

*Apartheid*

in place and is keeping it in place. They are the people whom the Hon. Member purports to be concerned about in this motion.

The motion itself is most ill-advised, and it reflects a tragic misunderstanding of the real situation in Africa. It reflects the very real success of the past two ambassadors from South Africa to Canada. Last September, the present Ambassador, Johannes De Klerk, said in an interview that South Africa is "in the process of abolishing the last remnants of apartheid". What a lie that is. He stated that that would come "the day we decide on a new constitution, because the Government has already said all the black people living in South Africa must have political rights". The Government does not state what political rights. It does not say that blacks will have the same political rights as the white minority. The Government just states that they will have a few specific political rights.

Mr. De Klerk also said, "Neither the details of how minority rights—with whites making up one of those minorities—will be protected nor how they will affect the political rights of blacks have been worked out". The details have not been worked out. It is just a minor thing, Mr. Speaker. Mr. De Klerk also stated, "We've acknowledged that racial discrimination based on the colour of somebody's skin is wrong, and that white political domination must disappear". He was reluctant, however, to put any kind of time-frame on when it could happen. It will happen sometime in the 21st or perhaps the 22nd century. There are people in South Africa today who are violently opposed to any change.

As the Hon. Member has stated, it is wrong to say that sanctions propose opposition to change. It is the very suggestion that there should be change that has aroused that opposition to change. There are people in South Africa who have put those vicious apartheid laws in place, and will do everything they can to maintain them. Far from South Africa moving to dismantle apartheid, a couple of months ago we saw this Bill of theirs that was euphemistically entitled "The Promotion of Orderly Politics Bill". It banned within South Africa all organizations that were seeking to work against apartheid, and all organizations that were seeking to work non-violently. As the Reverend Allan Boesak of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches stated: "This is an illegitimate Government that deserves no authority and does not have it, that deserves no obedience and must not get it".

The Reverend Khoza Mgojo, President of the Methodist Church of South Africa, stated: "The South African Government wants no non-violent actions. That was proved today. The South African Government is the enemy of any non-violent or peaceful demonstration in this country and that will be the message to the people".

When South Africa banned the 17 non-violent organizations that were working against apartheid, leaders from the major Christian churches stated in a letter: "We believe that the Government, in its actions over recent years, but especially by last week's action, has chosen a path for the future which will

lead to violence, bloodshed and instability". These are the leaders of Christian Churches who for years have been attempting to work within that system to get some change that would grant those political rights for the blacks talked about by the Hon. Member.

This is the time when we should be stepping up sanctions and not downgrading them. We can look at the actions of South Africa in destabilizing neighbouring countries of Mozambique and Angola where our best efforts to try to provide some type of development assistance for Mozambique, one of the poorest nations on the face of the earth, is destabilized by a South African financed rebel organization that is fighting a war against development.

If the Hon. Member and other Hon. Members want to know the real situation in South Africa, I encourage them to read a March 8, 1988 column by Michael Valpy published in *The Globe and Mail*. The article states:

What is the reality of South Africa?

The pillars and foundations of apartheid remain firmly in place. Its pillars are the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act, the constitutional mechanisms that ensure white control over all key areas of national political life, and the national disfranchisement of blacks.

The Population Registration Act requires all South Africans to be racially classified at birth. It determines where they may live, be educated, be treated when sick and buried at death.

The Group Areas Act specifies what residential districts may be occupied by which racial groups. The act is not fading away through lack of enforcement.

South Africa's National Party Government has vowed repeatedly that it will never be abrogated. The group areas police have recently been reactivated and are again busy at work in the cities, looking for people of the wrong race living in the wrong neighbourhoods.

The article continues:

There is no national political power for blacks. The Government takes visitors—from Canada, among other places—to meet members of municipal councils in black townships, introducing them as elected representatives who can speak for black South Africans.

It is seldom, if at all, explained to visitors that only about 5 per cent of the municipal electorate goes to the polls, that the councils have virtually no power, that they are widely believed to be corrupt and collaborators of Pretoria, that forthcoming elections to racially mixed regional councils have been strongly criticized as sham political vehicles for blacks.

• (1730)

Mr. Speaker, the situation in South Africa has not improved; it has deteriorated. There have been a few "sham" changes made on the facade of apartheid, but the structure of apartheid remains intact. Canada should be taking a stronger position against it, not a weaker one, and I know that all Members, once they have had a chance to think about this, will want to vote against that vicious system.

[Translation]

**Mr. Jean-Guy Hudon (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, apartheid is an odious system of racial discrimination that is an integral part of the very constitution of South Africa. Apartheid not only determines where people may sit in the bus, which bench