



EFFSC STATEMENT ON YOUTH MONTH AND ITS 5th BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY.

As we enter the month of June, the month which celebrates the contribution of youth led struggles in effecting socio-economic change by recognizing youth led revolution particularly the June 16-1976 Soweto uprising, we equally celebrate the birth month of the Economic Freedom Fighters Students Command, the June 16 movement which was born 5 years ago at the University of Limpopo Turfloop Campus. We enter this month being reminded that this organization was established fundamentally to rally Students behind the struggle of Economic Freedom in Our Lifetime (A generational mission) and to Fight for a Free, quality, decolonized Education.

Youth Month must be embodied by the quest for organized youth led revolution and the thirst to learn as it were in 1976 and 2015 respectively. We are reminded of the advice from our Deputy President Commissar Floyd Shivambu whilst addressing the 1st National Students Assembly when he quoted from Vladimir Lenin in his Speech Delivered at The Third All-Russia Congress of The Russian Young Communist League "I must say that the tasks of the youth in general, and of the Young Communist Leagues and all other organizations in particular, might be summed up in a single word: learn."

The youth are most judged for being plagued by alcoholism and unregulated drug abuse and we note this as a lazy malicious demonization of the youth to lure attention away from the real issues of society affecting the youth. Yes, drugs and alcohol are destroying young lives however these are but symptoms of an economy that is built on the exploitation and marginalization of black parents and that thrives on the exclusion the black child. The problem with the youth is an economy, and an education curriculum and sector, that exists on racism, colonialism, exclusion, and an intentional black erasure. The youth aged 15–24 years, being the most vulnerable in the South African labor market as the unemployment rate among this age group stands at a shocking 53.80%. Amongst graduates in this age group, the unemployment rate stands at 31,0%.

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS STUDENT COMMAND

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Couple this with the high prevalence of rape, gang rape, corrective rape, date rape, gender-based violence and gender discrimination that is unrelenting and unopposed by institutions of the state, these are the real underlying issues that expose the crisis within the youth.

Our communities don't have a problem of a problematic and troublesome youths, we have an ANC problem, which stands between us and its masters, our oppressors, White Monopoly Capital. The ANC is an anti-black entity that survives on liberal and white benefactor policies at the expense of true radical change and the youth.

For as long as young people are staying in apartheid concentration camps, and overarching policy deficiencies ultimately inhibit women from accessing basic socio-economic rights to water and sanitation, education, sexual and reproductive health care, we must learn, organize and fight.

If oppressive conditions, financial exclusion and white benefactor policy exit unchallenged and unchallenged by thee will never be free, for as long as SA is a Neo-colonial capitalist society young people must learn, organize and fight for free education and build intelligentsia for Economic Freedom. We have nothing to lose but our chains.

In commemorating the birth of the June 16 Movement, the EFFSC will be posting a series of videos to reflect on its achievement's memorable moments since it's advent. Thus, we call on all fighters and students who are inspired by the work of the EFFSC to join in celebrating the birth of the only progressive student economic emancipation movement in SA and entire continent of Africa. June is a month of reflection, and constant gravitation towards the lessons of history. A history we must learn from, preserve and draw aspiration.

#EFFSCTurns5
#YouthMustRise

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