

WOMEN ORGANISING FOR CHANGE

1: A HISTORY

As early as 1913, 600 women in Bloemfontein marched to the municipal offices in protest against the Pass laws.



Many other women in South Africa followed the lead of the women of the Orange Free State.



Annie Silinga, active in the ANC Women's League and executive member of FSAW 1954. - said:

"I will NEVER carry a pass," - and she never did!

In 1918 the Bantu Women's League was formed as a branch of the African National Congress. The African National Congress Women's League was formed in 1943 and began organising women around common problems.



"The women had lots of problems.

There were a lot of women who joined us and they brought a lot of complaints about all the things that they wanted made better, and we had a lot of work to do."



Francis Beard, member of ANC Women's League, FSAW, and SACTU organiser.

