

**Mr Mathew Sunnyboy Cabadiya**      **LRC Oral History Project**    **8<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

Client

Accompanied by Steve Kahanovitz (attorney)

Int      This is an interview with Mr Mathew Sunnyboy Cabadiya, you can correct me.

MC      Very good.

Int      (*Laughs*). And it's Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2008. Mr. Cabadiya, thank you very much for agreeing to participate in the LRC Oral History Project. I wondered if we could start the interview if you could talk about...a bit about yourself in terms of your background and growing up in South Africa under apartheid?

MC      Ja, it's a pleasure, you're welcome, Roxsana. My background starts as far back as my scholastic programme in the institution called Moroka Missionary Institution where I matriculated, and also...and also obtained a teacher...a higher education teacher's diploma.

Int      Right.

MC      Those days they were calling it PH2, there's PH1 and PH2 after you've made your...either your JC or your Matric. Now then, I came down to the Cape, actually running away this time from a problem we had created in the Orange Free State. The problem we had created in the Orange Free State is that we opted to go against Bantu education. The leader then of that Orange Free State Students' Association, that association was also then linked up with the teachers. Ja, that association then opted that no teachers for Bantu education, the leader of that movement was Zephaniah Mothopeng, a PAC man. Ja. I was, so to say, the most successful one that was propelling that...that canvassing we were doing and I heard that they the police were behind me. So I resigned from a post I had in Ladybrand, and ran down to the Western Cape, because my mother was here and she was staying up in Devil's...Devil's Peak in Mill Street. I came then down to a job with the municipality, the Cape Divisional Council, that had their offices in Nyanga, there is that old Dutch house where that office is. I worked there for some time. This is the place I became acquainted of the brutality of the Pass Laws, particularly against the women. Ja, I worked in the Council and...in the housing section, and in that housing section, that's where the Phuma Phele endorsement was frequented. Ja, instead, I used to...I used to tip the person who gets a Phuma Phele: no, wait for me somewhere outside, I will try and reverse this whole thing. The reversing way of doing it, as we are registering people into a housing scheme, there are two cards, the history...the history card that has all the reports that come in, your arrears in Rand, your fight with your husband, etc, etc, that goes onto that card. Then a smaller one was a family card, and out of that family card I could take a new card, write out the family names, include this person that's given a Phuma Phele, and send that person to the Passes Office which was only at Langa at that time, because the Divisional Council was accommodating housing. I was quite successful in that scheme because what happens really, the person would go

with a family list to Langa, and the...a colleague of mine at Langa crossed this...he used to do the DOR. They called it the DOR, was the pink paper for the women and a white paper for men. But this Pass Law was not frequently men as much as all that, because many of the men were employed, ja. It was only done in unemployed men because raids used to go on and on in the township, where they used to arrest people at all time, but the women suffered mostly. Ja. As a result of that campaign, I was having problems, he told me that if there are complications you could go to the Athlone Advice Office, and at that time the advice office was situated somewhere in Athlone, I've never been there. But I believe later on, the present building where E. Moosa & Company is, used to be the advice office. It moved over to Mowbray, that is at that stage where I encountered Mr Komani and Mr Mthiya. Because Crosby had the link with me, he could tip me off that, I'll be sending people down to you who've got endorsements. Ja. Endorsements used to be endorsed out of the area in terms of Act 25 of 1945, that was a vicious Pass Law, that one. Now, in terms of that Act, you could alienate the wife and the children, so that you as husband remains alone, that right of being in the area would persist with you, as the husband, but alienated the wife and the children. In the Act itself, if I should...if you want me to come a little bit into it, in this Act 1945, Act 25 of 1945, it had...it had four sections, section 10(1)(a), 10(1)(b), 10(1)(c) and 10(1)(d), 'd' was dealing with children, 'c' was dealing with wives, I mean, with women, 'b' was actually a qualified woman and child, qualified in terms of 'a' who is a husband who has served ten years in the area under one employer, or 15 years resident in the prescribed area of the Western Cape. That's how that Act was working, ja. Er, the...the 'whatsaname'...the clerks then, at the housing sections, they used to come in contact with the families, in terms of that Act. Because you had to register your visitor, you had to get a permit for your visitor to come into the prescribed area of the township, or even the prescribed area of the Cape Peninsula, there has to be a document that you come in with. And in the case of Mr Komani, Mr Komani's wife came to the Western Cape, first of all, the husband was already serving a qualified...a qualifying factor, the term of years of his employment was already...was already allowing him to introduce his wife to come and see him plus minus for three months. And this process was also the process that made the husband and wife to be able to communicate...you know, the communication would go even as far as the mutual meeting, ja, providing a product. Now they could get a permit from us housing section to stay as a lodger perhaps, for example, like in my place, I can accommodate them in my room, only for that three months was the maximum period. Mr Komani then introduced a wife who stayed at the Nyanga Hostels. The Nyanga Hostels is buildings that are near the existing taxi terminus in Nyanga. Ja, now those hostels were for male, single, but there was an area that we'd allocated, when I say we had allocated, the Divisional Council Housing Sector had allocated that area, those hostels, to be available for men that would introduce their wife, men that qualified under the 10(a)(1). Now, I provided accommodation for Mr Komani first. The end of the three months, it didn't even end there, you know, I think it was two, two and a half, and so on, the...the wife went back to the territory, ja, only to come back...only to come back later on, now pregnant. And in the territory, I think the Eastern Cape, the doctor sighted a complication, and they wrote a letter and asked there if she could come back and see the husband, also in terms of a visiting permit. Now, the terms of a visiting permit could not be necessary for Komani, because Komani was a qualificant, he was qualifying to be in the area because he had served already for fifteen...for ten years under one employer, and for fifteen years in the jurisdiction of the Western Cape. So he was qualifying, so he could introduce his wife...the wife to stay

permanently with him, we had accommodation for that. The accommodation for that would be the normal housing schemes allowed for...for married couples, which was the Mau Mau area, the Zwelitsha area, or the old location area, or even the Nyanga West area, that is where we are now, was called Nyanga West. The wife came in with the doctor's letter, the doctor citing a complication with her, and they came to me and I said, with this doctor please first go and book...first go and book a space, a nursing home for the wife, and the nursing home I knew was at Somerset Hospital called the Shipley Ward. Ja, that's where many of the wives used to go and bury their...at least go and fetch their children from. Ja, and at the Shipley Ward she saw the doctors, they allowed her into the area and they wrote a letter, and the letter then had to come for the housing. And this time the housing...the housing...the housing clerk that was serving together with me was called a Mr Erasmus, here he had all the authority, the endorsing stamps and all that, in his side of the desk, locked up, and he used to carry the key around his neck all the time. He couldn't make a mistake and leaving it open, because I would have access to that. But I really never bothered to get myself entangled that way because I knew I had the trump card over him. Komani's wife came then to be introduced for housing, and when Mr Erasmus saw the name, and when he drew the family card, he said: no, we gave you three months, we gave you three months, we can't give you anything more. And Mr Komani said: no, no, no, she...you gave the three months but she went back to that...to the area, look at the doctor's writing from the area, the area is the Eastern Cape, look at the doctor's writing. Ja, and well, he read the doctor's writing, he said: ai, it doesn't matter, it doesn't matter, she must go. So Mr Komani left for that morning, and later on to come in and see me and I had a blank card, I had a blank card, I wrote her name...I wrote her name on the blank card and asked her to come into the office with somebody else, and this somebody else would only come into the office and say: I'm coming to claim a family card so that I can go to the window and pay my rent. Ja, Mr Erasmus then...I would write out that card, and Mr Erasmus would endorse it with a stamp, both in front and the back. Now once that is done, ja, she takes that card over to Crosby at Langa and Crosby would then give the DOR and that part was settled. There was...there was supposed now to be no trouble. Unfortunately the 'whatsaname', the...the Police Boys in Nyanga East, used to be the Municipal Police, they were called Police Boys, they went raiding one evening, and they happened to find Mr Mthiya lodging with a family that was staying...the wife in that family was staying in the...in the work's background, they had rooms...she had a room in the work's background so the husband used to go to her, and they allowed Mr Komani and the wife to stay. That raid caught up with Mrs Komani, they brought her to...though she was heavy pregnant, they brought her to the office and said that she had a Phuma Phele, she was not supposed to be allowed to be in the area. Ja, unfortunately when they raided they got hold of the book, they got hold of her book, where the Phuma Phele was endorsed, not the yellow, not the pink 'whatsaname', what, DOR paper, and as a result of that endorsement then they arrested her, they charged her. She was already seven months pregnant with a complication, of course. And they charged her, the husband went and bailed her out, and again they arrested her at Langa, ja, that now exacerbated the complications. Ja, I felt at that stage, this case now would need to be carefully safeguarded, because it will expose me because I've made out a family card, and perhaps expose a stranger. So we went to the Advice Office, introduced this matter to Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Robb was also working with a certain Norwegian lady, I can't just remember the name of that lady. They took up the matter, they took up the matter and said: here is a case to be defended. They provided the lawyers and the

prominent lawyers those days, was the very Judge Albie Sachs, Andrew Strauss, not the cricketer, I don't know if he's a relation to the cricketer, the British cricketer...

Int Ok.

MC Ja. Andrew Strauss and Mr Comrie, ja, they were the very prominent lawyers that were defending this minor case, I mean, well, they used...they were not minor cases they were quite prominent cases, ja. They then defended her at the Magistrate's office at Langa. Mrs Komani came out free, but by the time she was released, the police were ready to arrest her again. She was pregnant now, very heavy, she were about eight months now, and anything could happen. She was being treated at Somerset Hospital and the doctors had made a date on the specific date that they arrested her again, the doctors had had a date for her, ja, to be seen by the doctors in terms of the complication, and she was sent up to jail. The husband went and made all the efforts to release her, ja, but by the time he came to release her, she had a miscarriage. The miscarriage then meant she had to go into Somerset Hospital and be reviewed, they had to deal and treat her because the miscarriage now, was part of the aggravation of the arrest and also the part of the...of that complication which was really her own physical, 'whatsaname', complication, she had to be treated for that and also for losing...for a loss of blood. Ja. But then the police followed the case up at the Somerset Hospital, and insisted that she was still under arrest, she was still under arrest. It's then that we felt this matter now would need...would need proper defence lawyers. We handed the matter over to the...to the Advice Office which was...the Advice Office actually was community ladies, and suburban ladies, and members of the Black Sash, and other...and other...and other prominent...prominent bodies. At that time the Democratic Party which is now this Democratic Party, was still in the making. You had...you had Dr Hoffenberg...Dr Hoffenberg, Mr Ken Andrew, Ron Carlisle, er...Sir de Villiers was in, ja, was in, because at that time was member of the opposition, he was in, but he doned (*sic*) money on it, he never used to sit around the table with that committee. Now as a result of the formation...of the formation, we felt that we community organisations had to be part of that contribution, because many of these cases happen in our area, ja. At that time, I had left the Divisional Council, I was already with the Department of Justice interpreting, and interpreting at Wynberg, and I got transferred to the...to the Caledon Square...to the Caledon Square Magistrate Court. There's the Caledon Square Police...Police Station and also a Magistrate Court next to it, I got transferred into it.

Int Right.

MC Ja. I...I'd nearly forgotten about the case, but this case then came up in Supreme Court where my interest now was drawn back again. But I was documenting all that time, I had a Remington typewriter, I used to do all this compilation of the statements, what was it, and all that. And I had...I had that bit of skill to do, and because of the involvement of the communities, we, as communities, were also getting together. The plan then was to struggle against the problems that are being created for us, the pass problems, the employment problems, and other problems that are...that were foreseen. We were dealing with them, ja, in the township. Ja. At that stage, we changed the Nyanga West concept and we called it the existing Gugulethu. I was now member of

the Gugulethu Resident's Association, and in the Resident Association my part was to foresee the Sotho section of the communities. At that stage in 1964, Lesotho got its independence and the government had a vendetta that all Lesotho males must go back to the country, to the territory. And as a result of that, they were leaving their wives here, some of them occupying houses...they're occupying houses, and the result is that when the husband is away, the wife stays with children, she could be evicted out of that house.

Int So this was the 1980's?

Steve Mr Cabadiya can I...I just want to try and get some of the timing worked out because you've spoken about...you were involved with getting the Komanis...

MC Ja.

Steve ...To the Black Sash...

MC Ja.

Steve ...And then you mentioned, in connection with that, them seeing a range of people, you mentioned Albie Sachs...

MC Ja, a very famous lawyer, yes.

Steve You mentioned Raymond Hoffenberg. Now what strikes me about that...and I just think there may be a little bit of confusion, because Albie had left South Africa in the sixties, and Raymond Hoffenberg left, I think, either in the late sixties or the early seventies, also to go into exile.

MC Early seventies.

Steve And to the best of my knowledge the Rikhotos were going to the Black Sash, we were already late seventies or early eighties...

Int ...Early eighties, ja.

Steve ...And I'm just wondering if you're getting two aspects...can you remember which lawyers the Advice Office linked with Rikhoto?

MC No, I don't remember...I don't remember the lawyers that year...

Steve Do you remember the legal...?

MC ...I only remember the case went into court...

Steve Ja.

MC ...And the presiding judge then was Justice Tebbutt.

Steve And that was in the 19...that was...

Int ...Eighties?

Steve ...The early 1980s?

MC That was in the eighties.

Int Okay.

Steve And you can't remember who the lawyers were, involved at that stage?

MC Er, er, Frank, Bernadt and Joffes...

Steve Ja?

MC ...They were doing many of those cases...

Steve They were doing the work with the people on the island, that's correct, ja.

MC Ja, they were doing many of those cases, Frank, Bernadt & Joffe, but other minor legal firms like the E. Moosas, the Ken Druko and Company, the Sonnenberg Hoffman & Galombik, they were also dealing with some of those cases.

Steve Was your involvement at that stage primarily to link between yourself and the Advice Office?

MC Yes.

Steve And that was the link that you were involved with in regard to Rikhoto?

MC That's correct.

Steve Now...

MC Ja, in regards to Komani.

Steve Komani, sorry. Rikhoto was in...was in...

MC Rikhoto...Rikhoto was a Johannesburg one.

Steve Was in Johannesburg.

Int Yes, mm.

Steve And then Mthiya was here as well and was your involvement there also with the Advice Office or did you have any...?

MC Ja, that Mthiya case was also in the Advice Office. Ja, the Mthiya's case was a bit different from the Komani's case. The Mthiya's case...if you want me to get on with it.

Int Sure, sure.

MC Ja, the Mthiya case is that he was taking six months leave whilst working for a scrap metal work at Lansdowne. Now the scrap metal...the scrap metal, they would...they would grant him the six-months leave so that he can go and plough and prepare his ground, and so on, and then after the six months he comes in. But what the scrap metal work was doing as a cover-up, they were paying out the employment leave into Langa, to keep it current, so that it doesn't show that Mr Mthiya is not at work, he's out on leave. But unfortunately the Langa inspectors was doing a raid from plant to plant, establishment to establishment, and they came across the Mthiya case. The Mthiya case then, they wanted to see all the stuff, probably this was a...this was a...'whatsaname'...this was probably an inside job, I don't know how that happened, but they wanted to see all the stuff, ja, and the cards to be drawn one by one. And when they drew Mthiya's card, the levy was paid and he was like a person that was...that was a regular at employment and yet he was in the territory. When he came back...when he came back they arrested him, and charged him for having stayed more than the necessary time. The time prescribed for a holiday was a month, and not beyond. You stay away out of the area...out of the territory...out of the prescribed area for more than a month, ja, you would now be endorsed Phuma Phele, ja. Mr Mthiya came to me. I took records of the case, ja, and then there's a Mr...a Mr Viti, 'whatsaname', he's on a wheelchair, he was working for the Advice Office, ja, I took the case to him, ja, for the Advice Office. Ja. Now this is in 19...

Int Eighty?

MC '81. The case started '81. Ja, that case went on '82, there was a judgment '82, there was an appeal by the Development Board, there was a judgment of that Appeal, and the case went to the Appellate Division in Bloemfontein. That is '83, '84.

Int Right.

MC This case then met with the Rikhoto case. The Rikhoto case where mine workers that had worked for ten years...

Steve That's right.

MC ...And needed to be given the right to be in a prescribed area...

Int Sure.

MC ...Together with their wives.

Steve Then was your connection with the Mthiya case was at the Advice Office with David Viti?

MC Ja, with Viti...no, no, it came to me first...

Steve Ok.

MC Ja, because they were aware that I was the man that could provide that...the card to remain in the area, the housing card, the housing family card, I could provide that, it came to me. But then I found it was going to be complicated...complicated towards me, because it was already in the...no, no, he was staying at Langa, he was staying at the Langa single barracks, ja, the single but they were just beginning to build the zones, and so on. He was staying in the single barracks, so then it was far from me, because this housing was registered in Langa, not with the Divisional Council. But then I advised him and I said: look, I'll take this matter up with Mr Viti and Mr Viti can go forward and make connections with you with the Black Sash. That's how that matter came out.

Steve And was Mr Viti at that stage working at the Advice Office or was he at the Black Sash?

MC He was working at the Advice Office.

Steve Because he later did work for the Black Sash.



- MC He later on did work for them. In fact, Steve, the Black Sash and the other community bodies were forming...they formed a sort of a committee, ja. This committee was essential to be formed that way, because it drew us in, it drew me in, to be able to give ground evidence, what happened and how did this matter come up, and all that.
- Steve From what I understand, there again you didn't necessarily have contact with the lawyers involved in the case?
- MC No, no, no, I didn't make contacts with the lawyers, but...on the day the case came to the Supreme Court, that's the Komani one first.
- Int Sure.
- MC Ja, I was then aware that this matter was being handled by...by the Legal Aid and the Legal Aid Offices then...
- Int You mean Legal Resources Centre?
- MC Legal Resources, I'm sorry...
- Int Ok, that's fine.
- MC ...Not Legal Aid, Legal Resources. Their offices were in Church Street. That Church Street office was being first serviced by Law Clinic students from the UCT, from UCT, ja, I remember in that...among them you had a certain Mr Cabashe. This Mr Cabashe is the same Cabashe that formed a legal company, Mandela...'whatsaname'...the Mandela, Duma Nokwe &...come now...
- Steve Chandler?
- Int Sisulu?
- MC No, no, no, OR Tambo, OR Tambo. They formed...that was the...that guy was doing law at UCT.
- Int Right.
- MC Ja. He served as part of the students that used to come and do clinical work by...under the...they were students...students of Professor Molteno, not Molteno the politician, there was a Professor Molteno who was the Dean of the Faculty of Law at UCT.

Int I'm just wondering, Mr Cabadiya, in terms of the Legal Resources Centre, when was the first time that you heard about the Legal Resources Centre?

MC The Legal Resources where I really became publicly involved with them, is when I was now a trade unionist, I was with Liquor and Company...Liquor...Liq...Liquor and Company, I mean...Liquor and...

Steve Catering.

MC What's it now?

Steve Catering.

Int Catering?

MC Liquor and Catering, ja. I had formed the Union of Liquor and Catering...

Int Right. When was this, when did you form that?

MC 1969. Seventy, seventy-one, I was organising that time.

Int Right.

MC Ja. Liquor and Catering, we came...I came across the members of CAWUSA, ja, and the members of CAWUSA, you see they were going very thin on money, they asked me if they couldn't merge. I had no problem with that. Then we sat down, merged the two...the...the...the two unions into one, which is presently called SACCAWU. Now SACCAWU for all its legal...for all its legal matters, it used to go to Legal Resources now in Queen Victoria Street. I remember we had as SACCAWU members we had the Mahamba Case with the Mount Nelson, ja. The Mount Nelson 'whatsaname'...waiters were...were employed permanent, and they were given a permanent wage, but they had to do the 'whatsaname' the pres...the special buffets, the special buffets that were done by Mount Nelson, buffets sometimes that would go very late into night, they had to serve that, and Mr...oh...Green...Mr Greenwood, was the General Manager, he had arranged a special...a special way of employing them, which he said is a contract. Ya, they had to underdo [*sic*] that contract despite the fact that they were working...working their normal shift, they also, at the end of the day, they had to do those late night buffets, and those late night conferences they had, they were bound to do that and my union felt that it was an unfair labour practice. The case also ended up in the hands of Legal Resources, this case was dealt with by Mr Lee Bozalek. And Wallace Mgoqi...

Int Hmmm...

MC Ja, because it was...it was almost half of the staff of the Mount Nelson that were involved in those contracts.

Int Right.

MC I became aware again of...if you want me to go on with the Legal...my...?

Int Sure, sure.

MC I became aware again of the Legal...the Legal Aid...um...the Legal Resources as case against...for the residents of White City. The residents of White City were allocated the houses by the Divisional Council, but then the Divisional Council demanded them to pay their rents, and the rents that were paid were going...were going according to their employment wages. The higher wage you get, the higher your rent also goes. And those houses of White City, they were already paid up for, it was a...it was a...it was money that were collected from the Nordic countries, and other places, that said: build houses for the people, you moving out of the town areas, the so-called black spot, build houses for them, and here's the money, and it will pay for their rates as well for so many years, put in electricity and all that, and White City had no electricity. But the rents were up there. Ja, that case again, ja, that case again, I became aware but this time...that time I was already working for the...for the central...the central...for the Department of Justice then. But I used to go down always with the residents and advise them how to do, because I was part of them. I was part of them despite the fact that I was working for the Department of Justice, but I used to go down to them and advise them, do this, do this. This case, the White City one, was handled by the ginger-haired man that was working for Ken Druko & Co, lately. Steve do you remember him?

Steve Matthew had...Matthew Walton had slightly ginger hair, was it him?

MC Matthew who?

Steve Walton.

Int Walton.

MC No, no, no, no, no. He had a typical English name, this guy. I think he's still working for Ken Druko & Co.

Steve I don't know.

MC Ja. Can I then leave this one...?

Int Sure.

MC ...at the White City one. I came to know about LR...Legal Resources now again, when the KTC Squatter Camp was burnt down by the police, and there was that long sitting at Supreme Court case. That...that is well now in the...in the eighties to the nineties. Ja, Steve if you remember where residents of Nyanga contributed towards the defence witnesses Mr Ndesi, Mr Jezile, and so on, members of the...of the Nyanga Residents Association, they were contributing...contributing about this case of the KTC.

Int Ok.

MC Ja, this case was also handled by Lee Bozalek and others, ja. I say Wallace Mgoqi and the others were all in there, ja. Mainly then, Legal Resources was then, so to say, for all trade unions, because SATAWU also when they've got problems is to Legal Resources. The Railway and Harbour Unions Workers, ja, all when they've got problems they used to go to Legal Resources, and the very...the very teachers movement...the very teachers movement, at the stage when they were still DETU and Sheperd Mdladlana was their president, they were still DETU before they merged with other unions, Teacher Unions to form the present SAD...the present SADTU, ja. I'm aware of that as well.

Steve Mr Cabadiya maybe we can come back to some of them later?

MC Ja.

Steve There was one I wanted to mention, which I thought I might try and remind you a bit about, were you involved in a matter involving the Thembalethu School?

MC Ja, ja, ja, I was going to come to that.

Int Can you talk about that?

Steve I think we should do that and then maybe wrap up until next time.

Int Sure.

MC Ok, ok, ok.

Int You have a lot to talk about, so...

MC I've got a lot to talk about.

- Int So, let's...let's...we'll definitely have to interview you again.
- MC At Themba lethu we had a sponsoring body that was financing the whole project, but we community people, we had to protect first of all the place, the yard, the area, because the area was just open. It is shortly before...no...no...it is during the time they were building up this Tambo area, this Tambo area that is next to the clinic, you know they've got a housing scheme now on the other side of Duinefontein Road.
- Steve Right.
- MC Ja, the other side of the 'whatsaname'. Now we as resident, had to protect the area because they were invading all the open spaces, at Themba lethu, then build up quickly a wall around and started building the school inside. Ja. My problem with the sponsoring body, they were doing a job for the blacks, and why would their committee not be comprised of blacks as well in that sponsoring...at the level of the sponsoring body. At that stage, I had organised the parents, I had constitutionalised the parents, I'd written out a Constitution, because you had to write out, in those days, Constitution that is now in terms of the PTSA, the Parents Teachers Association matter. Now the Parents Teachers Association is a...is...one of the demands the children had after '76, ja, the demand was that, among others, we want a committee, no more the churches to be involved, we want a committee that involves the parent, the teacher and the learner. That was one of their demand, and that's the time we were actually...we were actually organising those demands. Now Themba lethu is one of the schools I felt should also fall within that, the sponsoring body, as members of the Board of Themba lethu, had to have black...black community dweller or parents of the children also to be part of that. And they were refusing to do that, they were allowing me only to observe. It was not me only, it was me and Mr. Motega, ja, and Sister...Sister...what's this sister's name now...I'll try and remember it.
- Int Ok.
- MC The three of us, they wouldn't...they would say come in only as observers, but you can't participate. And I said: no, the campaign that's going on now is that Parent Teachers Association must be launched in all the schools, Themba lethu is part of it as well, that was our problem. Ja, that problem then I felt it was dealt with unfair. Not only that problem, also the stude...I mean, the teachers there, started...started a movement, they striked, and they said they want better wages, ja. Some of the workers were being paid by the sponsoring body, and they were paying them very little and yet they were qualified in the position, I think that case then Steve knows very well about it, he handled that case, ja. I came in with the case of the Parents Teachers Association that it must also be a format of the sponsoring body must be part of us, in that way, ja. My dissatisfaction I lodged and I felt I should take steps about this case. I approached Steve (Kahanovitz), he had a dossier of the school, a dossier about the workers of the school, I approached him, Legal Resources...Legal Resources for help, ja. Me and Steve drew up a letter, and I must say that letter has been the success of the school at the moment. Because as a result of that letter the...the 'whatsaname', the senior man of 'whatsaname', of special schools...the

senior man of special schools came specially from Pretoria to come and give me a hearing and Sister...here's this name...here's this name...Mr Motega ja, give us a hearing. Ja, it was quite an issue that one, it was quite a big issue, but I must say that Steve, well, I went back to thank you. (*Laughs*). And that matter was handled up so successful that up to today, the sponsoring body and the parents are forming one associ...one board, ja, that would look after the school, the school is quite successful. It was not only that, you know, I have a school right now, that's in problems, that's Lagunya at Langa. Ja, I had a school at Kayelitsha that was also in problems, the school was in a prefab for the last twenty, thirty years.

Int Right.

MC Ja, but of lately we were able to secure a brick building for them.

Int Ok. I'm wondering whether we should stop at this point, because it's clear that you are a font of knowledge and information (*laughs*) so I'd like to come back and interview you certainly...

MC Ok.

Int ...and it was actually a pleasure, and I'm amazed at how you remember all these fascinating details.

MC Yes.

Int Thank you so much Mr Cabadiya, thank you very much.

MC It's a pleasure, it's a pleasure, it's a pleasure.

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Legal Resources Centre Oral History Project

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:*- **Historical Papers, William Cullen Library, University of the Witwatersrand**

*Location:*- **Johannesburg**

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***DOCUMENT DETAILS:***

*Document ID:*- **AG3298-1-018**

*Document Title:*- **Mr. Cabadiya (client) Interview**

*Author:*- **Legal Resources Centre South Africa (LRC)**

*Document Date:*- **2008**