

Graduation Ceremony  
Royal Coll of Education

1984

Theme:

1. Crisis in education

1.1 - Soweto 1976 (Apartheid - response)

1.2 - Banning student orgs (Saso) 1977

1.3 - School boycotts 1984 → Oct.  
± 200,000 students boycotting

1.4 - Severed discrepancy:

1982/83 Per capita exp:

White: R 1385

Indians: R 971

Col: R 593

Afr: R 192

Pupil/Teacher ratio:

Whites: 15 to 1

Ind: 23 to 1

Col: 26 to 1

Afr: 43 to 1.

Unqualified Teachers:

17.7% - Indian schools

59% - Col " "

77% - Afr. " "

2. Crisis in Concem - One of the evil effects of apartheid (geographical, polit<sup>s</sup>, cult & educ.): Attitude of unconcern - each for himself.

~~2.1~~

2.1 - White power, privileges, concern

2.2 - Coloureds & Indians

2.3 - African

When there is no association - no communication - no understanding - no concern, Our society has become one of each group to himself and may God help the ones who fall out along the way!

3. Crisis in Commitment

3.1 - Complaint of youth even before 1976: parents, teachers, clergy have neglected their duty, -

Role of fear - loss of income  
- security

3.2 - Ferment of discussion  
amongst youth / high school & univ.

3.2.1 - Root cause of educ. crisis  
(discrimination, lack of power  
to change)

3.2.2 - Fund. change in ~~shape~~ of  
education: (incl. white educa-  
tion)

3.3 - Link of education with  
social & polit. change

3.4 - Education Charter (1984)

- Read & develop.

What is needed:

1. <sup>Fuller</sup> Awareness of crisis in education
2. Awareness of the ongoing ferment amongst scholars, students
3. Recognition that no teacher can be "neutral" any longer!
4. Much closer link between teachers, students, parents, churches  
& relig. bodies needed:
  - tension
  - growth.

## EDUCATION CHARTER



Student leaders at ECC launch, representing Cosas, Nusas and Azaso. Kate Phillip, blacked out, is in detention

# ***We, the peace-loving people of South Africa..***

### **NOTING:**

- *that the separate and inferior system of education for the majority of the people of South Africa entrenches inferior and undemocratic ideas*
- *that the unequal education which students continue to reject further deepens the present crisis*
- *that the so-called reforms including the de Lange proposals and the White Paper are measures to ensure the continued survival of Apartheid education*
- *that under this New Constitution Apartheid education will still be felt in our classrooms and the cultural life of our people will still be harmed*

### **BELIEVING:**

- *that education must be based on the needs and serve the interests of the people*
- *that education should be accessible to all regardless of colour, creed, sex or age*
- *that reforms will not bring about a lasting solution to our problems in education*
- *that our students struggles arise out of real grievances*
- *that education is not an issue affecting students alone but all sectors of our society*
- *that there can never be meaningful change in education until there is meaningful change in society*

### **THEREFORE PLEDGE:**

- *to unite as workers, women, youth, students, professionals, sportspeople, and others and fight side by side*
- *to interlink the struggles in education with the broader struggle for a united, free, democratic and non-racial South Africa*
- *to engage ourselves actively in a campaign for an Education Charter that will embody the short-term, medium-term and long-term demands for a non-racial, free and compulsory education for all in a united and democratic South Africa based on the will of the people.*

*Declaration of the Education Charter Campaign*