

HELPING BUDDING CAMERAMEN...

PHOTOGRAPHY should be used as a tool of conscientisation, says Cecil Sols -- co-ordinator of the Soweto based Photographers for Social Documentation (Photosdoc).

Photographers for Social Documentation -- formerly known as Soweto Afrapix, came into existence with the aim of moulding young aspirant photographers who find themselves without any institution to develop their talents.

According to Sols, the black community sees photography as a profession for the well-off because of its cost. The few photographers who manage to equip themselves, use their cameras as a means of generating extra income, he said.

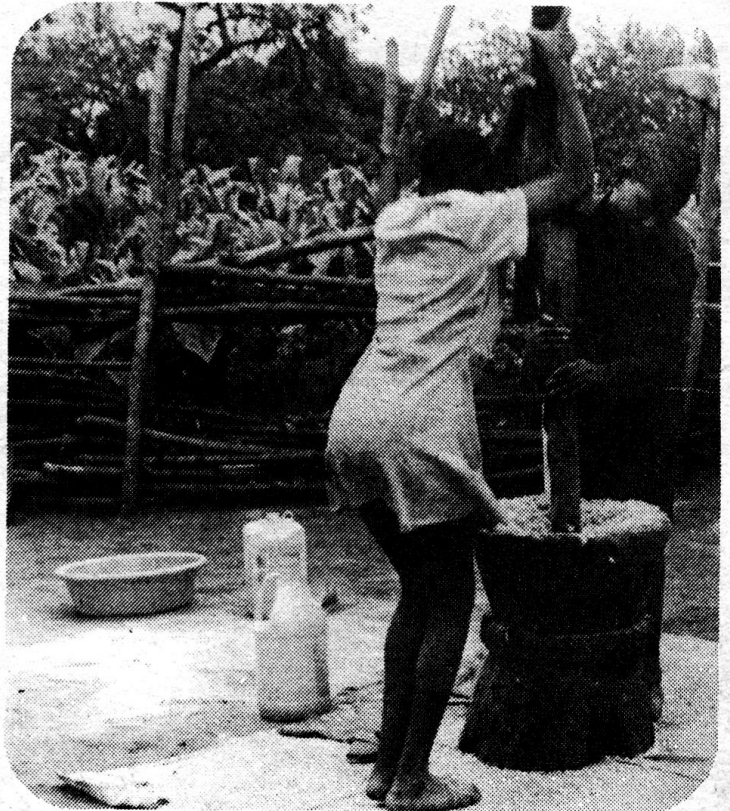
"Blacks learn photography while working, hence it is very rare to get skilled photographers," explained Sols.

Photography, as seen through the eyes of Sols, "is more effective in media as it portrays events without any distortion.

"But the oppressive laws have affected people's photography. Capturing daily happenings in our country in times such as these, is viewed as a crime and without those photos, we will be relating half truths", added Sols.

For a period of two months, Photosdoc trains people in groups of tens, to do processing and printing of black and white photographs and camera techniques.

The same organisation invites the public to a students' photographic exhibiton at the Experimental Theatre, Funda Centre on at 2 pm.



This photo of children pounding mealies was taken by a Photodoc student. See more of these at Funda Centre.

