

WHAT IS EQUAL EDUCATION

Equal Education (EE) is a movement of learners, teachers, parents and community members working for quality and equality in South African education, through analysis and activism. We believe that education develops people so that they can change society for the better, to end poverty, prevent disease and build opportunity and equality. EE stands for human rights, freedom, equality and human dignity. The aim of EE is to ensure that government and society provide equal and quality education for every person in South Africa.

EE ACTIVITIES

- Youth group meetings and camps to train young people in leadership and non-violent activism.
- Mass meetings to involve the youth and community in campaigns.
- Parents and community workshops on education policy and schools.
- Provide support for reading and learning in schools and communities.
- Research, policy analysis, submissions to Parliament & pressure on government and service providers to deliver.
- Publish pamphlets and the Equalizer magazine, and produce video and website material to educate members about education and human rights.
- Build strong relationships with teachers, principals and schools, and assist wherever we can.
- Work with government to improve governance and service and to hold the private sector accountable.
- Build partnerships with community structures, trade unions and civil society.

EE is dedicated to fighting for quality and equal education in South Africa. The organisation is dedicated to make everyone's right to education a reality.

EE CAMPAIGNS

EE members have chosen specific campaigns, supported by research and analysis.

FIX OUR SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN!

EE campaigned and got government to fix 500 broken windows at a high school in Khayelitsha. Fencing and doors were also fixed. The learning environment of pupils at school is important and facilitates good learning. EE is now supporting the struggle to replace all the "mud schools" in the Eastern Cape and elsewhere.

NO TO LATE-COMING CAMPAIGN!

EE members (Equalisers) campaigned to get their friends to school on time. Late-coming dropped to zero in some schools. In South Africa 20% of teaching time is wasted due to people arriving late at school.

TEXTBOOK CAMPAIGN!

EE members in matric at some high schools did not have textbooks in July 2010. EE pressured the department of education to provide books, and most of the books were then delivered. In South Africa, about half of all learners between the ages of 16 and 18 have to share textbooks. EE plans to change this.

CAMPAIGN FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES!

EE has been fighting for a library in every school. 10,000 marched to Parliament with EE on Human Rights Day in 21 March 2010. Our slogan is 1 School 1 Library 1 Librarian! Government has now committed to this, but only by the year 2030. Today only 8% of schools have libraries. Through the EE Bookery we are already stocking libraries. The campaign continues.

2010 MARCH FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES



CONTACT DETAILS:

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EVERY GENERATION HAS ITS STRUGGLE.

JOIN EQUAL EDUCATION

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HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

BANTU EDUCATION ACT

In 1953 the Apartheid Government introduced Bantu Education. The aim was to keep black education inferior in order to produce miners, farm workers and factory workers. At the same time whites educated themselves to be the owners, managers and professionals. The Apartheid Government did not want people to realise that quality education for all was key to creating an equal country.



QUALITY OF SCHOOLS

The state of the Black, Coloured and Indian schools was shocking. They were overcrowded. There was a shortage of teachers, and many teachers were under-qualified. In 1975 South Africa spent R644 million on white schools, but only R42 million on black schools.

LANGUAGE CONTROVERSY AND THE SOWETO UPRISING

In 1974 the Prime Minister, Hendrik Verwoerd, enforced the Afrikaans medium order that all black schools were to use both Afrikaans and English (50-50) as the languages of instruction. Many teachers could not even speak Afrikaans, and students refused to be taught in a language they could not understand. This led to the Soweto Uprising on June 16, 1976. During this time many young people lost their lives in the struggle against Apartheid and Bantu Education.

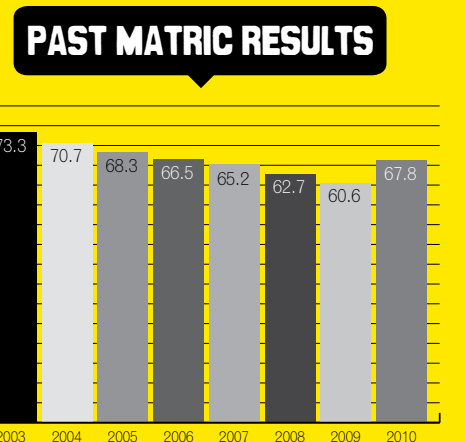
EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA TODAY

THE CONSTITUTION

As a result of the struggle against Apartheid, today we have the Constitution. It says everyone has the right to a basic education, to equality and to human dignity. We also have a right to organise and to speak our minds. Together with our knowledge and activism, these rights are powerful weapons.

ONLY 1 IN 4 CHILDREN FINISH SCHOOL

Of the 1,318,932 children who started school in South Africa in 1999, only 537,543 students wrote matric in 2010. The official pass-rate was 67.8%. But of those who began grade 1 in 1999, only 28% passed matric. This means that only 1 out of every 4 children in grade 1 is likely to pass matric. In a study of 14 sub-Saharan African countries South Africa ranked 9th in literacy behind countries like Mozambique, Tanzania and Swaziland.



INEQUALITY

Young people are set up to fail in primary school. In 2009 all grade 6 learners in the Western Cape took standard numeracy tests. The pass-rate in the integrated former Model-C schools was 60.2%. In the African township schools it was 2.1%. EE is campaigning so that everyone can achieve highly.

WE STILL HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS IN OUR SCHOOLS

There are many reasons for these terrible statistics. These include a lack of library books in schools and homes, learners being forced to share textbooks, late-coming by learners and teachers, bad school infrastructure, lack of management of schools by parents and principals, and too little training, support, and pay for teachers. We all need to stand together and be more accountable for education.

BECOME AN EQUAL EDUCATION MEMBER

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN EE MEMBER?

- It means that you support equal and quality education for all, that you are part of a growing movement for change in South Africa, and that you are able to be able to participate in the movement and help to set its direction.
- Your details will be stored confidentially on our database to ensure that EE can update you with important information about the movement via email, SMS, phone or the post.
- It means you can play an active role in campaigns.

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU JOIN?

- You get an EE membership booklet.
- You get an EE membership badge to wear on your school uniform or clothes.
- You can purchase a t-shirt for an additional R20.

HOW TO BECOME AN EE MEMBER

- Fill in all your details on the membership form attached, or go to www.equaleducation.org.za/register_membership
- Pay R20 for membership. Your membership cannot be processed without payment.



E-MAIL lumkile@equaleducation.org.za
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POST PO Box 40114, Elonwabeni, 7791

DROP OFF EE Office, Washington Square, Capital Drive, Thembokwezi, Khayelitsha

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
 EE Office: 021 387 0022/3
 Lumkile: 071 903 4497

HELP FUND MY EE MEMBERSHIP

Each new member is asked to raise R20 to assist the organisation. If you would like to contribute, please sign one of the blocks below indicating the amount you would like to donate.

R 1	R 1	R 1	R 1	R 1
R 1	R 1	R 1	R 1	R 1
R 1	R 1	R 1	R 1	R 1
50c	50c	50c	50c	50c
50c	50c	50c	50c	50c

EQUAL EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Surname			
First Name		Title	
Date of Birth		Sex	M / F
Cell Number			
Home Number			
Email Address			
Area/suburb in which you stay			
Street/Physical Address			
Province			
Town			
Country		Code	
Postal Address (P.O. BOX)			
		Code	
Name of Organisation (if you are from another organisation)			

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:
 PLEASE TICK A MAXIMUM OF TWO

Youth (still in school)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Activist (willing to help)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friend of EE in S. Africa	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher or Principal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government Official	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Civil Society/Partner	<input type="checkbox"/>
Media/Journalist	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

HOW DO I PAY

- Pay by post or by delivery to the addresses above.
- Attach credit card details to your application.
- Pay by direct deposit

EXTRA INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM YOUTH

School/college/university			
Grade/year		When did you join EE?	
Do you attend weekly EE youth group meetings?	Y / N	If yes, what area?	
Name of Parent/Guardian			
Contact number of Parent			

EE ACCOUNT DETAILS

BANK: Standard Bank
ACC NAME: Equal Education
ACCTYPE: Current Account
ACC NUMBER: 270027882
BRANCH: Khayelitsha
BRANCH CODE: 5091100
SWIFT CODE: SBZA ZA JJ
 E-mail confirmation to lumkile@equaleducation.org.za

I, solemnly declare that: I will abide by the aims and objectives of Equal Education as set out in its Constitution; that I will actively work as a dedicated member; that I will place my energies and skills at the disposal of the organisation and carry out all tasks given to me; and that I will promote the integrity and principles of the organization with excellence.

Signature: Date:

FOR OFFICE USE:
 Tick if R20 paid

