United Democratic Front Press Release 22 August 1984

# COLOURED ELECTIONS

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People who registered as boters are not representatives of people of the general coloured population of voting age: this is the single most important factor to consider when analysing the election results.

This is demonstrated by the fact that there are almost as many people of voting age who are not registered voters, as there are registered voters.

Therefore, for there to be even a semblance of representivity, close on a hundred percent of the registered voters would have to vote. IN fact only (30 y%) of registered voters voted. This means that the whole electoral process taking into account the to tal adult population only represents the will of ( $17 \frac{1}{10} = \frac{1}{10} \times 0.585$ ) of that population, at best.

We say at best because the events of today and the past week throws doubt as to whether even this (later) percent are truely representative:

\* Pensioners and those dependent on the state have been coerced into voting by threats of loss of pensions , houses etc

\* The extent of illigitimate voting was seen in the debacle preceeding the elections when thousands of special votes were caste by people apparently not q ualifying to caste such votes this is not to other dubious practices associated with the voters role

\*Finally the general atmosphere of state intimidation on polling day and the days preceeding it were calculated to make fe people fear the consequences of not voting.

It is universally accepted that no free and fair election can take place in a climate of haressment and fear. As the UDF has pointed out these elections were in fact conducted in the context of an undeclared State of Emergency

The UDF considers the results a massive victory. Bespite the extent of intimidation our people have resused to be divided or to be hoodwinked. The rejection of the tri-cameral parliament by the coloured people can only be described as overwhelming.

S.D.M - Joshua Raboroto.

## UDF analysis of election patterns

The UDF's research reveals the following dramatic patterns in the elections:

- 650 636 coloured adults did not even bother to register for the elections
- 2. ONly ( '7 ) % of the adult coloured population participated in the election
- 3. ( 63 )% of the coloured people could see not advantage in participting in the elections
- 4. The apparently high percentage polls for certain areas is utterly misleading . This is for two reasons
  - a. Firstly, because of the massive descrepency between the adult population and registered voters. this can be clearly seen in the following Transvaal constituencies
    - ( ) Bosmont :

official percentage poll was 32 % yet only 1668 people voted out an adult population of 10671 one can therefore see that only 15,62% of the adult Bosmont populaiton participated in the election 84,38% saw no point in participating.

(ii) Eldorado Park

official percentage poll 36,3% numbers voting 3947 adult population 40905

(ill) N. TIL votes caste as percentage of adult population 11,25

b. Secondly, because of the relatively small size of certain constituencies, together with the fact that these are often conservative rural constituencies, pushes up the percentage poll in their people we to folly at the many of the people we formers, further the 20 poll up

See attached comparisons of registered voters / adult population

Provincial Perentages:

Official UDF (eligible votes)

TVL = almost 39 19,9%.

DIES 53,48 32,46

CP 26,29 15,32

Natal almost 23 13,2%.

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