



Ahmed Kathrada Art Competition.

Passing down Prejudice.

Racism must end. Apartheid should have nothing to do with our born-free generations. We should fight together, not against each other. My racism artwork is based on the idea that Apartheid still affects our born-free generations due to older people still believing that we are in a racist-era.

In my artwork, I have placed two men on either side of a child. The man on the left of my artwork is white, the man on the right is black. The child in the middle is torn between different skin tones. This "tear" is shown by a reddish-pink line down the centre of the child's face, symbolising the rip between our races. The two men are shown to be screaming into the child's ears, which results in the child covering them. The child's body language and expression symbolises the suffering that children face from Apartheid. Though we were not there, we still suffer.

The mediums I have incorporated into my artwork are charcoal pencils, watercolour pencils, watercolour paints and graphite pencils. I have also used printed-out pictures of articles, newspapers and photos from the time of Apartheid.

When creating my artwork, I first sketched out the 3 people using my graphite pencils. I then used my watercolour pencils to create the first layer of colour. I divided the boy into shades of pale and dark brown, pink, red, black and white. The reddish-pink rip in the centre of the boy creates the division between the colours. The two men on either side of the boy are simply made of shades of white, brown, pink and black. The background of the image is created by articles, newspapers and photos of many incidents during Apartheid. I have also used charcoal pencils to create an almost dirty, dark effect around the paper. This background is used to represent the child's distorted views on apartheid. Confused and scared. The back of the artwork is also covered with pictures and articles from apartheid, scratched over with some charcoal.

The message I have tried to relay does not only focus on the impact of Apartheid on our youth, but also identity issues. I can only imagine how confused a child of mixed colour must have felt during Apartheid. What makes it worse is that children feel as if they are not allowed to talk about Apartheid, because they believe they have "no right." This should not be the case. We as a society need to allow our youth to speak up about these issues. Children should be able to stand up and tell the older generations — those who were around during Apartheid — that they do not want to be apart of a racially-motivated bias conversation. If we as a generation are called "born-free", then we should be able to speak-free.

My artwork relays the hurt that we as children, as a born-free generation, feel. We suffer from the actions that we did not do. That must end. Racism must end.