

reason for the changes appear to have been given by the Minister in Parliamentary debates on the Bill, notwithstanding specific questioning on this point by the Official Opposition.¹³

DRACONIAN

In conclusion, the Steyn Commission also recommended, in paragraph 176 of its Report, that —

‘ . . . The SADF and the SAP ought to make available as much information as possible and not as little as possible. The media, as well as the SADF and the SAP, are in favour of healthy relations based on respect and trust . . . ’¹⁴

A draconian measure such as the Act will inevitably militate against the establishment of such a relationship. And this in itself — apart from any other considerations — is reason enough to regret the

introduction of the Second Police Amendment Act of 1980.

FOOTNOTES

1. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7803 2 June 1980: Mr R A F Swart.
2. At 457. See also C J R Dugard: ‘Human Rights and the South African Legal Order’ 176 and 348-9; and note that the Appellate Division in *S v Husey* (1974 (1) SA 66 (AD)) appears to have retreated from the restrictive interpretation in *S v French-Beylugh* supra and *S v Essack* (1974 (1) SA 1 (AD)).
3. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7883 3 June 1980: Mrs H Suzman.
4. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7884 3 June 1980: Mrs H Suzman.
5. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Cols 7834 and 7884 2 and 3 June 1980: Mr S van der Merwe and Mrs H Suzman.
6. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7920 3 June 1980: The Minister of Police.
7. D V Cowen: *Tydskrif vir Suid-Afrikaanse Reg*: 1976 Vol 2 131 esp at 147-148.
8. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7819 2 June 1980: Mr B W R Page.
9. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7918 3 June 1980: The Minister of Justice.
10. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7914 3 June 1980: The Minister of Justice.
11. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7850 2 June 1980: Mr A B Widman.
12. At 193, quoted in House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7850/1 2 June 1980: Mr A B Widman.
13. House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7853 2 June 1980: Mr A B Widman.
14. At 113, Quoted in House of Assembly Debates No 16 Col 7847 2 June 1980: Mr A B Widman.

Which is my beloved country?

An Affidavit drawn up in the Johannesburg Advice Office

VUSI, born on 10th February 1969, and SETSEKA, born on 10th August 1971, both in Alexandra, are my sons.

For social reasons I procured a Travel Document for VUSI in 1979 so that he attends school in Umtata, Transkei.

In 1980, VUSI lost his travel document. I have tried to procure a duplicate travel document for him in vain from the same office, the Transkeian office in Tembisa.

Attached please find a ‘REFUSAL DOCUMENT’ from above office.

We were requested (ordered) to take attached document to the Commissioner’s office Alexandra where the Transkeian citizenship was imposed on us.

I was greatly hurt by the rebuff, especially by the attitude of the officials who attended to us. They were blatantly rude. My mother is witness to the above.

I was born and brought up in Alexandra. I have never been to Transkei but only sent my child to school there for social reasons.

Since the Transkei does not want to accept us and I also do not want their citizenship, nor any other citizenship, except the citizenship I rightly possess — the South African citizenship. I now apply to retain my SA citizenship, together with my children, or rather remain stateless.

Attached please receive above two children’s birth certificates. Please change their citizenship from Transkei to South African or stateless.

I will keep my son, VUSI, out of school until the citizenship matter has been settled.