

The background of the image is a vibrant, abstract composition of geometric shapes in red, green, yellow, and blue. A large red five-pointed star is positioned on the left side. The letters 'TAU' are rendered in a white, 3D-outlined font, with the 'T' partially overlapping the red star. A thin white vertical line separates the 'TAU' from the university's full name.

TAU

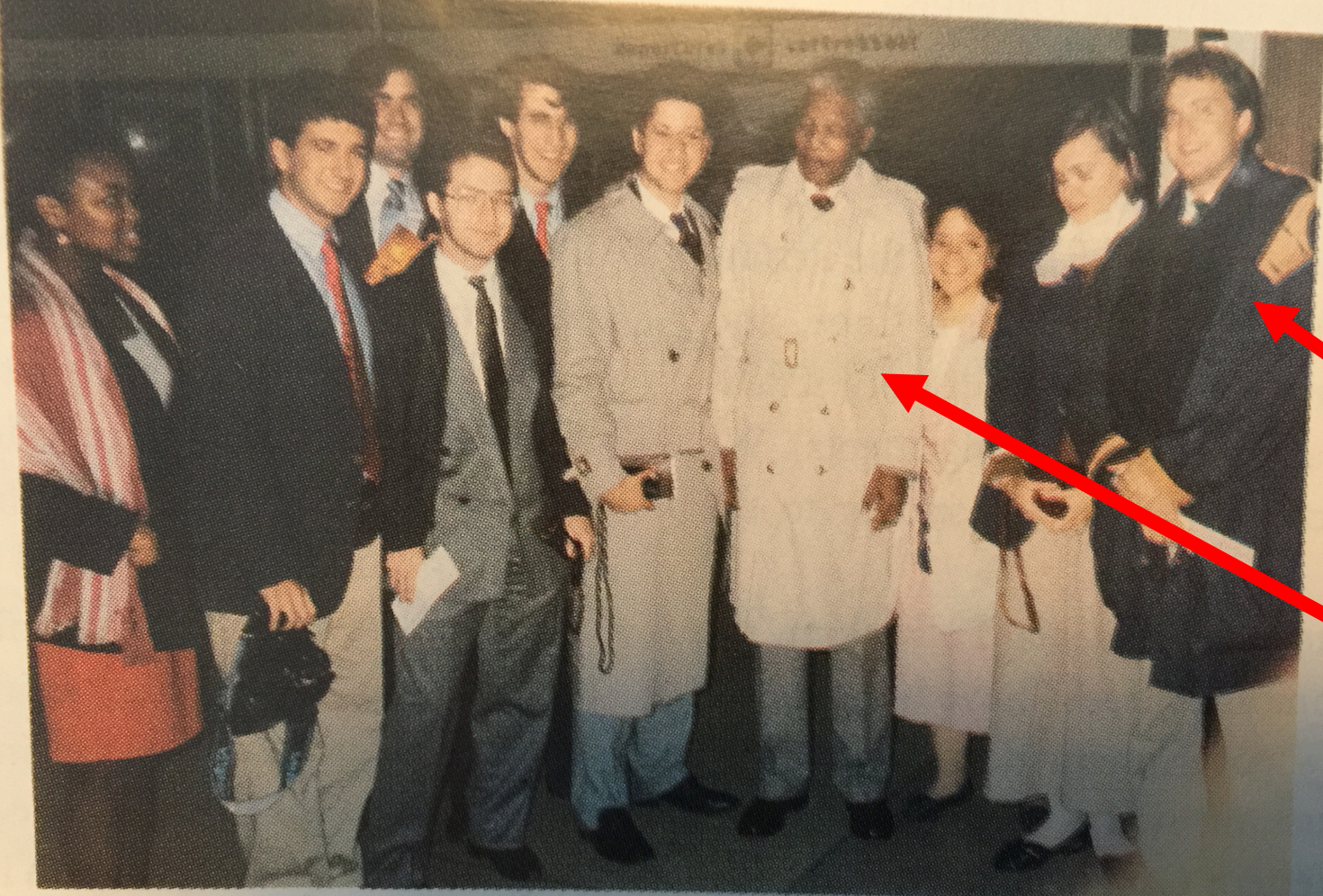
**TRUE AFRICA  
UNIVERSITY**



# How Much Progress Has Africa Made In Its March Towards Democracy?

Evan S. Lieberman

Total Professor of Political Science and Contemporary Africa, MIT  
Director, Global Diversity Lab @ MIT  
Director, MIT-Africa



1991



Me

Mandela

*Mandela with the group in the Johannesburg airport.*



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# Africa's Future Government: Lessons About Democracy from South Africa



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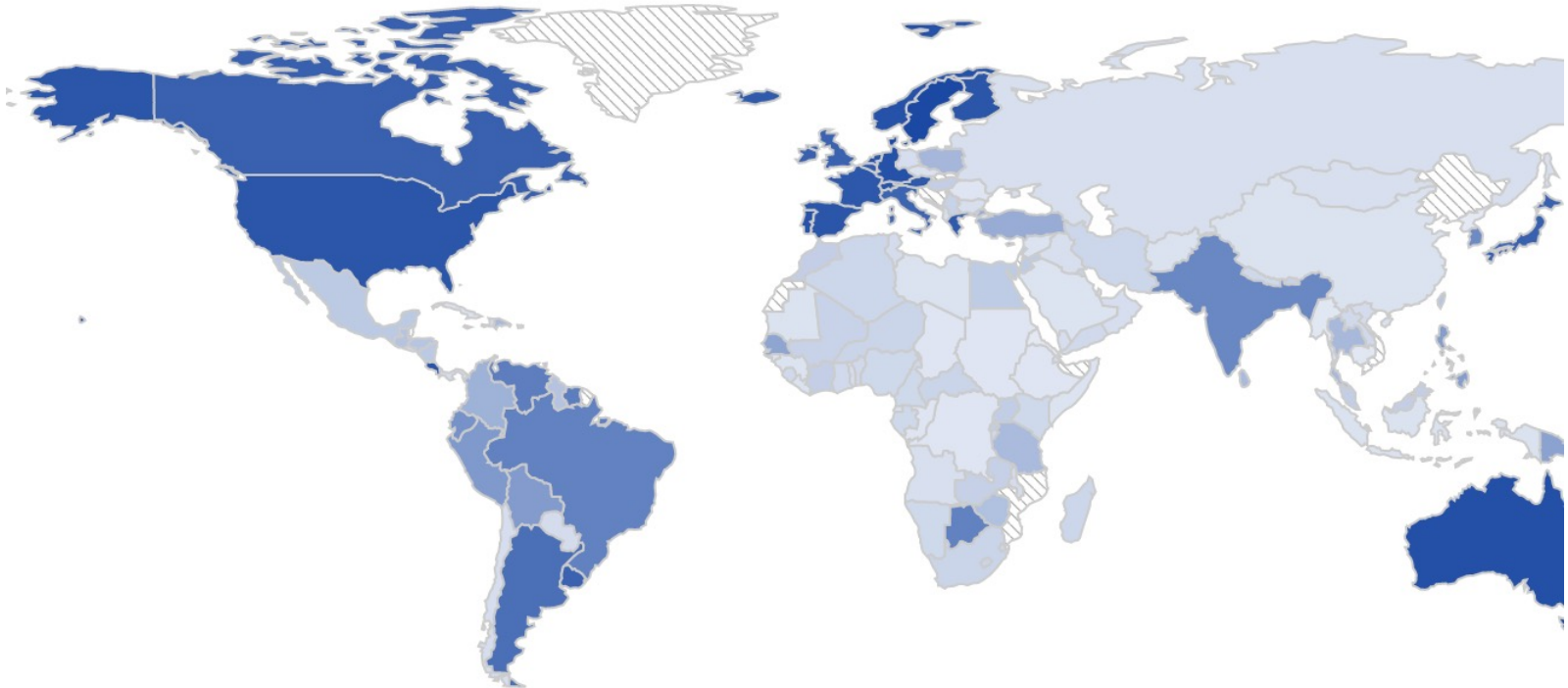


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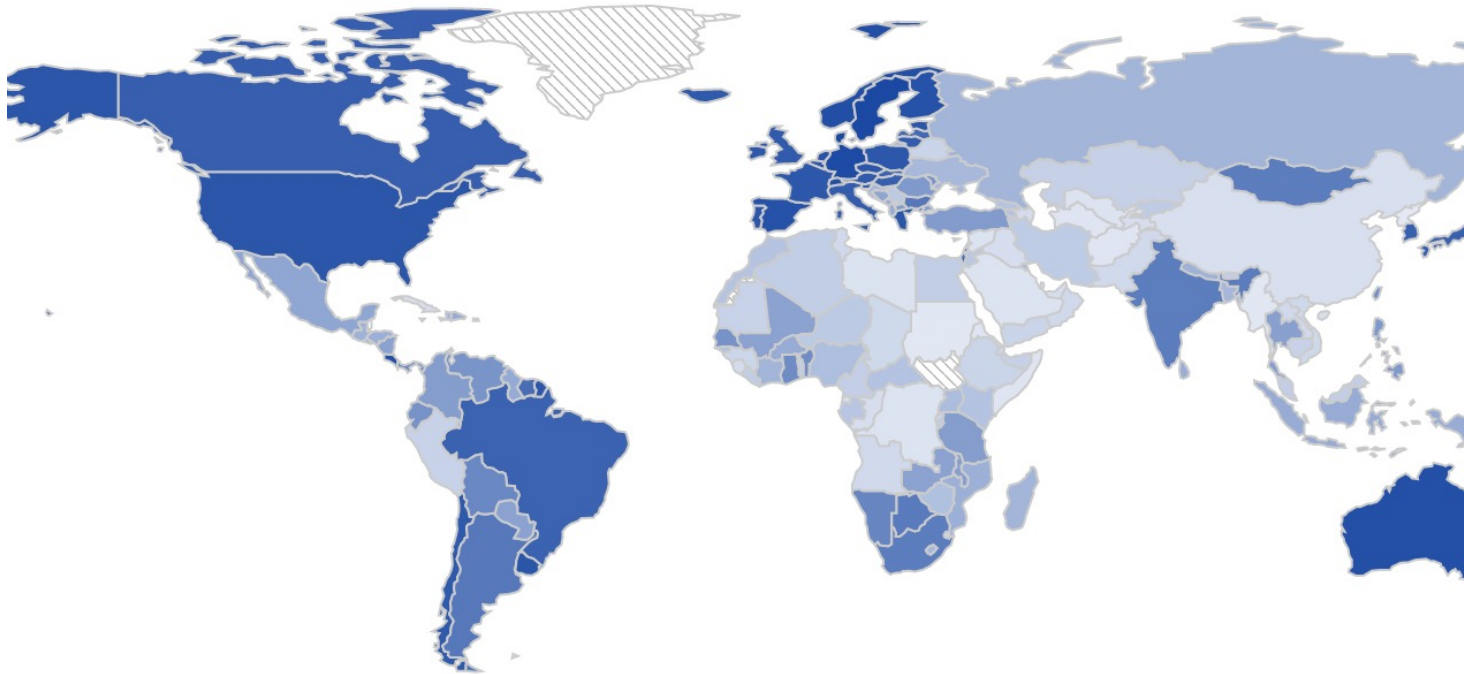




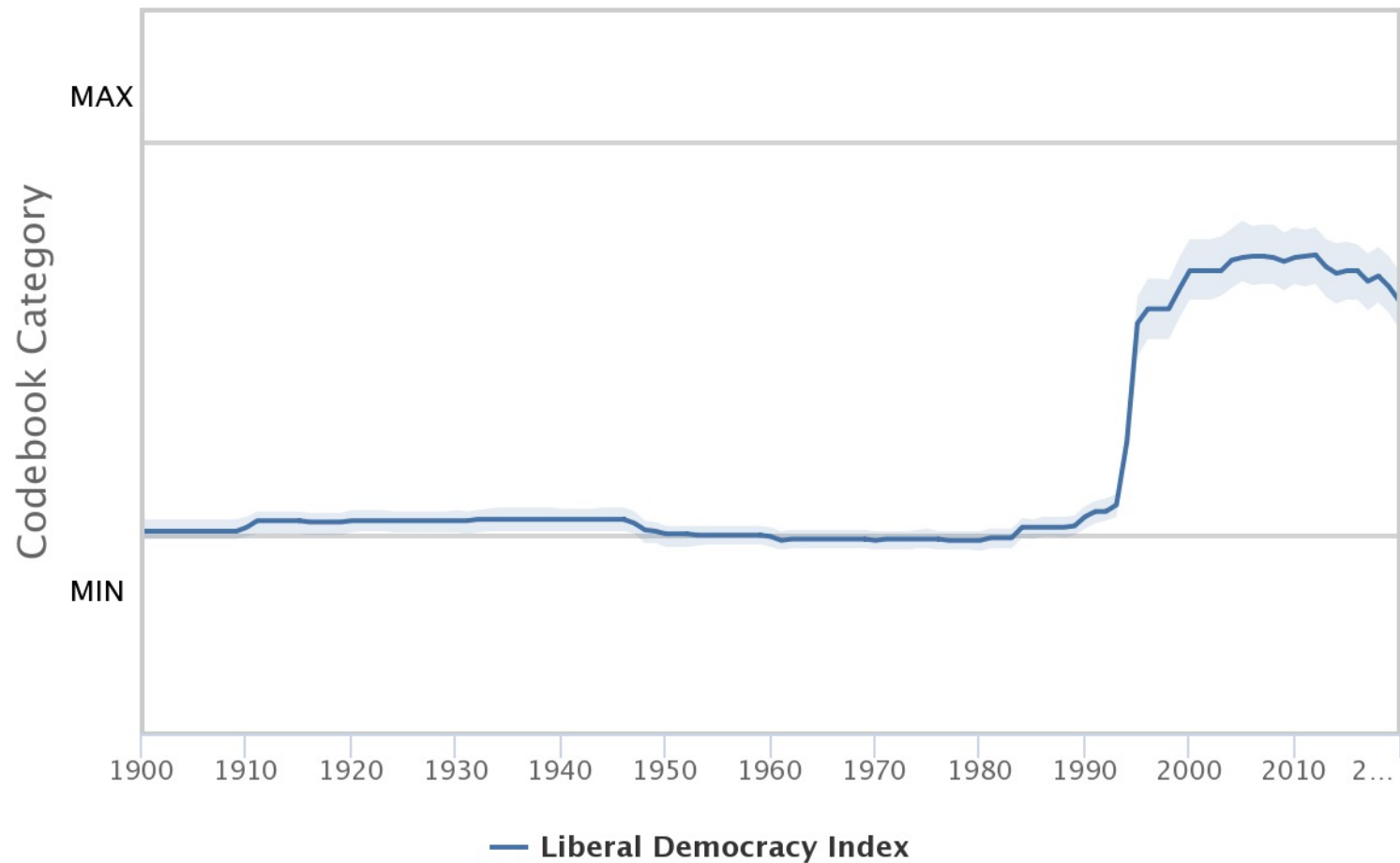
## Liberal Democracy Index (1989)

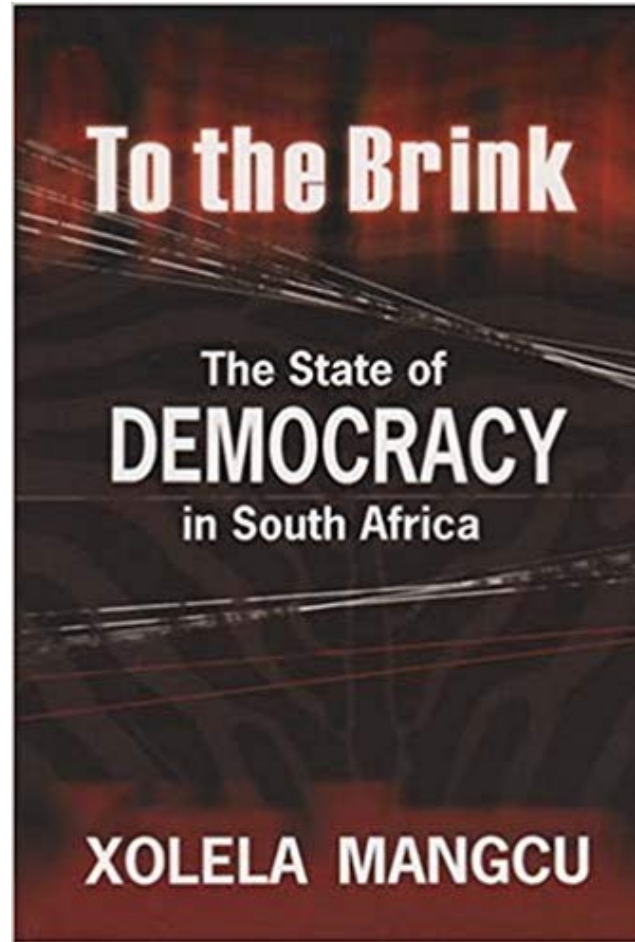


## Liberal Democracy Index (1999)



# South Africa







"This is a book that had to be written and Alex Boraine is the right person to write it." – Desmond M. Tutu

# What's Gone Wrong?

South Africa  
on the Brink  
of Failed Statehood

Alex Boraine

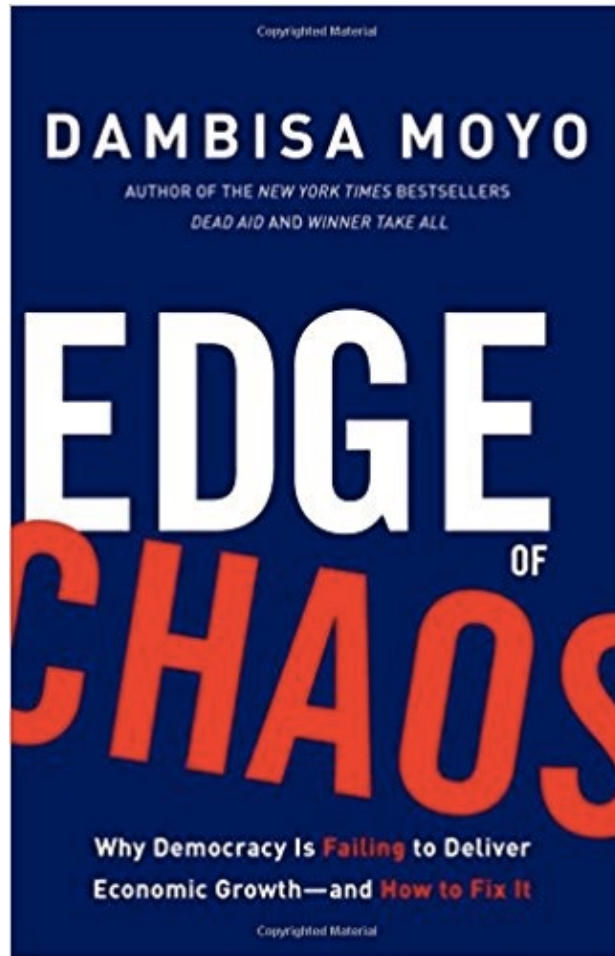


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# Africa's future government: Benevolent dictatorship?



THE PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE  
**Sunday Times**

NEWS **OPINION & ANALYSIS** SPORT BUSINESS BOOKS LIFESTYLE PUZZLES E-ED

**OPINION & ANALYSIS**

**Opinion**

## Why we need a benevolent dictator to make SA a truly great country

26 May 2019 - 00:05  
BY RICH MKHONDO

The time has come for a dictatorship, some form of enlightened despotism in our Rainbow Nation. Before you accuse me of being politically incorrect, I am talking about a benign or benevolent dictatorship. A consensual dictatorship.



**The Citizen**

COVID-19 BUSINESS SPORT PHAKAATHI LIFESTYLE ENTERTAINMENT TRAVEL MOTORING MULTIMEDIA


**Faithful to Nature**

**COLUMNS**

Sydney Majoko 2 Jul 2019 9:35 AM

## Perhaps SA needs a benevolent dictator right now

*Maybe President Cyril Ramaphosa should use the legal system to tie up those frustrating his focus while he gets on with the business of leadership.*



**TAU** **TRUE AFRICA UNIVERSITY** **x** **MIT** **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

NEXT ARTICLE >

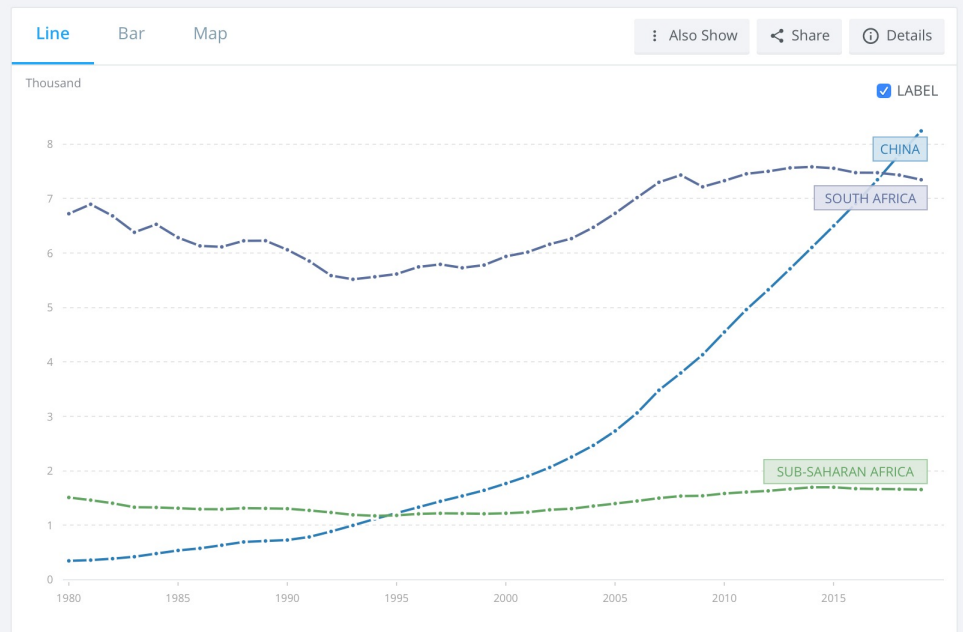
# Economic Growth: China Compared to Africa, South Africa



## GDP per capita (constant 2010 US\$) - China, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Africa

World Bank national accounts data, and OECD National Accounts data files.

License : CC BY-4.0



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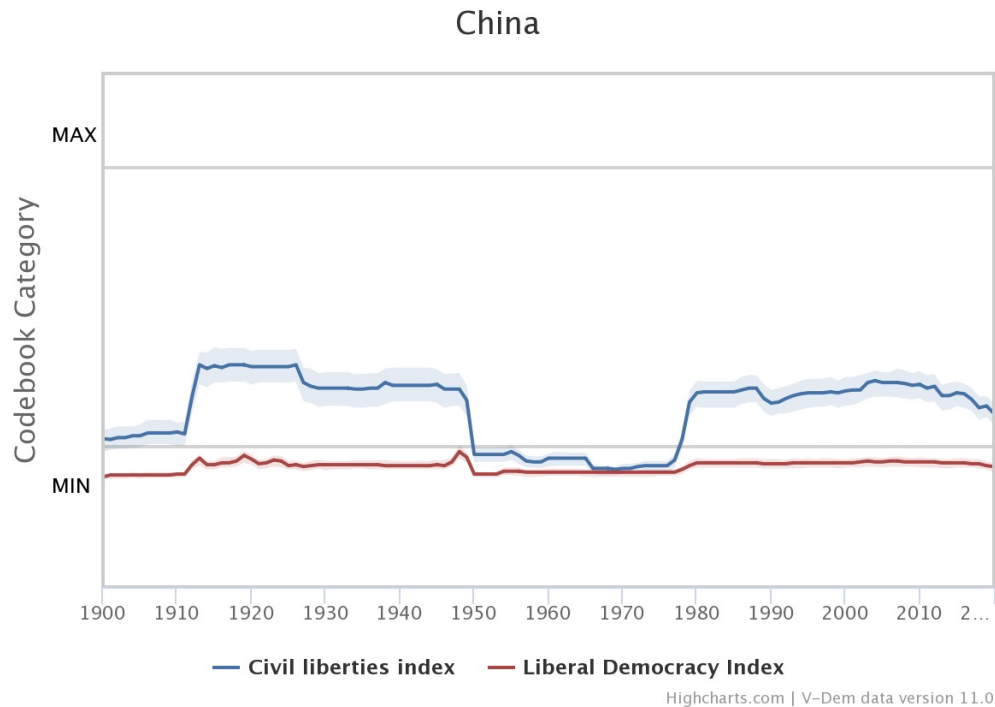
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# Is this the model Africa should follow?









# Trends at the Onset of Post-Apartheid Era (Late 1980s - Early 90s)

- Huge black-white gaps in:
  - Education
  - Income / wealth
  - Basic services
  - Pretty much everything
- Migrant labor system
- Massive HIV / AIDS epidemic
- Period of making country “ungovernable”
- Violence



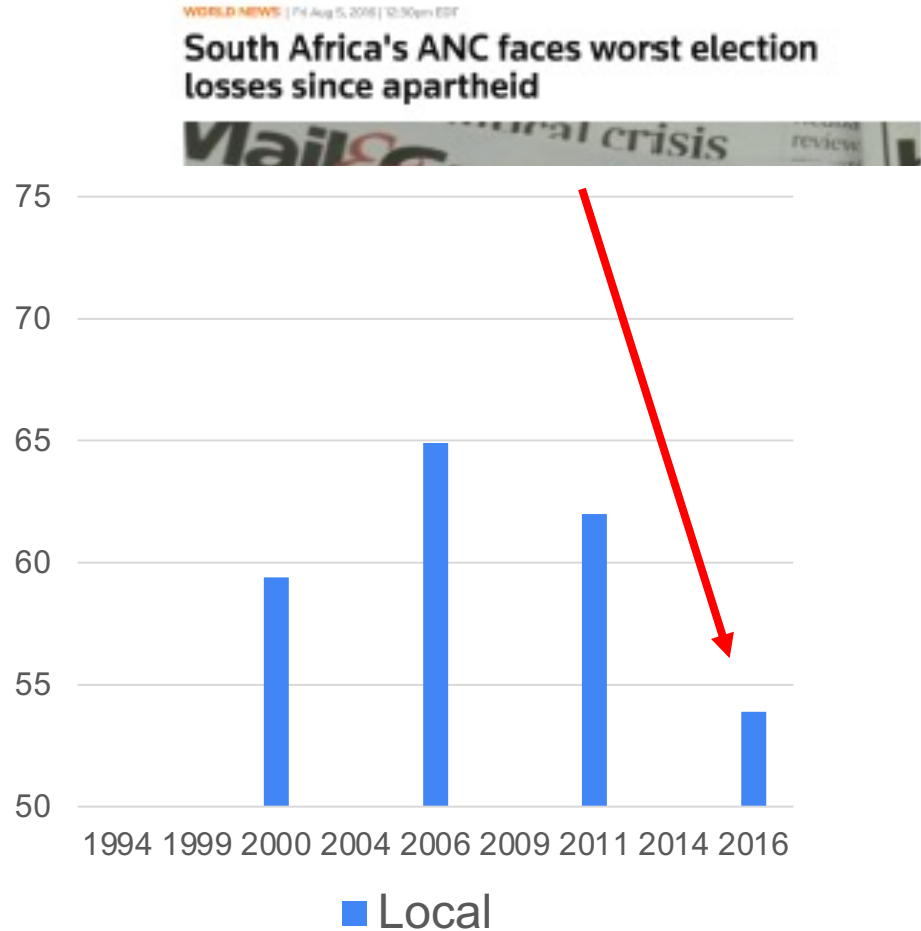
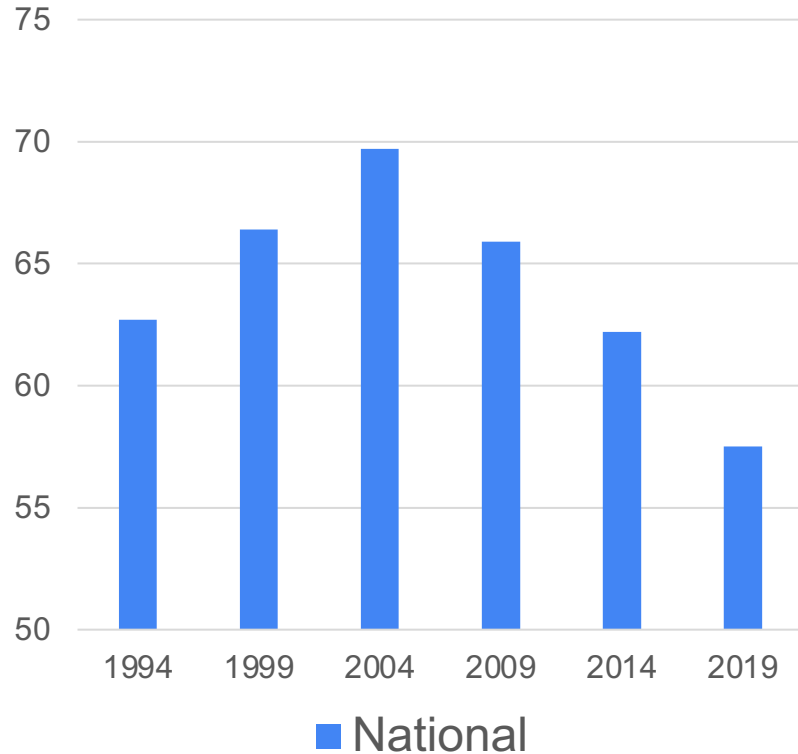


# Post-Apartheid Accomplishments (1994 - present)

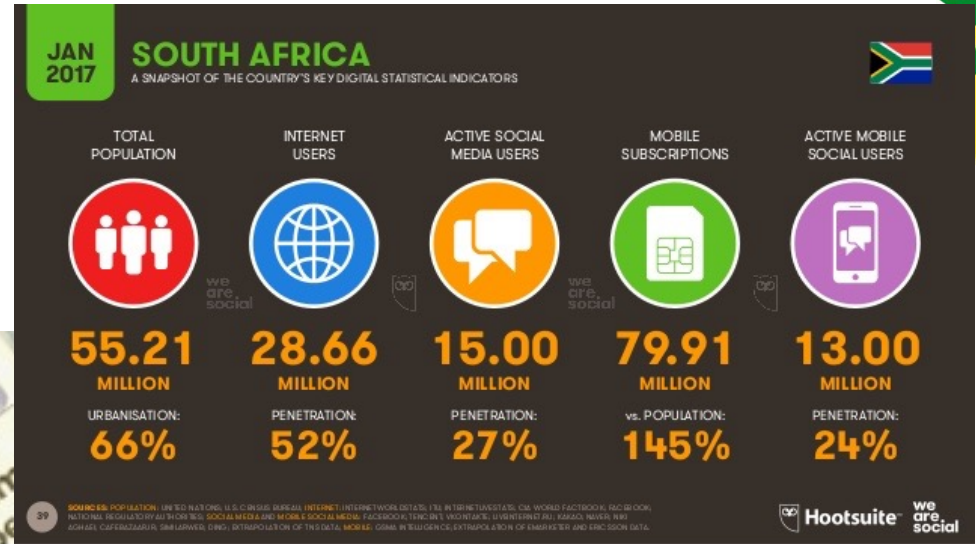
- Development of a robust, multi-racial democracy
- Material improvements
  - Not in terms of growth, jobs
  - But basic services, education, health
- Accountability
- Dignity
- Work-in-progress



# ANC Vote Shares (Percent total vote)



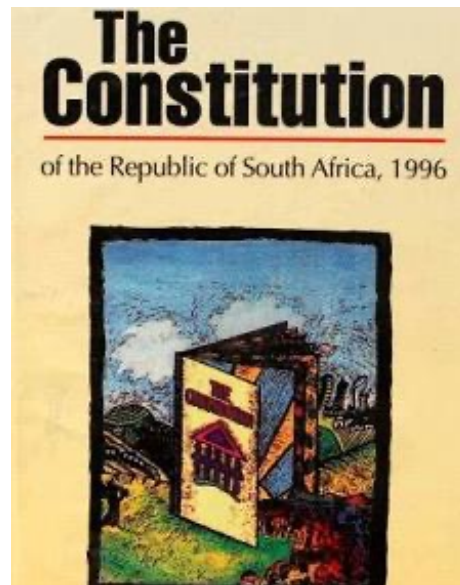
# South African Media







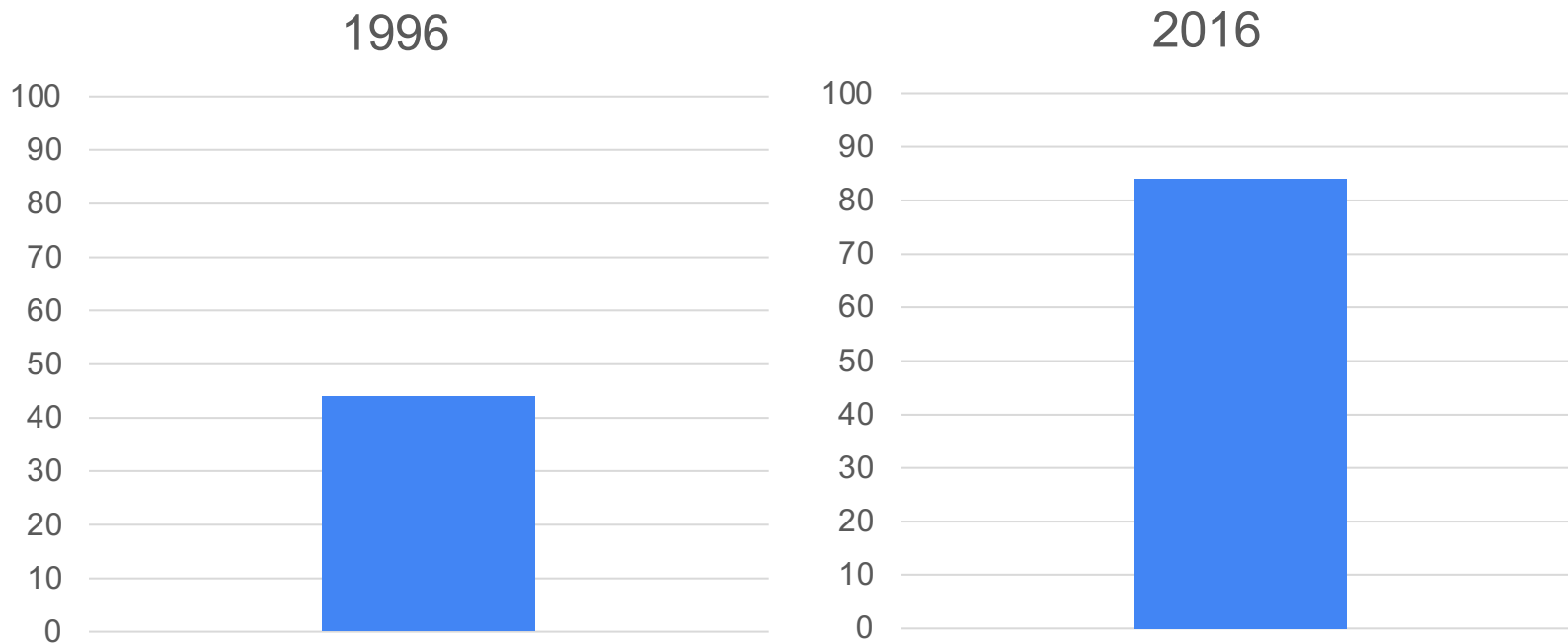
# The Freedom Charter (1955), The Constitution (1996) and the SA Constitutional Court





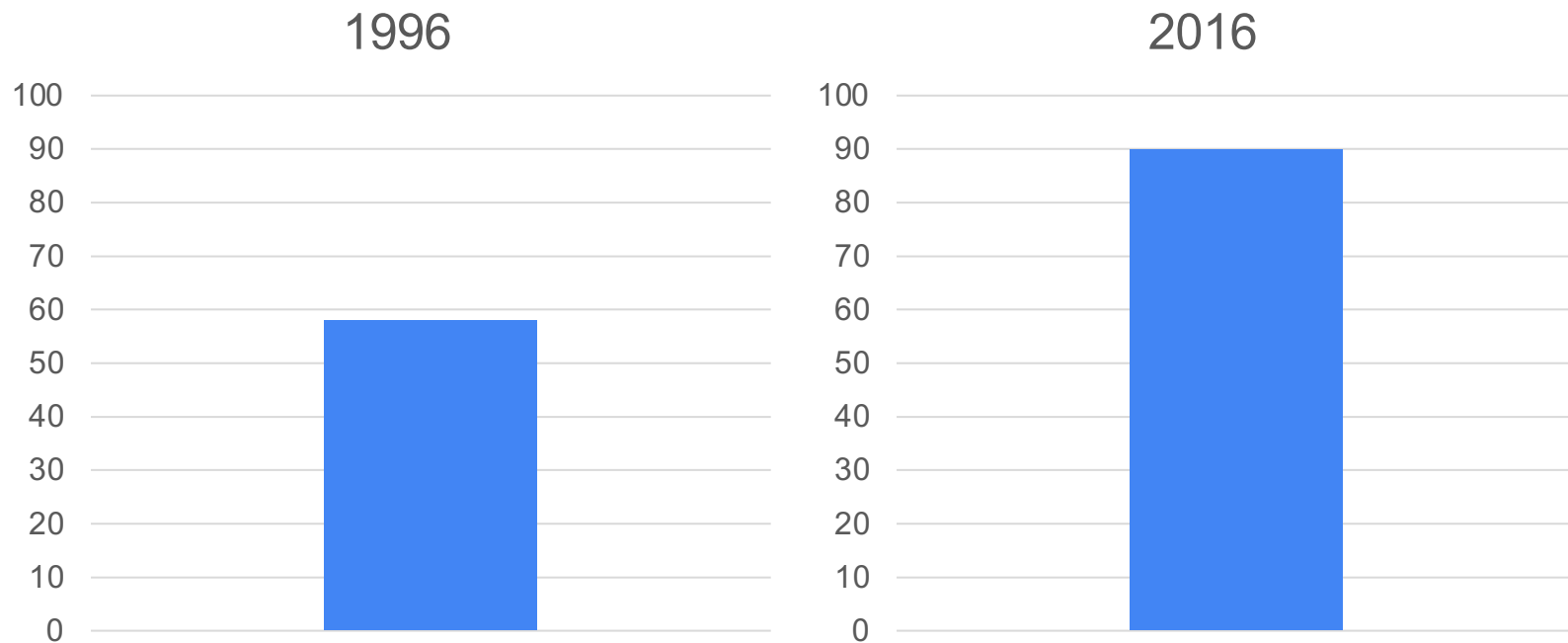


# Percent Households with: Piped Water





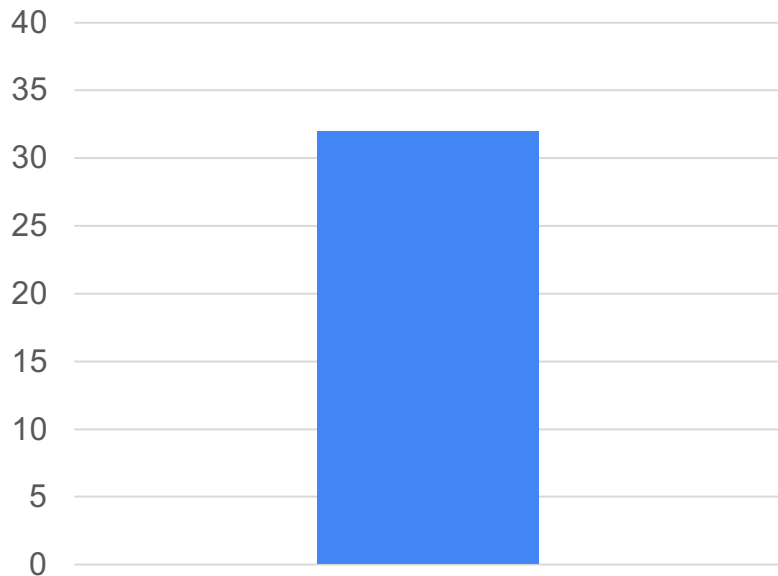
# Percent Households with: Electricity Connection



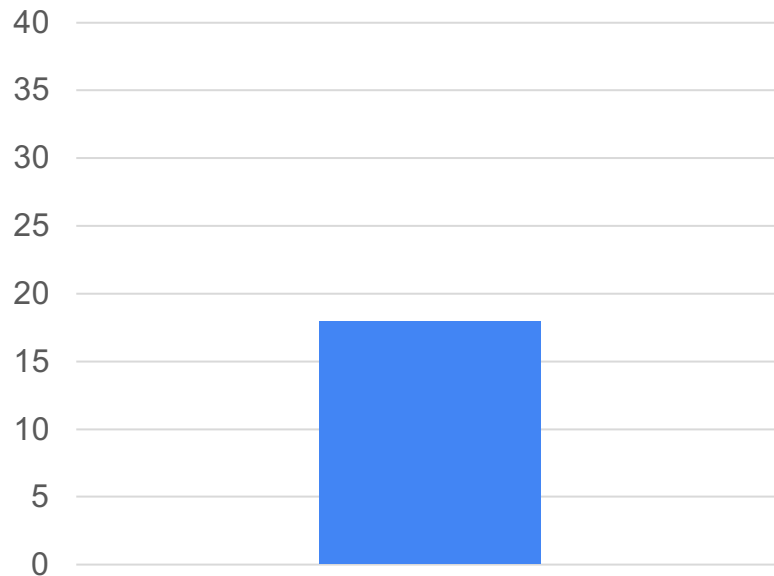


# Percent Population Below the Poverty Line (PPP\$ 1.90)

Late 1990s



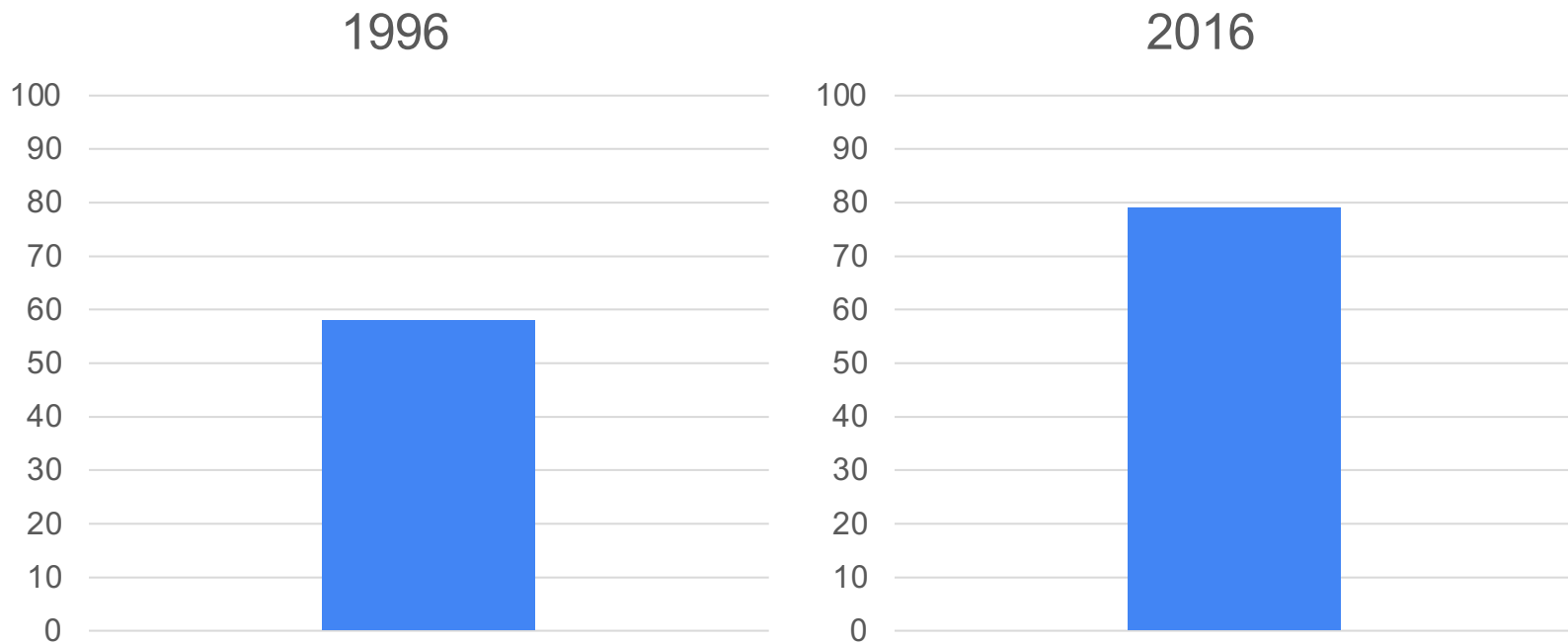
Early 2010s



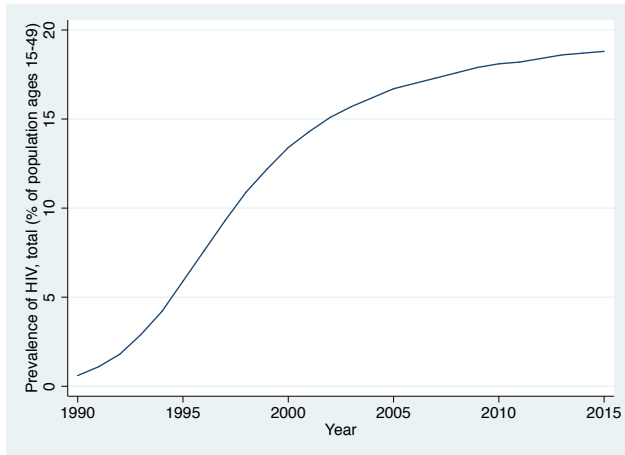




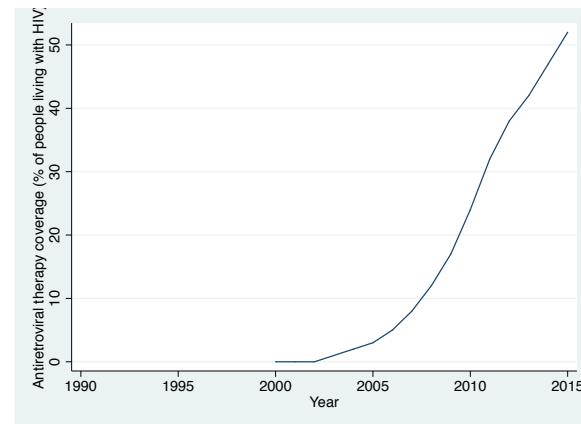
# Percent Households with: Formal Dwelling



## HIV Prevalence



## AIDS Treatment Coverage





**Moerane Report: Glebelands in numbers**

The long-awaited Moerane Commission's report into political killings in KZN has finally been released and has shed more light on over 100 deaths linked to the infamous Glebelands

News **Voices** Business Sport Water Crisis Lifestyle Video **V** Focus Jo

## TIMELINE: How South Africa got three finance ministers in four days

2015-12-14 13:13

Ahmed Areff, News24

**news24**



Johannesburg - The position of finance minister has controversially passed through three pairs of hands over the space of four days. Here is a timeline of how those few days, that left the economy reeling, played out:

### Wednesday December 9 2015:

- At around 20:00 Zuma issues a statement saying: "I have decided to remove Mr Nhlanhla Nene as Minister of Finance, ahead of his deployment to another strategic position."
- Zuma announces he has decided to appoint David van Rooyen, an MP and a former mayor of the Merafong local municipality as the minister of finance.
- The president does not provide reasons for his decisions and speculation becomes rife as to why Nene was axed.
- The rand dives in the aftermath of the



President Jacob Zuma.





WHY ALWAYS ME

## South Africa's top court says Jacob Zuma's home renovations were unconstitutional

By Omar Mohammed • March 31, 2016



# #zumamustfall

## Cyril Ramaphosa sworn in as South Africa's president, replacing Jacob Zuma

By ROBYN DIXON FEB 15, 2018 | 11:40 AM | JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



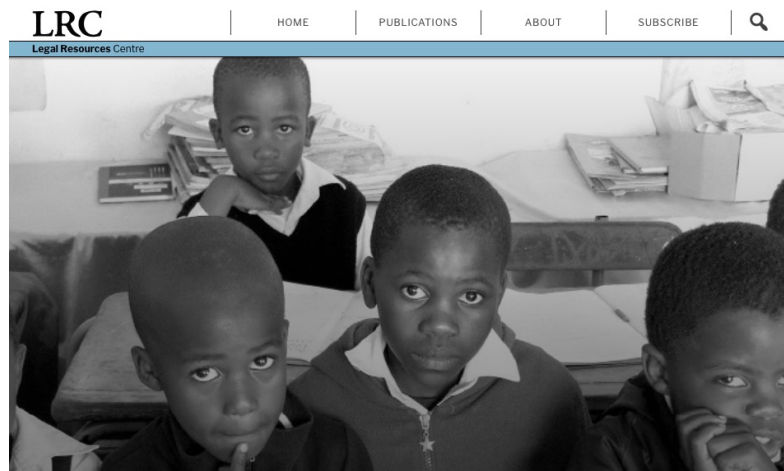
Cyril Ramaphosa hugs South African National Assembly Speaker Baleka Mbete before his swearing-in as South Africa's president on Feb. 15. (Mike Hutchings / AFP/Getty Images)



LATEST AFRICA

More than 130 dead after Tanzania ferry sinks on

# Legal Resources Centre successfully sues government to improve school conditions



FIGHTING TO LEARN

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PDF

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## MUD SCHOOLS 2

In 2010 the LRC embarked on litigation to address the problem of unsafe, crumbling mud structure schools in

### CONTENTS

Colophon

Preface

Introduction



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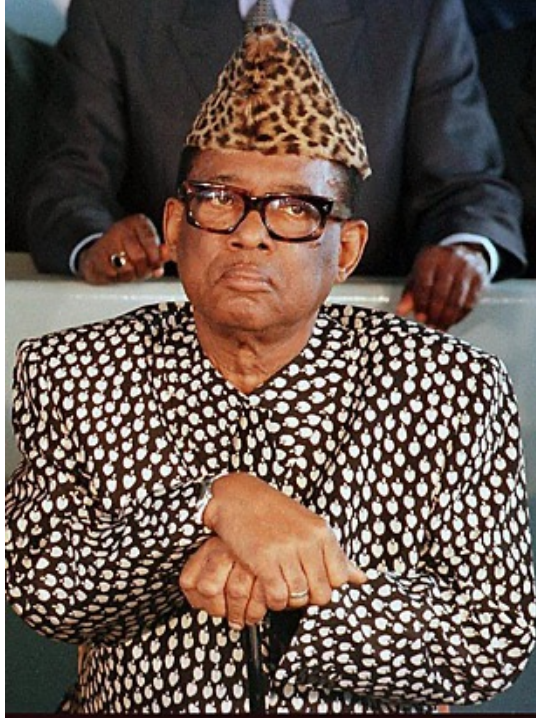


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# Past Benevolent Dictators in Africa





# Bottom line

- No doubt, big challenges in South Africa...
- ...But Democracy is working
- Increased service delivery / dignity
- Political competition keeps politicians on their toes



# The Future of Government in Africa?

- Build and strengthen democratic institutions
  - Parliamentary or Presidential less important than consistency
  - ... But Proportional Representation useful in diverse societies
  - Term limits (No SA President has served 2 full terms let alone 3!)
  - Constitutionalism and independent courts
- E-governance?
  - Promising
  - But only as good as the code...
- How to get these?
  - People power
  - Social and economic elites

Thank you



@evlieb

evanlieberman.org



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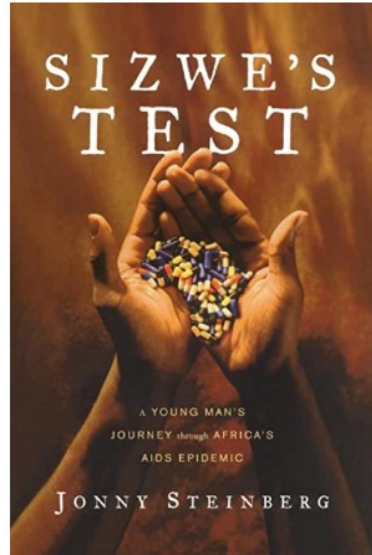
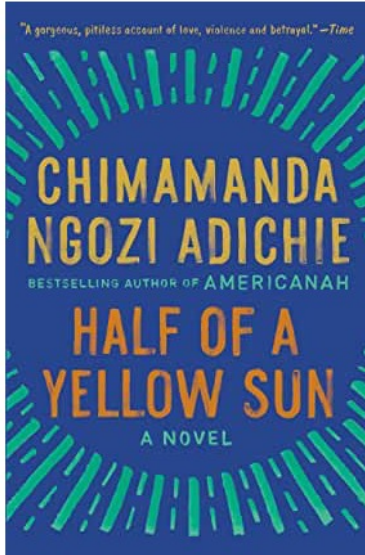


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## 3 (+1) Books to recommend



Forthcoming...early 2022

**Until We Have Won Our  
Liberty**

South Africa After Apartheid

Evan Lieberman