

Restorative Economic Justice for South Africa (Concept)

What Was Stolen Must Be Restored!

“The Harmer and The Harmed both need a healing.”

Joseph Edozien
5 August 2009

Restorative Justice means that what was stolen must in some way be restored to the victim.

Restorative Justice recognizes that The Harmer and The Harmed both need a Healing for The Harmer is a victim of The Harm as much as is The Harmed.

Recognition is given to the deep reconciliation needs of both The Harmer and The Harmed with the aim to instill a mutual enhancement of mutual regard stemming from mutual dignity.

Great weight must thus be given to truthfully and truly healing the underlying social pathology in the both the covert and overt aspects of the mutually destructive and mutually deceptive relationship between The Harmer and The Harmed.

Restoration is made to The Harmed and, for the sustainability of the long-term healing, there must be an appropriate and genuinely uplifting humbling of The Harmer.

This is not easy to effectuate because The Harmer justifies the harm with self-deception, while hiding behind a false façade of intrinsic socio-cultural and moral superiority. But behind that mask lies the deep suppression of guilt and self-shame which manifests in a neurotic stubbornness in upholding the increasingly complicated towers of delusion and justification of what is in fact a depraved economic cruelty of dispossession and unjust appropriation.

We must remove that mask to enable the healing to move forward.

But The Harmed too must truthfully and embarrassedly acknowledge their self-abnegating complicity in the perpetuation of The Harm.

In a strange, socially unhealthy, and quite unnatural way, both The Harmer and The Harmed enable the dysfunction in each other and find in each other excuses and false solace for their moral and cultural failures. This is a piece of what allows the jointly intertwined madness a too long life.

But there must come a time when we must bravely face honestly the ugly truth about each other so we don't leave a crazed bequeathment to our progeny, thus damning them before they even find life.

If we don't do it for ourselves because we find odd comfort in the social psychosis, then let us at least do it for our children and their children.

What was The Harm to The Harmed in South Africa?

People who were historically independent were forced dependent.

People who were historically self-supporting and self-providing were forced unable to support themselves and left with self-destructive social insufficiencies.

People who were living their own way of life on their own cultural principles were deprived of their land and their self-sustainable livelihoods to become economic slaves in a colonial extraction process for export to the imperial motherlands.

The fundamental historical economic crime in this is DISPOSSESSION: by criminal, cruel, and utterly dishonest means.

It was a crime of pure thievery on an unimaginably massive scale. Worse: it stole the lives, the dignity, and the self-sustainability of whole peoples and whole cultures.

Therefore, the Harmed are ENTITLED to REPOSSESSION!

. . . of themselves!

The Harmed are ENTITLED to SELF-SUSTAINABILITY via SELF-PROVIDENCE!

. . . for Self-Sustainability is ultimately what was stolen from The Harmed.

How can we together Restore Self-Sustainability to The Harmed in South Africa?

That is the truly big question at the heart of this matter.

That is the ultimate question of Restorative Economic Justice for South Africa.

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