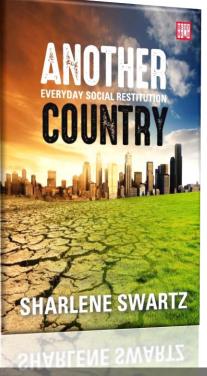
## Revolution, restitution, redress and reconciliation: Obligations towards restoring our humanity

Centre for Critical Research on Race and Identity University of KwaZulu Natal 23 March 2017





Social science that makes a difference





- OUR STORY: Our country and how it came to be so unequal and unjust
- 2. **THEIR STORY**: The story of 60 Black and White South Africans and the effects of the past in the present
- **3. TWO FICTITIOUS STORIES**: To help us think about restitution (personhood, locating selves, dialogues)
- 4. MY STORY: With cycles of consciousness
- 5. OUR POTENTIAL NEW STORY: Based on dialogues and acts of social restitution by individuals and communities



## Its about Restitution

**1. Restitution** to address our current inequality

- 2. Restitution that should become a part of every conversation about injustice
- **3. Restitution** that addresses the past that remains present
- **4. Restitution** to help us achieve the future we want
- 5. Social **restitution** as a strategic place to begin



# Research methodology

- **1.** Started off with conceptual ideas
- 2. Invited responses using stories and a labels activity
- 3. 60 in depth interviews 90 minutes, 4 researchers
- 4. "Researching intimates"
- 5. Ages 21-72, across class
- 6. Demographically representative



## Two fictitious stories

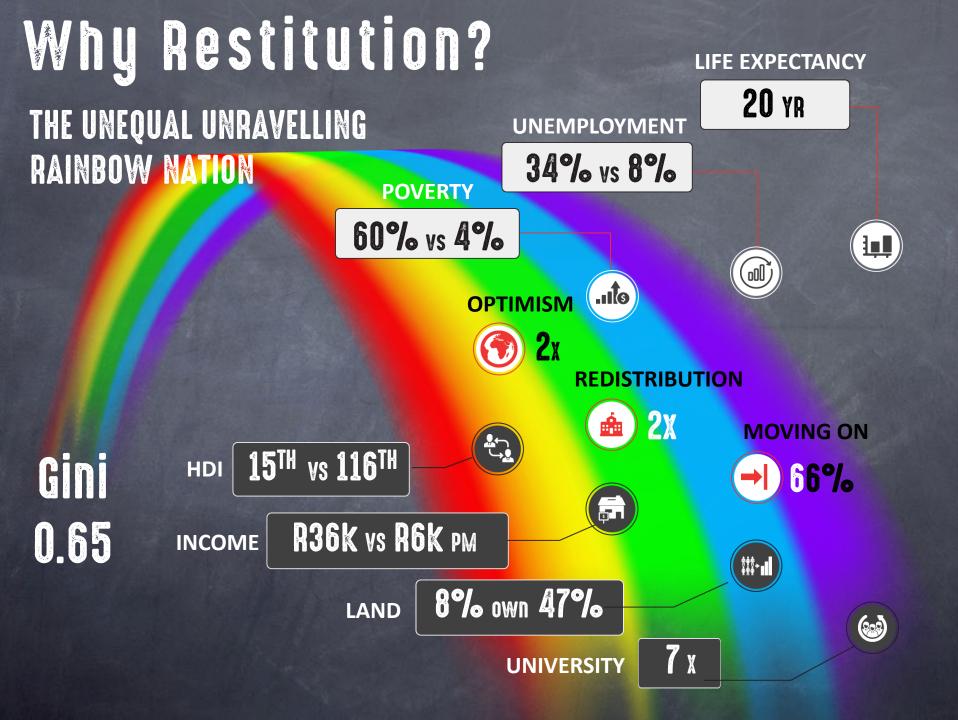
**The Stolen Bicycle'** – two children, one steals the other one's bicycle, they reconcile, what about the bicycle? *about bicycles'*.

**The Unlevel Soccer Field** – *is it enough to level the field, start over, level the scores, recover from playing uphill?* 

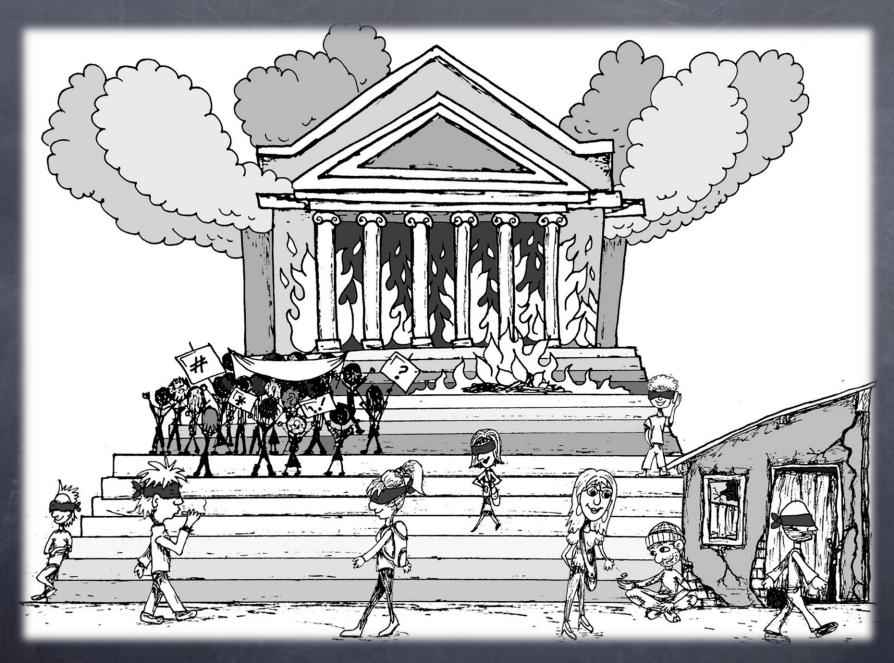


INEQUALITY RESTORED PERSONHOOD II. LOCATION OF SELVES V. SOCIAL RESTITUTION V. ACTIVE DIALOGUES

## NEQUALITY RESTORED PERSONHOOD II. LOCATION OF SELVES V. SOCIAL RESTITUTION V. ACTIVE DIALOGUES







OBSTACLES TO RESTITUTION: A CHRONIC CASE OF 'MOVING-ON-ITIS'

## Cycles of consciousness (p. 93-7)





# A Common Vision for South Africa

- 1. Where **race** no longer dominates
- 2. Where there is equal access to **opportunities**
- 3. Where we **know** people who are different to us and have them as neighbours
- 4. A country in which **poverty** and **inequality** are a dim memory of the past.

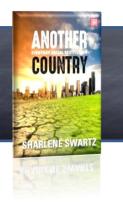


YOU WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO SAY A BLACK PERSON WILL BE A CLEANER AND A WHITE PERSON WILL BE THE CEO...WHEN THERE ARE BLACK AND WHITE PEOPLE WHO ARE POOR, AND BLACK AND WHITE PEOPLE WHO ARE RICH

Mbali, 28, Black woman, financial administrator

WHEN FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE ... POVERTY IS NOT DUE TO APARTHEID ... (WHEN A PERSON IS ABLE TO) RISE OUT OF POVERTY THROUGH HARD WORK AND TALENT... (NOT CONNECTIONS OR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION)

Palesa, 22, Black woman, financial administrator



## The outrage of racism

- 1. Demeaned and dehumanised
- 2. The outrage of entrenched racial inequality
- 3. Well-being (mental health)
- 4. Pervasive racism regardless of class
- 5. Issues of inferiority and superiority
- 6. Forget and bury the past
- 7. Lack of white consciousness



MAY SON IS BIG, HE'S HUGE ... HE PLAYS RUGBY. I SAID: PUNCH THEAN AND I AAN HAPPY TO GO TO THE OFFICE TO HAVE A CHAT ABOUT THAT. THAT'S WHEN IT STOPPED. | REFLECTED ON THAT AND THOUGHT: 'GEE, UNTIL TODAY THE ONLY LANGUAGE RACISM UNDERSTANDS IS VIOLENCE'. REALLY? (BUT) I'VE NEVER BEEN CALLED IN ... ANYONE WHO CALLS HIM A BABOON OR WHATEVER, ANYTHING RACIST YOU KNOW, HE SANACK'S THEAN NOW Zethu, 40, Black woman, business executive

WE HAVE TO, AS BLACK STUDENTS, WORK TWICE AS HARD TO GAIN HALF AS

THAMSANQA, 32, BLACK MAN, MASTERS STUDENT

## The arrogance of White privilege

- 1. Awareness of privilege
- 2. Historical amnesia
- 3. Slipping in and out of consciousness
- 4. Reluctance to take responsibility
- 5. Issues of deference and complicity
- 6. Anger and shame
- 7. Racism
- 8. Response to affirmative action
- 9. The past was not all bad



THEORETICALLY, THERE ARE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, BUT NOT REALLY ... I'AN ABLE TO FULFIL MAY POTENTIAL IN A WAY THAT OTHER PEOPLE CAN'T ... LET'S BE HONEST, THE WHITE BASE HAS MAINTAINED ITS ECONOMIC STRENGTH

Thomas, 23, White man, Recent graduate

•• ENJOY THE SECURITY OF AN INHERITANCE THAT SHOULD KEEP ME COMFORTABLE THROUGHOUT MAY LIFE ... I WILL NEVER KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO GROW UP WITHOUT THE SUBTLE MESSAGE ALWAYS GIVEN; THAT I WAS TOP OF THE PILE ... ONE OF THE MASTERS \*\* Heather, 38, White woman, Non-profit

## HALEY'S MOM & THE GROUP AREAS ACT

#### WITHOUT APARTHEID

<u>1976</u> Suburbs house

R5,000

<u>1997</u> Suburbs house Savings (no bond)

R400,000 R260,000

R660,000

<u>2015</u> Suburbs' house Savings

R1,300,000 R2,800,000

R4.100,000

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R1,300,000 R2,800,000

R4.100,000

WITH APARTHEID

<u>1976</u> Cape flats house Deposit

Bond

2015

Savings

Suburbs flat

<u>1997</u> Cape flats house New suburbs flat

R90,000 R150,000

-R12,000

R5,000

-R7,000

-R60,000

R1,115,000 R0

R1,150,000

## HALEY AND A SOLDIER'S REWARD



BLACK

COLOURED AND INDIAN/ASIAN WHITE

WHERE HAVE HOLIDAY HORNES CORNE FROM?

NEQUALITY RESTORED PERSONHOOD IL LOCATION OF SELVES V. SOCIAL RESTITUTION V. ACTIVE DIALOGUES

F IT MEANS THIS PERPETRATOR, THIS MAN WHO HAS KILLED CHRISTOPHER PIET, IF IT MEANS HE BECOMMES HUMAN AGAIN ... SO THAT I, SO THAT ALL OF US, GET OUR HUMANITY BACK ... THEN I AGREE, THEN SUPPORT IT ALL ... WE DO NOT WANT TO RETURN THE EVIL THAT PERPETRATORS COMMITTED ... WE WANT TO DEMONSTRATE HUMANENESS TOWARDS THEM, SO THAT THEY IN TURN MAY RESTORE THEIR OWN HUMANITY ... WHAT I WOULD ASK IS FOR SOMMETHING - A MEMORY THAT WILL BE HELD FOR THEM, EVEN IF IT'S JUST A CRÈCHE OR A ... SCHOOL THAT COULD BE NAMED AFTER - AFTER OUR CHILDREN

Nomvuyo Cynthia Ngewu, 25-year-old son shot by security police





# Theory of personhood

- Chris Smith emergent, connected, conducive environment
- Francis Nymanjoh self fulfilment within a collective framework
- Kwame Gyeke acquired, failure possible, responsibility towards others
- Nancy Fraser recognition, representation, redistribution
- 5. Frantz Fanon dignity, sovereignty, wealth



INEQUALITY RESTORED PERSONHOOD LOCATION OF SELVES 111. V. SOCIAL RESTITUTION V. ACTIVE DIALOGUES

# WAYS OF SEENG

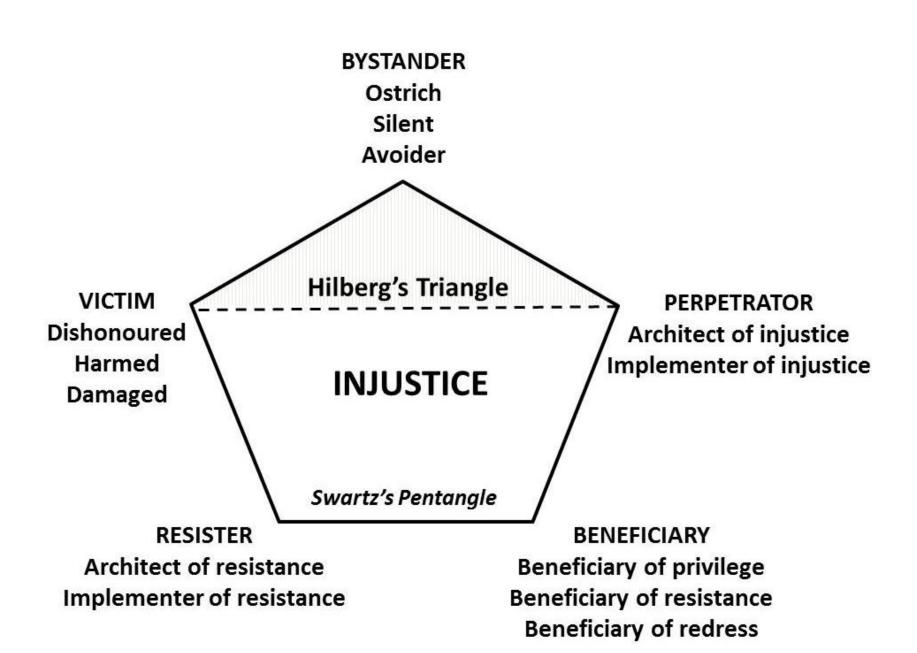
## DISTORTED SEEING

## SEEING CLEARLY

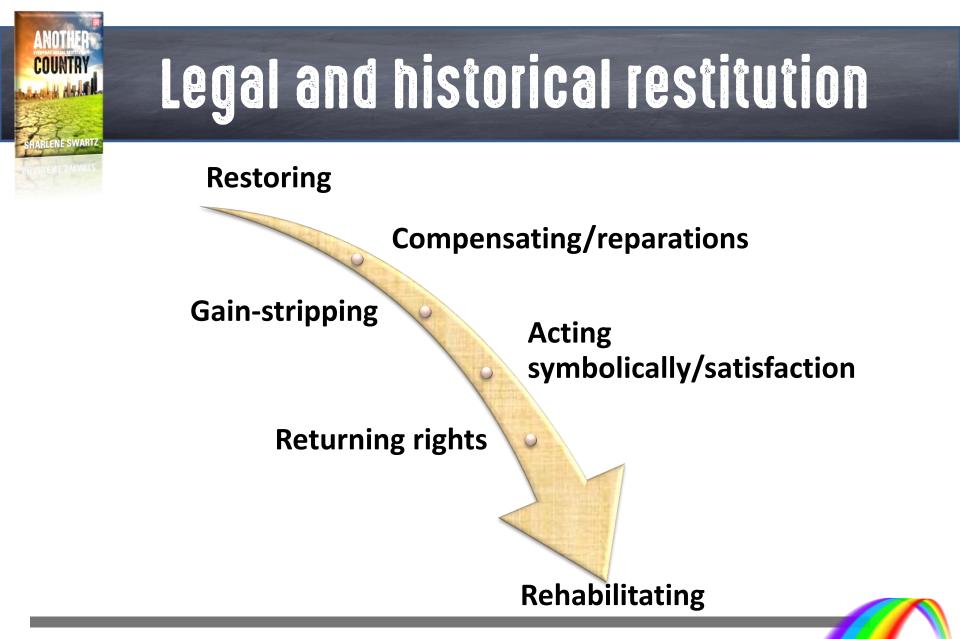


## CONNING TO SEE

# Refusing to See



INEQUALITY RESTORED PERSONHOOD II. LOCATION OF SELVES IV. SOCIAL RESTITUTION V. ACTIVE DIALOGUES





Social science that makes a difference

# What restitution has begun?

### Land restitution

- Good legislation (being modified); poor implementation; ignores some
- 2. Employment equity and Black economic empowerment
  - Enriched a few; open to fronting and corruption
- 3. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission
  - Recommendations not implemented



## HALEY & THE LAND CLAIMS ACT

<u>Landclaim 2003/2010</u> Farm 1 & 2 E Cape 'Mistake' – refund

Total paid

Haley's share

R17,622 R 9,048

R 8,573

R 2,858

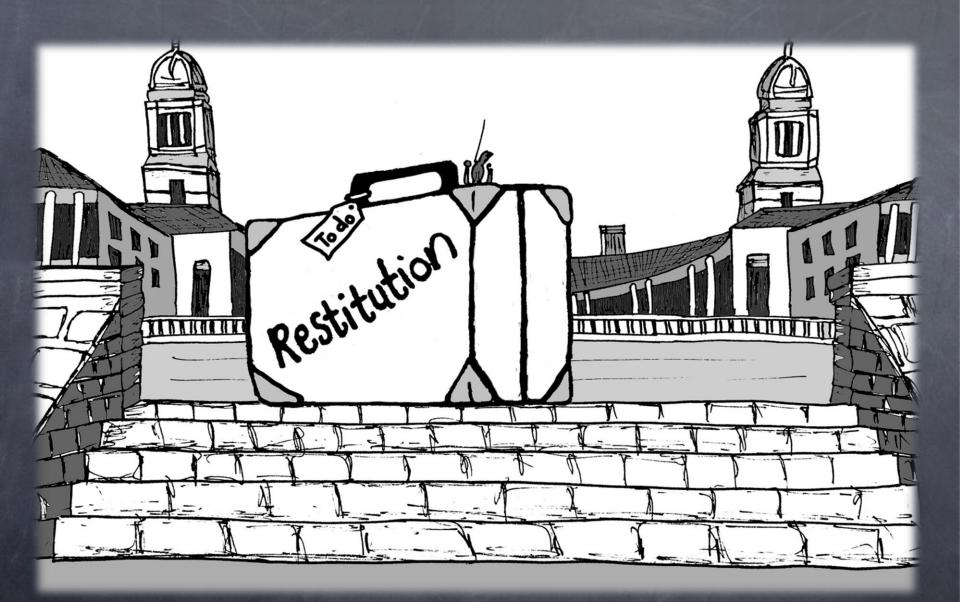
The value of 2 farms in Eastern Cape in 2015 most conservative estimate: R4,000,000

Haley's loss

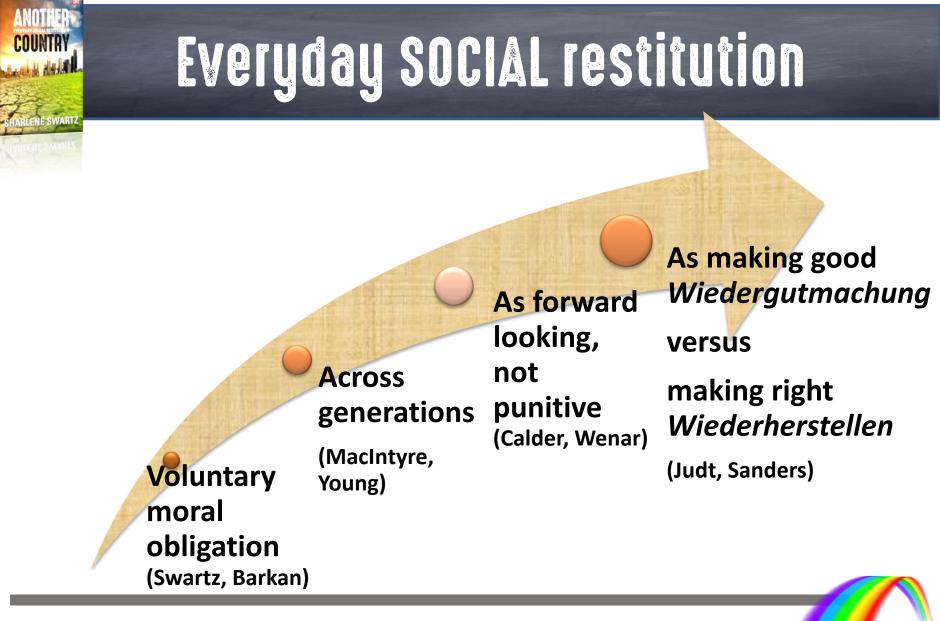
 $\frac{R983,666 + R1,330,475}{R2,314,141}$  (see p. 86)



OBSTACLES: BELIEVING THE TRC AND 'RECONCILIATION' WAS ENOUGH



OBSTACLES: LEAVING IT TO GOVERNMENT (BEMOANING CORRUPTION)





## Social restitution definition

Social restitution are **voluntary acts and attitudes** towards making good what our past history of injustice has damaged. It is **forward-looking restitution**, for individuals and communities to pursue as a moral **responsibility** rather than as a legal liability. It invites all parties to acknowledge the past, and to work together to repair it through symbolic and material actions. The motive is our shared humanity, and the goal is a restored personhood of all involved.

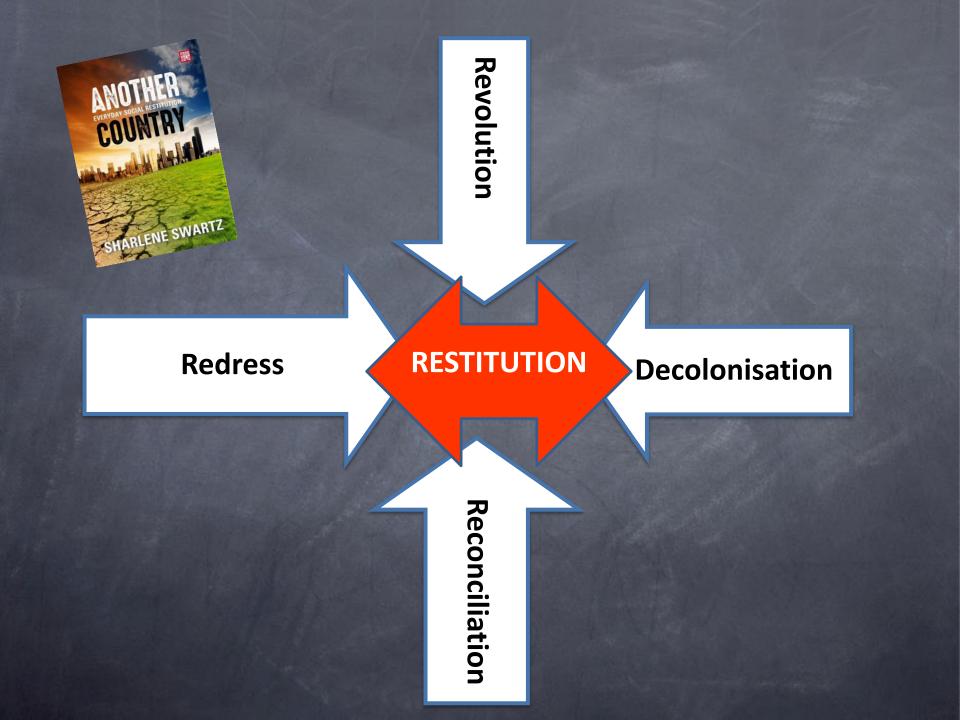


## Social Restitution

#### **1.** Not as the only answer

- 2. But as one part of the answer
  - Government's redress
  - People's agitation (protests, revolution, decolonisation)
  - Business's strategies (redress, BEEE)
  - Communities' and individuals' acts and attitudes





NEQUALITY RESTORED PERSONHOOD IL LOCATION OF SELVES V. SOCIAL RESTITUTION V. ACTIVE DIALOGUES





## Ideas for social restitution

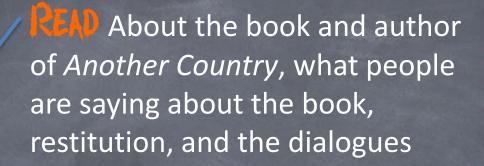
#### ALONGSIDE GOVERNMENT

- A TAX/SUPERTAX BUCKET TOILETS/FREE EDUCATION
- 2. PAYING FOR SUBURBAN UPKEEP & CROSS-SUBSIDING TOWNSHIPS
- 3. A SALARY-INCREASE MORATORIUM FOR HIGH EARNERS

CIVIL-SOCIETY INITIATIVES CHALLENGE 'WHINGERS' 2. LEARN LANGUAGE 3. DIALOGUES ABOUT PRIVILEGE 4. CHILDREN'S STORIES 5. MENTOR YOUTH AND PROFESSIONALS 6. SHARE INHERITANCES



#### OBSTACLES : TAKING CHARITY FOR RESTITUTION



dialogues, with space to comment on the process

Carrier 😤

GUUR

9:38 PM

READ

DISCUSS

ACT

**Ideas for restitution scaled** by time, money, effort needed, and number of people required

**SUGGEST** Ideas for everyday social restitution; added to scaled ideas under 'act'

# 10-10-10 Restitution Dialogues

- 1. 10 people, 10 weeks, 10 conversations
- 2. Vision of SA
- 3. Past in present
- 4. Meaning of restitution
- 5. Charity & restitution
- 6. Locating everyone
- 7. Ideas to restore our humanity
- 8. Plans for implementing
- 9. Attitudes and obstacles
- 10. Ongoing project





OBSTACLES : FEARING THE 'CANNEL-IN-THE-TENT' SYNDROME