

Toilets

My friend and comrade, **Yogan Moodley**, selling toilet paper to a Building Construction Company presently building on the North Coast was reprimanded for the quality of his paper.

They examined the temporary toilets built for the workers on the site, and arrived at the conclusion that the crap was enormous. He compared it with elephant's faeces.

He with the boss of the Company decided that it was not the toilet paper that was the problem, but the size of the crap.



Even this 'horror' (above) is not available to our poor.

Footprints

You would have read about the Group Area's Act of 1950 and similar acts that sought to remove black persons out of urban areas and pushed them as far as possible.

In Durban these areas were named Kwa Mashu in the north and Umlazi Township in the south. For Indians it was Chatsworth and Coloureds in Wentworth. Indians, Coloureds and Umlazi residents had water borne toilets in their houses.

Why our civilised rulers did not build toilets within the houses allocated for Africans is beyond me, but built toilets outside the home. And of course building houses so far from work meant that travelling costs were increased. Wages of course remained the same! This also meant that workers had to rise earlier to get to work in time.

The early travelling meant the ablutions were curtailed. Workers carried their crap to work daily. Before tea at 10 am the toilets were very busy.

By now you know the Group Areas Act sent you far away from the towns and you increased your travelling costs with no addition to your wages!

You also know that our squatter camps are situated on pavements only to get closer to the workplace?

Now you know there is a further problem. One you do not want to think about as well. What of the toxic effects of carrying that crap in your body? Constipation problems! Costly medical contraptions to deal with this costiveness!

Whatever toilet paper you used it could not cope with the volume of crap.

Our domestic workers union has never brought this issue to the table. Workers usually have their own toilets at the back of blocks of Flats or to the outhouse, which now have become guest houses at exorbitant rentals.

I have yet to see the domestic worker use the toilet of her Madams, even though the worker cleans and disinfects it.

If you think I was spinning a yarn, then look at The Witness of the 2nd October 2009, under the heading; “Man shot for using boss’s toilet.”

Man shot for using boss’s toilet

AN employer allegedly shot a worker, a Malawian national, in the ankle after he used the employer’s toilet.

The shooting occurred in the Durban central business district, police said yesterday.

Said Captain Khephu Ndlovu: “The Malawian man went to the toilet and on his return his employer asked him where he had gone to.

“He told him he was at the toilet and showed him the toilet he had used.

“The employer then drew out his gun and shot him once in the left ankle.”

Ndlovu said the incident happened on Monday.

The employer was expected to be arrested yesterday afternoon, Ndlovu said.

“A case of attempted murder was opened,” said Ndlovu.

— Sapa.

The Witness 3/10/2009

Phyllis Naidoo
Durban
27/9/2009.