corruption remains the top issue South Africa needs address. Ultimately any redistributive measures will only happen if trusted and transparent systems are built.

More than ever our Government departments lack capacity and capable administrative systems. What existed continues to crumble. Corruption and the lack of a civil servant service ethos are on-going enemies. The deeply divided ruling party is caught in lethargy because of its internal contradictions. And, to add woe, the EFF fascists are waiting in the wings with their dangerous mix of socialist rhetoric built on ethnic hate.

Right now the independent judiciary, the free press and a segment of civil society are the watchdogs over our democracy project started in 1994. As you know, I often comment on SA's churches. Well, it seems they are once more slumbering until it is too late.

4. **Violence against Women:** Publicity in recent months has shown once more that men's violence against women – mostly in the domestic terrain – is a deep sickness in this country. It is prevalent in all sectors of our society. Propaganda campaigns have had little if any effect. To truly counter what is happening we need to differently educate the boy-child in his formative years. This is hard when fathers themselves were educated into macho behaviour. Our different social and cultural histories each celebrate male dominance and assertion. Current appeals to the brute's in our midst will have minimal effect. Right now our children are brought up in a society where guns, toy-guns, violence on demand via the screen and radio and much, much more dominate. Equity for women in a kinder society is not

likely to emerge. Ultimately our values as much as extreme poverty living cheek by jowel with extreme riches corrupt and distort the way our society might otherwise function.

## 5. My Neighbours, my Ubumelwane – Masiphumelele.

Max du Preez, editor of Vrye Weekblad recently observed that this country was officially on Lockdown level 3, while Masiphumelele was on level 5; in other words no lockdown regulations seemed in force. He visited other poor areas and the same applied. The regulations are possible and are tailored for middle-class areas and have little meaning in crowded shack towns. Despite the minimal use of masks and social distancing there is so far little to tell that the virus has affected people proportionally more in the poor areas – which is no reason for abandoning the mask, social distancing, etc.

Besides the virus Masi has many enemies. The City of Cape Town administration is one of them. Despite available land they have done nothing to de-densify the living conditions of tens of thousands of shack-dwellers. The winter rains have once again obliged hundreds of shack dwellers to raise their homes on stilts, while E.coli infested water surrounds them. Unemployment and hunger are now adding terrible misery. Plans for a new highway on Masi's northern edge will add to containing Masi physically. The architecture of the road that is planned is wrong!

In all of this, local organization, local advocacy and agency is what sustains dignity and self-worth. Local organization that campaigns for the human rights of 40,000 residents cannot be swept under the carpet because of corona regulations. Some well-intentioned, charitable (including church and NGO) involvement detracts rather than enhances the self-worth of those mired in poverty and discrimination. The Masi Civic Organization (MCO), led by Tshepo Moletsane, besides being actively involved in alleviating hunger amongst the Masi population at this time, is equally the voice for change, justice, equality and the assertion of self-reliance. During a time of soup kitchens it is important to be reminded of the bigger context.

The MCO have raised and distributed essential food worth over R100,000 to date. This is a modest amount when compared to other current aid structures. But, by assisting the MCO you strengthen Masi's voice for a better dispensation at the same time. I urge you support them.

**Payment can be made to account: Masiphumele Civic Organisation, FNB Bank Gold Business Account, Branch: Long Beach 260300, account: 62749945971. IBAN FIRNZAJJ.**

**The reference person to be informed is Mr Tshepo Richard Moletsane**  
**<[moletsanetshepo5@gmail.com](mailto:moletsanetshepo5@gmail.com)> Tel: 082 490 0623.**

6. **Tribute to Dutch anti-apartheid activist, Cor Groenendijk (1932-2020).** To me Cor epitomised integrity and modesty. When I arrived as a refugee in The Netherlands in April 1976, Cor and his Kairos organisation provided extraordinary support and care. He/they did the same for many others.

Cor was the composite of a Rotterdam working class upbringing, sympathy with resistance to Nazi occupation during WWII, deep Christian belief, class consciousness and solidarity activism. The Netherlands had several anti-apartheid organisations, representing different political orientations; Kairos was the one motivated by Protestant faith. In Western Europe, amongst Christian organisations they were, in 1978, first to endorse the ANC as the liberation movement that united South Africans. Under Cor's leadership Kairos was foremost in the 1980's to grasp that our liberation struggle demanded discreet and courageous solidarity. He and a group around him understood better than many in Europe who have a colonial past, that solidarity was not another means to influence or direct us in our struggle.

Cor deserves the hugest respect for what he did and achieved. He deserves a very special place in the hearts of South Africans. Read more:

**[Cultivating Seeds of Hope: Conversations on the life of ...](#)**

## 7. Reflections on Sweden closing the investigation into the assassination of former Prime Minister Olof Palme.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority and the Swedish Police Authority on Wednesday 10 June 2020 announced that it will shut the 34 year investigation into the assassination of Olof Palme. He was shot on 28 February 1985. A lone right-wing Swedish man, no longer alive, they concluded, was the likely assassin. The Palme family have accepted the decision of the authorities.

Does this put an end to the speculation that apartheid agents were involved and responsible? I doubt it. The evidence may not point to South African assassins right now but circumstantial pointers abound. I urge you to read: . [Olof Palme and the SA connection](#), June 12, 2020, by Terry Bell (First published on Daily Maverick, June 10, 2020).

I visited Stockholm days after the shooting. Sweden was in shock. The days when a Prime Minister and his wife could walk in the streets and attend a cinema performance had ended.

As director of IDAF, I was in Stockholm to report to the Swedish Parliament's oversight committee. How had IDAF spent the latest donation from Sweden? I presented our (clean) audited accounts and reported to them as I would a month later to the IDAF Trustees, "*the work of IDAF is destined to grow [...] as Apartheid loses control and the civil war in South Africa escalates*" I further indicated that our total needs would grow to £7million before the year ended. Ultimately near £4m of that money came from Sweden directly and another part of it via the United Nations Trust Fund against Apartheid. "*... Our work is a grim barometer of repression ... the more we need, the worse the situation: Torture, death, detention, abuse of children and injury to body and mind ... We register success when we prevent the worst from happening: saving someone from going to the gallows, reducing a jail sentence from 18 to 12 years, or lesser [such] 'successes'. What we do [is] more than the provision of band-aid ... we contribute to the ... inevitable freedom of both South Africa and Namibia*".

My task was to demonstrate to donors and to the IDAF Trustees that thousands of South Africans and Namibians were afforded legal representation when detained, tortured and when tried in apartheid courts. Another part of our money reached thousands of families whose bread-winners were languishing on Robben Island and other prisons. Over 24 years of its exile existence IDAF had perfected a system to get money into South Africa despite being outlawed in 1966. Sweden's trust in this and their contribution cannot be underestimated.

Despite 80% of our income being spent inside South Africa, the regime was unable to prove that the money came from a banned organization. For years apartheid spies tried to infiltrate IDAF to get evidence so that recipients of IDAF money could be charged with receiving funds from a banned organization. Self-confessed spy Gordon Winter wrote about his rummaging in Canon Collin's waste bins in the 1970s to get proof. Infamous spy Craig Williamson also tried. He contrived a scheme in 1979 where he got the IUEF in Geneva to pay SA lawyers representing the same persons IDAF was sending money to. To the Scandinavian Governments he pretended that he – representing the IUEF – was fast and more efficient. What he meant was that he settled the lawyers' fees without checking their bills. Because the IUEF had no funds designated for legal defense costs, he wanted IDAF to repay the IUEF for the costs they incurred. This was clearly a ridiculous proposal, but the Danish Government took the bait. They convened a meeting in Copenhagen attended by Canon Collins and Phyllis Altman on behalf of IDAF. The IUEF was represented by their director, Lars Gunnar-Eriksson and the spy yet to be revealed, Craig Williamson. The Danes suggested both organizations put their cards on the table about the secret work they respectively did inside SA. Canon Collins and Phyllis Altman believed CW to be a spy, ever since he had posed as SA refugee years earlier, and walked out. We had been tipped off by a former school mate of CW who reported that unbeknown to Williamson – at the time they were both Wits student leaders – he witnessed CW entering a side door to the Hillbrow Police Station repeatedly within a 24 hour stretch. IDAF believed the veracity of the report and shut all communication with CW and thus the IUEF. The Danish, until CW

was exposed, stopped funding IDAF for walking out of the Copenhagen meeting. Not so Sweden. The Swedish authorities were privy to the same report and took due heed<sup>1</sup>.

Between 1979 and 1985 the combined funds raised for IDAF, in today's value, would amount to GBP 51m = over R1 trillion. During the TRC hearings Williamson noted that they had tabs on all exile organizations but had failed to break into IDAF.

I never met Olof Palme. After I addressed the Swedish Parliamentarians in March 1985, with our Swedish IDAF Trustee, Ernst Michanek, we went to the site where Palme was killed and laid a wreath – as did thousands of Swedish citizens. Palme was a solid friend of South Africa. With others, I believe that apartheid hit squad members have a case to be answered for. The full story of Sweden's covert support has yet to be told.



Me standing at the spot where Olof Plame was gunned down in March 1986

## 8. Things you learn from your SB files.

My Special Branch file – obtained under the Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA – 2000) is both revealing and oddly, a useful inventory of when I irritated the apartheid political police (we called them the SBs) enough for them to record my doings. An entry on **16 October 1970** says that on that day I left for Israel, Switzerland, Germany and the United Kingdom – nothing more. But at least I have the exact date! I remember fearing they'd stop me by impounding my passport at the airport as I was leaving, but apparently, I beat them to it. I went to address national student congresses and seek support for our anti-apartheid work.

## 9. Palestine-Israel: my vote 50 years ago and my signature now.

It was my first ever trip abroad in 1970. We, the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) were invited by our Israeli counterpart to an international exchange of views. I was Vice President and Neville Curtis, our president, asked me to attend. So isolated and poor was international communication and networking at the time that we did not know that the conference was being widely boycotted – for a reason. My knowledge about Israel and Palestine was entirely informed by my NUSAS friends who widely supported the Israeli policies without question. Some had volunteered and gone to join the Israeli army in 1967 and returned to Johannesburg as local heroes.

The conference held in Haifa, had one overriding goal: our hosts wanted our endorsement for a resolution that urged the Israeli Government to annex the territories Israel occupied after the 1967 war. The only other representation at the conference were the Unions of Jewish students, mostly from Europe. I felt comfortable to join their lobby. Besides South Africa one other African was present, representing the south of Sudan. He campaigned for a war of secession of the south from Sudan. The Unions of Jewish students would vote against (some abstained) our host's resolution and urged me and my Sudanese colleague to do the same. I did vote against the resolution but my Sudanese colleague was at pains to explain that he could not do so. Why? Well, he told us late one night, Israel was funding his war for cessation from Sudan – his was a Christian cause against a Muslim state.

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<sup>1</sup> The ANC, not least a person like Mac Maharaj, paid no attention to the allegation. "You are spreading unsubstantiated rumours. At least Craig has ideas and plans" he told me. Frene Ginwala also warned me that my or IDAF's belief about CM was misplaced.

Before the conference I was taken to Jerusalem and to the Western (Wailing) wall. My student host wore military garb and was proud to show me the buckled bullet on a chain round his neck. It was meant for him but he survived he told me. He'd fought in Lebanon. In the narrow Jerusalem alleys we passed Palestinian shops and shopkeepers spat on the ground before us. I was unprepared. We entered an open space that had been bulldozed to create an open plaza in front of the famous wall. Then off to kibbutz Na'an. I was hugely impressed – associating with its uncompromising socialist orientation.



My address about apartheid repression to the NUIS at the Technion, Haifa, October 1970. Behind me Moshe Amirav, NUIS President and Danni Rabinovitch NUIS Foreign Affairs desk.

My vote at the conference did not go unnoticed in South Africa. 'Nusas votes against Israel' – and the delegate who cast the vote against Israel had a very German-sounding name. I felt – or mostly imagined hostility from fellow Jewish students, proud to unreservedly defend Israel while simultaneously campaigning against apartheid. This confused me but I felt no right to question this. My own history, my right-wing upbringing, my education into neo-Nazi German society in Johannesburg made me recoil in embarrassment. In 1970 I thought I had left all this behind and indeed was about to marry into a Jewish family. - Not so quick, I heard voices in me say.

More reading and introspection cast renewed shame on a past I shared through my parents. It was so close in time and relationship as to put a burden on me. It is a sense and feeling that is always with me. I had left, sometimes was made to leave, the German and Afrikaans family and society I came from, and was welcomed into the new world that Wits University invited me into. If I did not want to convert to Judaism, my future in-laws suggested, why not immigrate to Israel instead? I felt neither conversion nor emigration to be options. I now decided that my consciousness and development demanded more time – I chose silence in public when it came to the Middle East. The burden of my father won the day. I felt I could not voice criticism of Israel or the way Zionism asserted itself.

It is now exactly 50 years since I voted against Israel annexing the land it occupies. The land Israel took in 1967 is still occupied and now about to be annexed, aided and abetted by President Trump and his USA. From then until now I stood aside. I did not join demonstrations or sign petitions that criticize Israel. But abstaining on the matter of Israel's self-destructive path is no longer an option. I signed the 'global south' resolution that calls on the USA-Israel axis not to annex the occupied land in the struggle for a free Palestine.

You might say, what's the big deal? For me it is a big deal. I shall no longer be silent when it comes to the lopsided power relations in the conflict.

**MEDIA STATEMENT Over 250 prominent South Africans, including former President Kgalema Motlanthe, endorse [the Global south call](#) to stop Netanyahu and Trump's annexation scheme.**

#### **10. The extraordinary Naidoo's of Rocky Street – view the short video.**

Rocky Street was legendary in Johannesburg – the home of a most remarkable family where parents and each of their five children fought against apartheid and each one paid a heavy price for what they did. I was extremely fortunate to know the family. They and Winnie Mandela provided the few tangible bridges we, new to the struggle, could traverse to link the previous generation of opposition to ours. Such was the response by



apartheid when I grew up in the late 1960's and the 1970's that those who came before us were either in prison, in exile or killed.

Take a look: <https://www.facebook.com/168740099627/videos/3496919030323265/>

### 11. Defining race, racism and colour.

#### Ein Grundgesetz ohne "Rasse" – Vorschlag für eine Änderung von Artikel 3 Grundgesetz

**BERLIN, 16.06.2020** – Das Deutsche Institut für Menschenrechte hat dem Gesetzgeber empfohlen, den Begriff "Rasse" aus dem Diskriminierungsverbot in Artikel 3 des Grundgesetzes zu streichen und durch das Verbot "rassistischer" Benachteiligung oder Bevorzugung zu ersetzen.

"Eine Änderung des Grundgesetzes wäre **ein wichtiges Signal**, um die scheinbare Akzeptanz von Rassekonzeptionen zu beenden", erklärte Beate Rudolf, Direktorin des Deutschen Instituts für Menschenrechte, anlässlich der Veröffentlichung des Positionspapiers "Ein Grundgesetz ohne 'Rasse'" am 13. April. ... [weiter / ghubeka lapha](#)

Ben Khumalo-Segelken, a friend living in Germany made me aware of a proposal that should find an echo in South Africa.

The German Institute for Human Rights proposes that the term 'race' be removed from the prohibition of discrimination in Article 3 of the German Constitution. They want it replaced with 'prohibition of racist discrimination or benefit'.

"An amendment of the Constitution would be an important signal to stop the apparent acceptance of the concept of race" the director of the Institute suggests.

**12. In 1979 Tim Jenkins, Stephen Lee and Alex Moumbaris escaped from prison in Pretoria.** When Tim arrived in London I employed him at IDAF. A while later when I read the manuscript of his escape I wondered if I had employed the right person. But the more he revealed of himself the more I valued him. The film on their escape tells an incredible story – and is a tribute to Tim and the others.

Daniel Radcliffe on playing an anti-apartheid activist: 'It lights a fire in you'  
By Leandra Engelbrecht (@leandram\_engel)



Daniel Radcliffe and Tim Jenkin on the set of 'Escape from Pretoria.'  
Photo: TNT

- Daniel Radcliffe plays anti-apartheid activist Tim Jenkin in the thriller, *Escape from Pretoria*.
- Based on the 2003 book by Tim *Inside Out: Escape from Pretoria Prison* it tells the story of his real-life escape from Pretoria Central Prison in 1979.
- Tim and two other political prisoners escaped from jail using a set of keys made from wood.
- The movie premieres on Saturday, 4 July at 20:00 on TNT (DStv 137).

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In 1979 anti-apartheid activists Tim Jenkin, Stephen Lee and Alex Moumbaris broke out of Pretoria Central Prison using a set of handmade keys.

It's the perfect plot for a prison break movie, and after numerous attempts to bring this remarkable true story - of what is considered to be one of the greatest jailbreaks to the screen - Tim's dream has finally materialised.

Daniel Radcliffe plays Tim in the thriller *Escape from Pretoria* co-written and directed by Francis Annan which is based on Tim's 2003 book *Inside Out: Escape from Pretoria Prison*.

Tim was sentenced to 12 years and Stephen to eight years in prison in 1978 after being convicted of producing and distributing pamphlets for banned organisations including the SACP, the ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe.

Not long after they entered the gates of Pretoria prison, they started working on a plan to escape which involved making copies of keys from wood.

For the 72-year-old, it's exciting that this project finally came to life.

"It's something that I have dreamt about since I wrote the book. I mean, we didn't escape with the intention of making a film about it. That wasn't one of our motives to get out.

"But from the moment that we did get out, almost the very first person we met outside the prison couldn't believe the story we told them, and said: 'That's got film potential'."

When Daniel signed on for the role, he couldn't believe that it wasn't already a film.

"It's an amazing escape story, and it just felt like this is a story that should be in the canon of incredible escape movies and stories.

"Normally in a prison break film, the people in prison have done something bad to get there. In this film, these guys were put in prison for being on the right side of history and taking a moral stance. They were also people that you could really root for to escape."

Any time as an actor, you get a chance to tell a story that you think is valuable to a wider audience, you grab it with both hands. This is not the first time the 30-year-old is playing a character based on a real person; it is, however, the first time he is playing someone who is still alive.

Daniel says it is an added pressure when the person you're playing is going to see your work.

"It's intimidating, but it's also very useful. These were people who sacrificed a lot and were willing to risk a huge amount for what they were fighting for, for their principles.

"You do have a certain duty when you're telling these kinds of stories. It lights a fire in you to give it your all, every day."

Tim gives Daniel's performance a 10 out of 10, saying that he captured Tim's quiet sort of character.

"He's not playing himself in that role. And you can see he's a different sort of a person. He's just a quiet guy that gets on with things, and he doesn't grumble a lot. He has this mission, and he's going to do it, and he does it. So, I think he pulled that off very well."

"Especially with the final scene where he tried to break out of that front door. For me, that was the most realistic scene, and it really brought it back for me," adds Tim.

## **A SOUTH AFRICAN ACCENT AND A CAMEO APPEARANCE**

The South African accent is a notoriously difficult one to master. With the help of an acting coach Daniel prepared for this aspect of the character.

He explains: "I'd go through the script and I get somebody with a proper South African accent to say everything to me. "And then I write it down phonetically next to the line in a way that will make me repeat those sounds. Repetition and then hoping for the best."

The movie was filmed in Adelaide in South Australia. The set was used for another South African film in 1980. Tim, who was on set during filming, says it took him back to his days in prison in many ways. "It was very strange being on set; it was built exactly according to the layout of the prison.

"Seeing the size of this operation, hundreds of people involved, and huge big trucks and this big structure that they created, all of this because I wrote a story. It's a very strange and humbling kind of experience."

He also has a cameo as an inmate who sits next to Daniel's character during a prison visit scene.



"He was me; I was just some random old guy talking to a visitor there. And this figure doesn't even appear in the film at any other point. So, you may wonder who this guy was," he says jokingly.

With the movie centred on apartheid and the fight for equality, its release comes at a relevant time as protests against racial discrimination across the world has once again erupted.

For Daniel, what this movie means for him, and what he hopes viewers take from it is that it's one thing to believe in equality, but begs the question: What are you willing to do?

"What are you willing to sacrifice? We all like to think that we would be on the right side of history if we are placed in a certain time period. But the reality is, you know, very few people are. And Tim is one of the people who was. I think it's a story that, as you say, now is a good time for it."

We all thought at the time that the end of apartheid would be sufficient to shake the world, that racism must come to an end. We thought the world would wake up and say never again, never again. Here we are 25 years later, and we're still seeing the same thing.

Anti-apartheid activist and political prisoner Tim Jenkin

Tim says that racism is just one element of the bigger malaise in the world and that the coronavirus crisis has shaken us all up.

"These struggles are part of a bigger struggle. What is the struggle? I think it's clear that we have a collapsing economy all around us. We're all slaves to money. We're all slaves to the system. We're all looking for a way out.

"And the prison escape represents what we're all looking for. We're trying to find the front door to escape from this prison that we're in. And we can't just get divided into little separate struggles. We all need to combine together to find that front door and find the tools to get there. And I think if people can take that home with them, then we've at least got part of the message across."

**WATCH THE TRAILER HERE: *Escape from Pretoria* airs Saturday, 4 July at 20:00 on TNT (DStv 137)**

Related Links

[WATCH: Daniel Radcliffe breaks out of Pretoria maximum prison](#)

[Daniel Radcliffe set to 'Escape from Pretoria' in new](#)

Or try and access the film: <https://www.ft.com/content/7770765e-692a-11ea-a3c9-1fe6fedcca75>