

Essay Writing: The Influence of Apartheid on a Born-Free Generation

Wounds heal but scars remain, and the greatest prison is the one in our mind. It is said that the best way to keep a prisoner is to never let him know he's in prison. Without it being said, he won't find a need to escape.

I strongly believe that apartheid has a strong influence on a born-free generation. The influence of apartheid is still felt to this day, because apartheid affected the black South Africans' mentality. I can say apartheid was successful in instilling their ideology and beliefs to the extent that even a born-free generation is still under their influence today.

There are many black South Africans that are separated, located in townships, and white people are mostly located in suburbs far from the black communities, indicating segregation between the two races. When we look at the living conditions of these areas, we are able to see that apartheid is still alive in South Africa.

The influence of apartheid on a born-free generation can be seen in many sectors in South Africa. For example, in workplaces, it has been reported that a white person is more likely to get the job than a black person, no matter who qualifies first for the job. Additionally, a white person is paid more than a black person, even when operating in the same position. Apartheid created a system that permanently resides in the minds of black people in South Africa and is also passed down to a born-free generation.

What we refer to as "The born-free generation," I would not consider them as "free" simply because apartheid has not truly ended; it is only undercover. For example, how can we claim we own the land and country when we live in houses like squatter camps? How can we truly claim that this generation is free when the education system is controlled by individuals who are still affected or under the

influence of apartheid? The whole country is under the control of those who were previously affected and oppressed by the apartheid regime. As long as our leaders are still those who were previously affected by apartheid, there can never be a true born-free generation in South Africa.

It is only until there is a change in our minds and leadership that true change can begin to manifest itself into reality in this country.

The born free generation still has its mind set on the past, making it unable to think of a way to move forward, which was the chief goal of apartheid. It aimed to separate and divide people, using a divide, conquer, and rule strategy. Today, there is conflict among black South Africans themselves and other African countries, resulting in Xenophobia. This is a result of the apartheid influence on the born free generation, leading to no unity, peace, and many people feeling hopeless.

To a greater extent, I agree that apartheid has an influence on the born free generation. They were sold words like democracy and freedom, but many South Africans still live in informal settlements, facing poverty and social-economic challenges. Apartheid is still happening in front of us, but not everyone will be able to see or notice it. Schools hinder kids' dreams, with limited and controlled education. The future of black South Africans is predetermined by a government no longer "in charge." Only a few will wake up and realize this reality. Apartheid still lives today, masked by words like freedom and democracy.

Despite the official end of segregation in 1994, the legacy of apartheid continues to impact the born free generation. Racism and ongoing economic, educational, and social disparities still exist. The apartheid ideology hinders future development and growth for South Africa, with no true reconciliation and equality to be found.

The born free generation is working towards a more inclusive and progressive future, but many struggle to reconcile and forgive the hurt from the past. This is evidence that apartheid has a greater influence on the born free generation, making this statement true to a greater extent.

Apartheid still has a grip over South Africans. For example, in South Africa, there is a whites-only town located in the Northern Cape called Orania. They have their own currency, flag, and it's a town with

only white residents. Therefore, in this case, this dictates that apartheid is truly far from over in South Africa. The very existence of this town tells us all we need to know about apartheid, and the fact that the government of South Africa has accepted this makes us question: are we really a born free generation from apartheid?

Schools and townships still seem to be segregated, with white people still appearing to be in power and controlling the country, while there is just a black face put in front of all that is taking place in the country. There are many factors that affect the born free generation that are influenced by apartheid to this day. The born free generation consistently feel pressured to reconcile and forgive on behalf of their families, even though they did not experience the horrors of apartheid. However, history is a constant reminder of how badly they were mistreated in the past that they find it hard to forgive and accept the present or the future of living with the perpetrators that are responsible for many problems they face today. For example, regarding the issue of land, unemployment, and poor housing.

There are many ongoing debates around the issue of land ownership and redistribution that negatively impact the born free generation's perceptions of justice and equality. The thought of the horrors done by the apartheid some how contributes to anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and depression among the born free generation today.

The Truth Reconciliation committee tried to paved a way for South Africa to move forward but the truth is many people are still holding on to the past and passing on the anger and frustration to the born free generation. The Truth Reconciliation committee under the leadership of Desmond Tutu played a vital role in trying to the create a better future for all South Africans both blacks and whites to forgive each other and live in peace with one another. However the Truth Reconciliation Committee did not cover all the dark past of South Africa and that hurts South Africa today and this can be seen by the influence apartheid has on a born free generation.

Therefore above all to conclude we might have managed to kill the

fire but the smoke of apartheid still remains and affects those who come after.