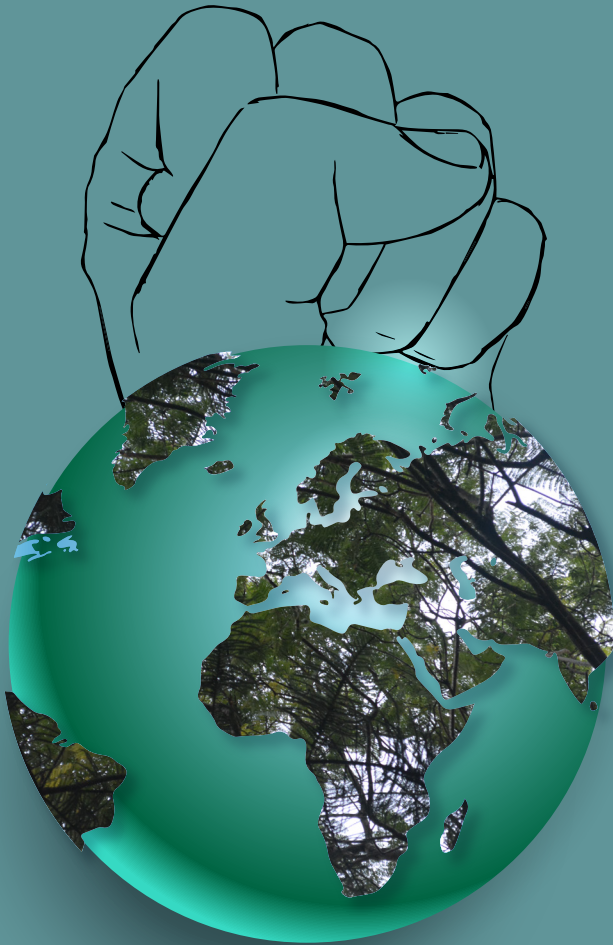


Push Back

Fighting the Good Fight



JULY 2019

We made a Zine

July, 2019. We assembled at TCDC - Arusha to talk about Pushing Back Shrinking Civic Spaces. We talked about activism, history and resistance examining the 9 case studies presented. We described the different creative ways in which people were pushing back against being silenced. The themes of community, history, law, the state and development economies were useful for prompting further conversation and questions. And the end of it all, inspired by the workshop and our experiences we made a collaborative zine.

Contributors

Mary Wandia - ActionAid International
Ruth Obwaya - ActionAid International
Swaleh Kitasi - ActionAid Kenya
Geofrey Sizala - ActionAid Zambia
Zandile Motsoeneng - FEW - Rainbow Alliance
Jara Henar -Allianza des Solidaridad Spain
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Andrew Karamagi - ActionAid Zimbabwe
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Emilie Flower - Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York, UK.
Peter Murphy - Consulting Film maker/ActionAid International
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act:onaid

**Centre for
Applied
Human
Rights**

Zines (pronounced "zeens," shortened from the word "magazines") are small, independent publications that come in the form of mini pamphlets or magazines.

They have long been a counter-cultural vehicle for people to make their voices heard on issues that don't often get touched on in the mainstream media.

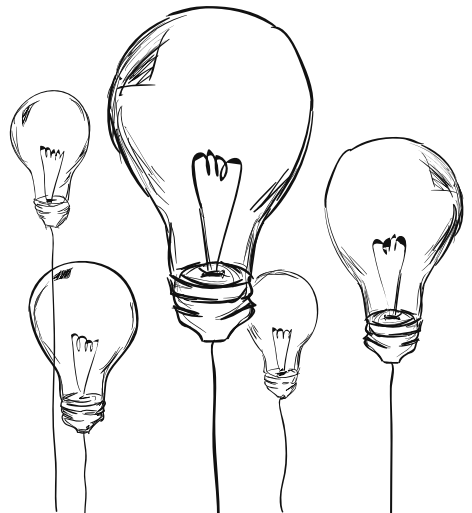
Zines can be traced back to 1517 when Martin Luther published his "zine", the "Ninety-five Theses," a time when Johannes Gutenberg had just invented the printing press and self-publication began to spread. Self-publication has always been a political medium and frequently used to express resistance. With that in mind, we thought it a good idea to explore the medium feeling out it for possibilities as a tool for Push Back.

Making a zine is as analog as it gets. Methodology includes collaging, drawing or handwriting whatever you want the content of your zine to be. It can also mean gathering archival photos, photocopying images from books, cutting stuff out from magazines, and printing out text (or using a typewriter), then pasting them all together onto the page. The contributors of this project used the same analog methods to create their pages.

Pamela Enyonu - Creative Session Facilitator.

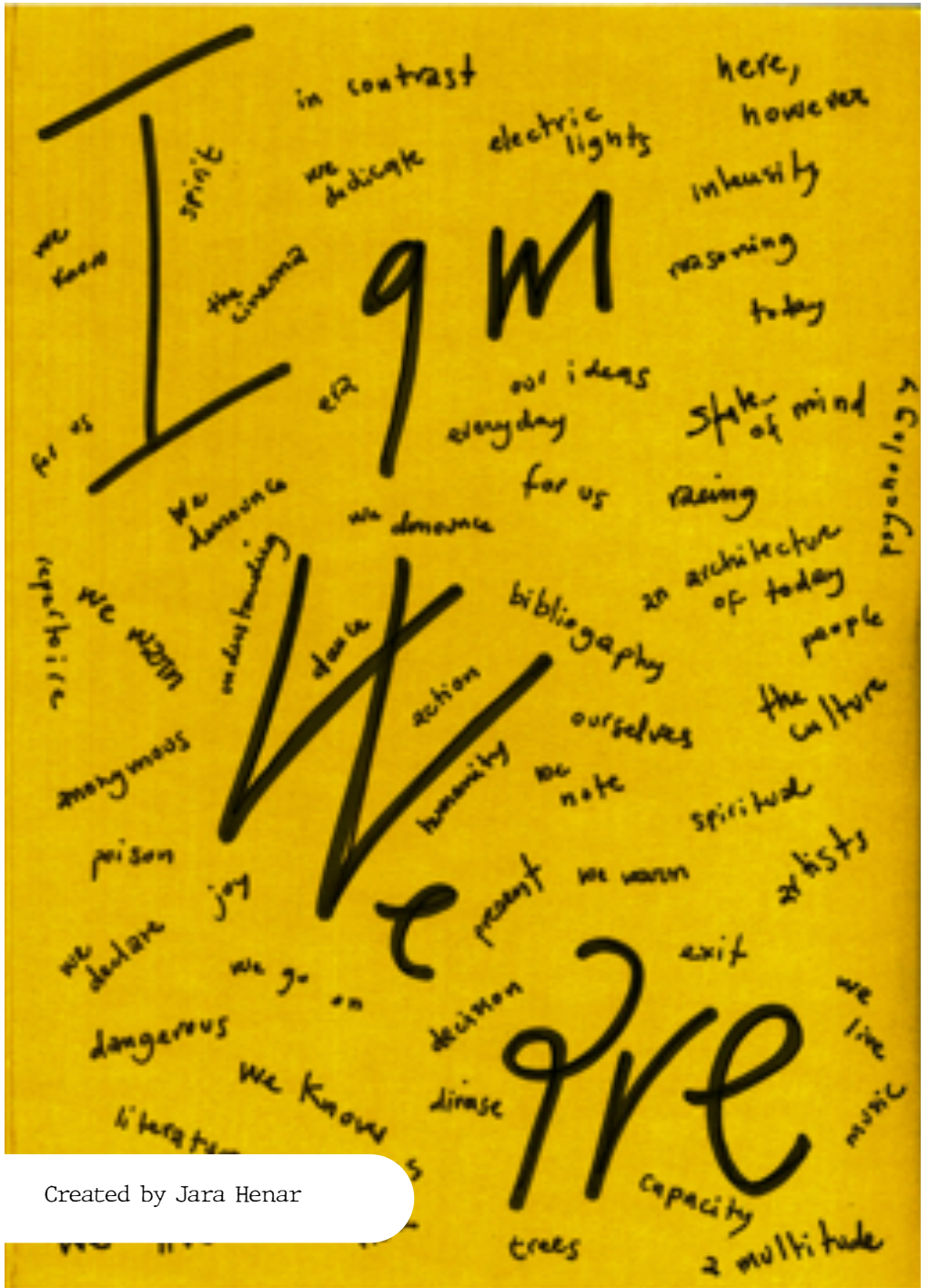


Jade working on her project



My understanding of civic space is the extent to which the existing practise, legal frameworks and actions of leaders allow people to organise freely, assemble freely and express their views and opinion without fear of being reprimanded, without fear of being labelled, and that is what I understand as civic space. It's not just a physical space but a state where people feel free to exercise their civic rights, so civic space is so much to do with the civic liberties, where people can enjoy, and the extent to which the state facilitates and promotes those liberties to be enjoyed by people

Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Uganda



Created by Jara Hénar

Finding a voice

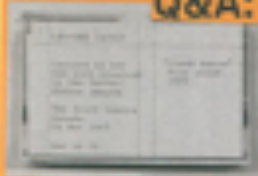


PUSH



Q&A: Artists in Conversation

Conversations





Intimidación

Movilidad por dentro de la

Seguridades

RACISMO

Violencia

Encuentros

Si D o terror D

directas indirect.

Res

Res

Trad

Actividades

Now we're talking

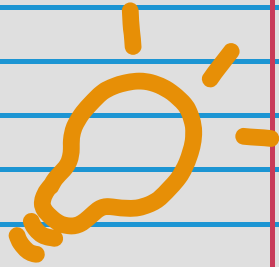
**CREANDO ESTRATEGIAS
FRENTE A LAS VIOLENCIAS**

**Las defensoras de
derechos, en el ojo
del huracán**

**VALENTÍA
BRAVERY
COURAGE**



Camille planning and finally showing off her comic about the workshop





Created by Camille Champeaux



There have been particularly big challenges in the defense of territories. Discussions during the peace accords were about securing land, but when the extractivist projects came in it was no longer just about getting land, it was about defending the territory. Such a big aggression, people were seeing their whole way of life threatened

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Guatemala**

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A PERFECT MARRIAGE...

THE MAGIC PORRIDGE POT

STOP LITTLE POT STOP

EVERY ONE SHALL SAY... ALL

HAS THE SUNSET IN ON THE RAYS

CITIZEN TOO... AM I A PEOPLE

AND GOOD CITIZENS

THE PERFECT MARRIAGE OF DUTY HAS

* I AM THE MOST INFORMED (SALES) PERSON

CITIZEN

to num

work
...roads, ricks and the like
...ing them preprints/papers
...on made publicly available
...et flows... hindred
...ed to most...
...y which in
...est their on-
...all metrics is
...instance of a w
...laved...
...and do so favor
...ght in February
...eld's have...
...the

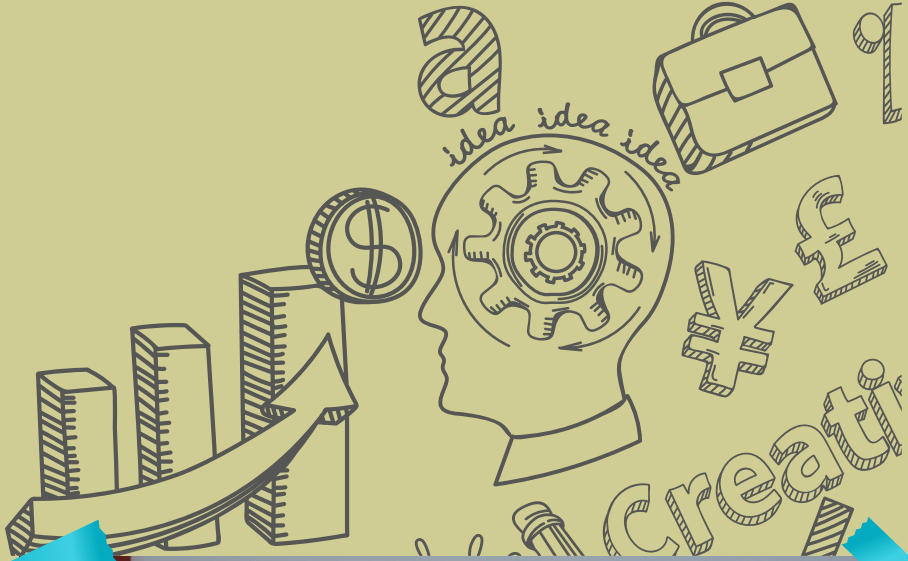


COOK LITTLE POT COOK





IS LESS CONTENT MORE CONTENT ?

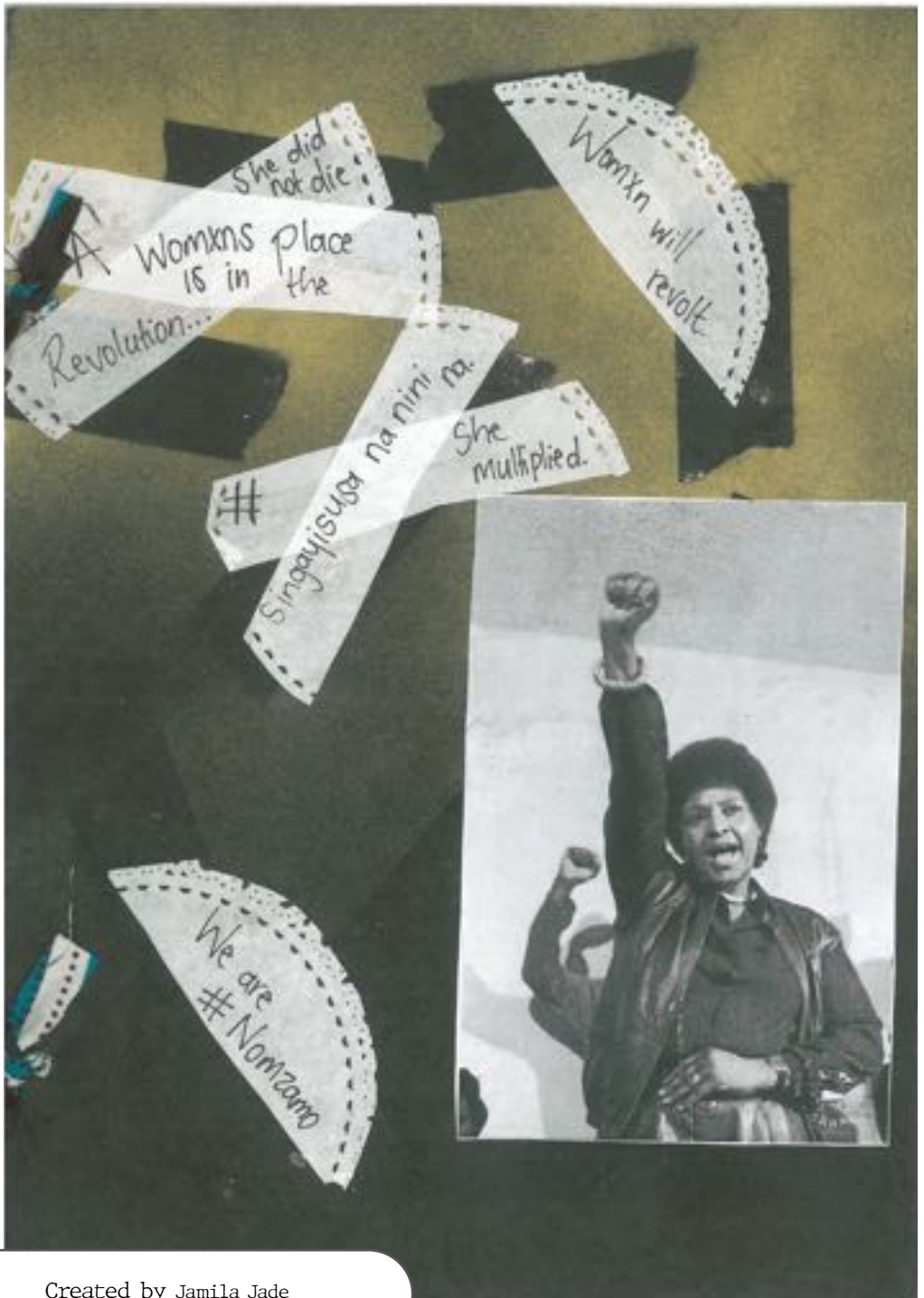


Emilie presenting her work in the most rockstar way possible.

You cannot hide pushback in more neutral categories like 'Women's rights'. It waters down what you are doing, hiding behind women's rights doesn't help citizens, we need to pushback. We may have taken risks, and are now associated with overthrowing governments.

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Zimbabwe**





Nomzamo Madikizela



I am the product of the masses
of my country and the product of
MY
ENEMY!!

Not yet Uhuru!!!

STOP the
WAR on WOMEN'S
BODIES

LGBTIAQ+
RIGHTS are
human rights!!!!

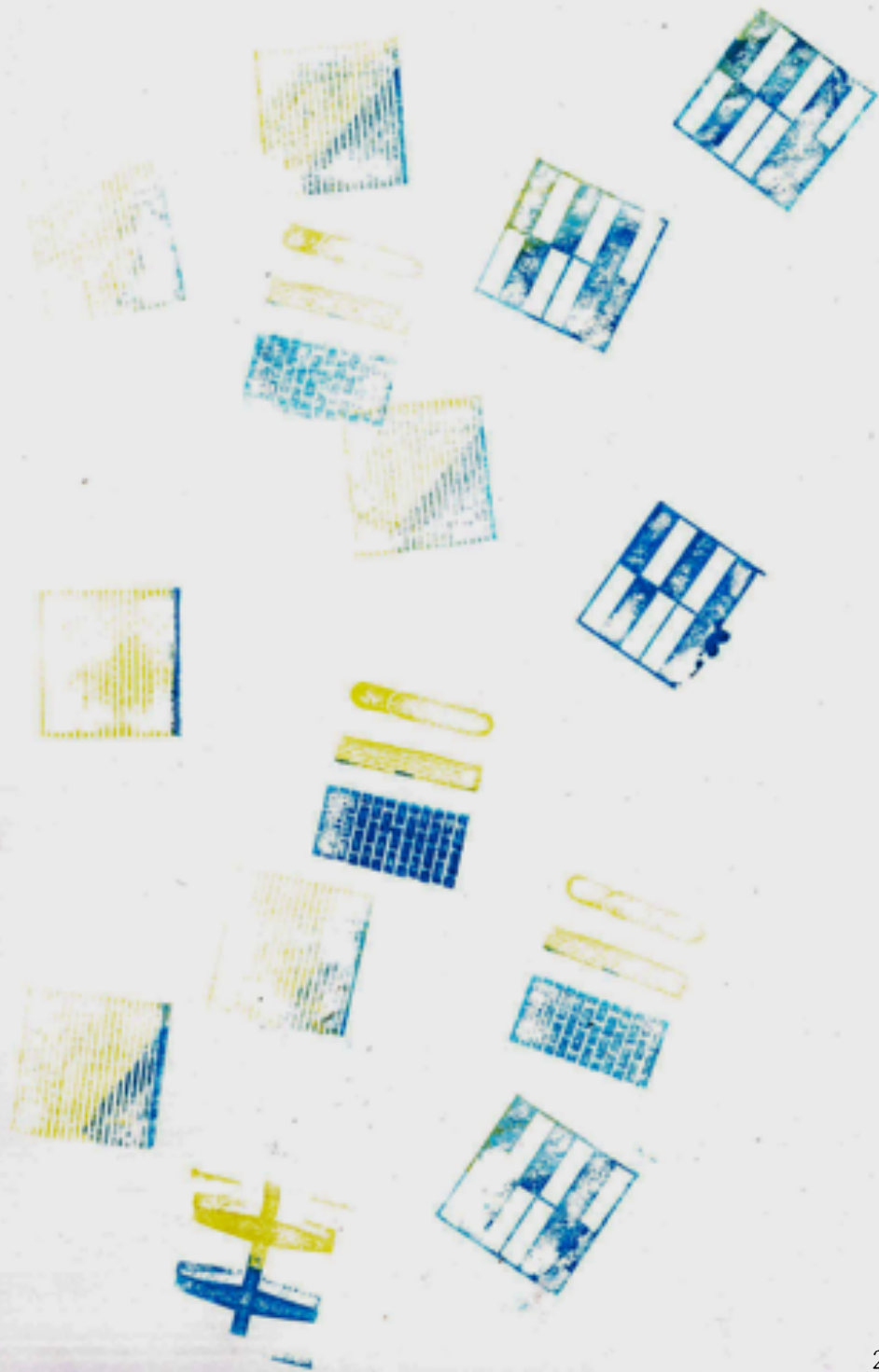
ACTIVISTS!!!!!!
PUSHBACK!!!

SAFETY, JUSTICE
& FREEDOM ARE OUR
RIGHTS!!!!!!

MY BODY
MY RIGHT!!!

BRING BACK
OUR LAND!!!!!!

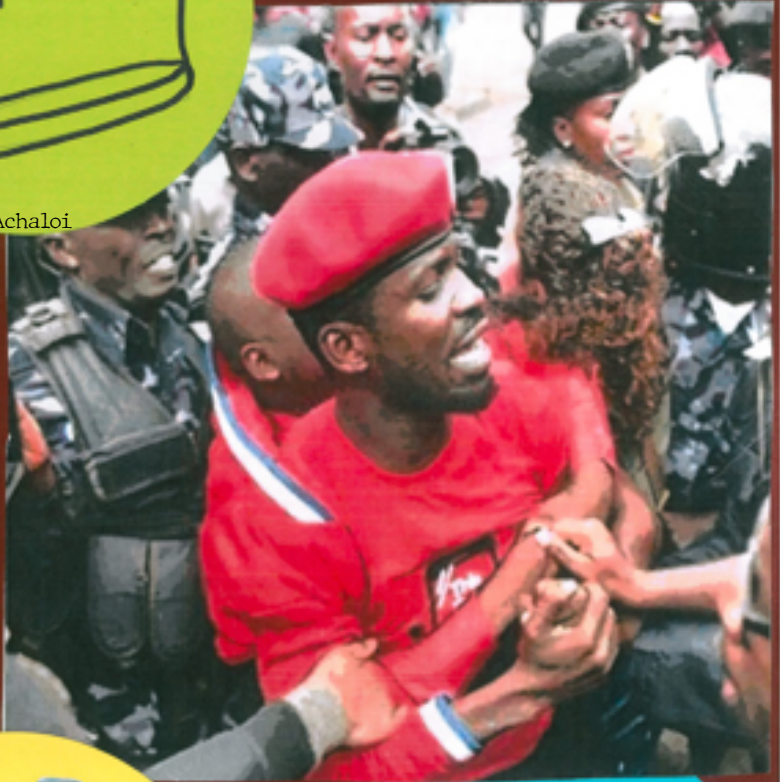
Justice delayed is justice
DENIED!!!!!!



Age limit: Police raid Action Aid offices



Jennifer Achaloi

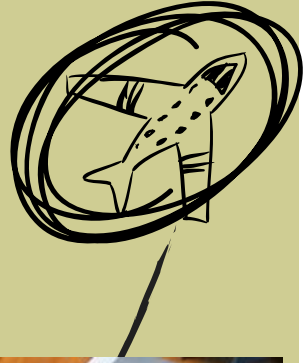


We are pressed on every side but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned, oppressed but not destroyed!!!

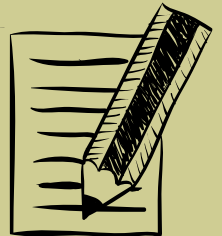


The Yellow Vests are people who are exhausted with politics - fed up - not a movement, people who are angry that society is unfair, and needs to change the structure of democracy and power.

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
France**



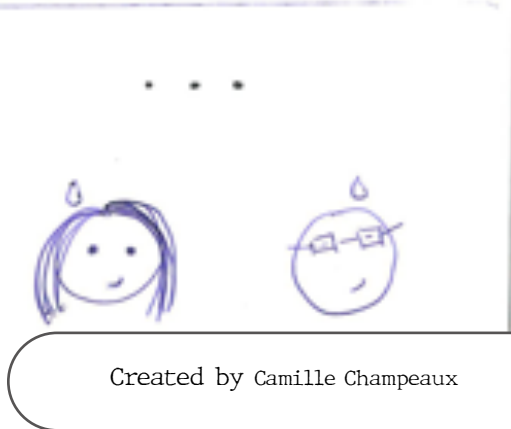
Women and men at work. Jennifer giving her project her very best.



Survival is about ensuring it doesn't shrink, helping civil society members that have been arrested, ensuring everyone can engage, working to make people aware of shrinking space so they can protect it, and providing some legal protection.

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Zambia**

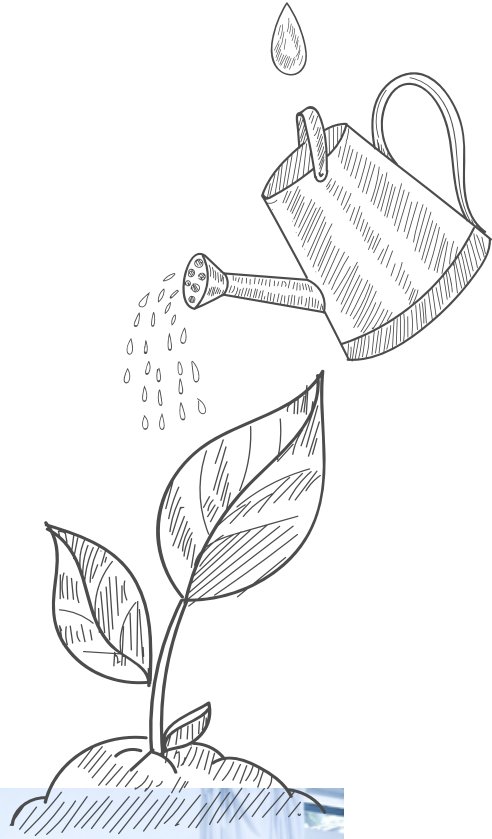
WHEN PEOPLE MEET



Created by Camille Champeaux



Swaleh sharing how great environmentalist Maathai inspired his project.



Remembering
Maathai: A woman
of many firsts.

Cassette tapes

Nature
Rights
in
the
Back

A true icon of inspiration

Trees
0
LIVES
DO
NOT
GROW
ON
CASS
TAPES

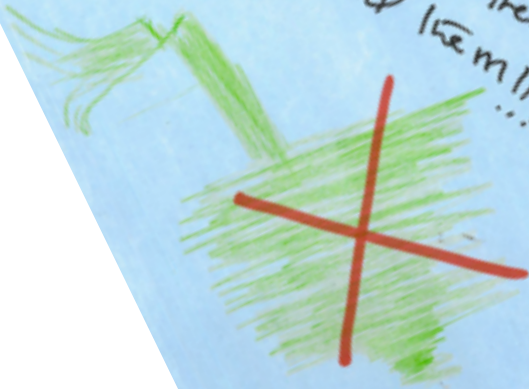


Plant more trees



Thinking MEGA
projects?

Do not cut trees, just go
around them!!!





I
am a conser-
vationist!
Join me

Woman of Trees, Prof. Maathai's story touched
and changed the lives of many Africans.



Corporate Power



Show me the land
I will give you
the money

Who rules the rulers?

Created by Geoffrey Sizala



This land is not
your land



Government
Official



Give us back our land
or kill all of us !!

Open science
Time's up

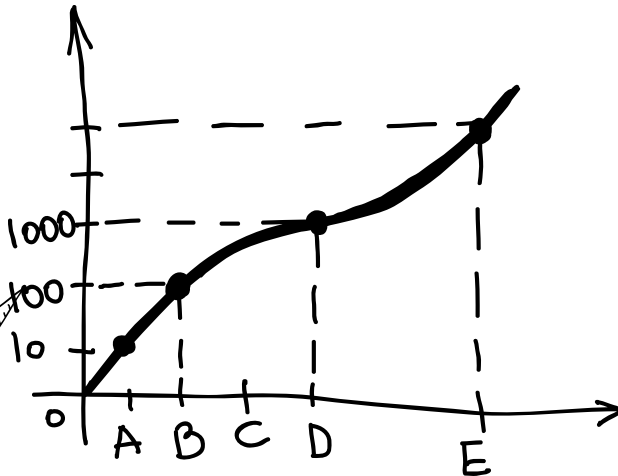
New village
after displacement



Geoffrey Sizala

up to 2





Created by Jara Henar

ACCESS DENIED

SANS

Shooting



camera

The Daily Star



The Economist



dream of Schengen

Nightmare

Terror

Know
Ban

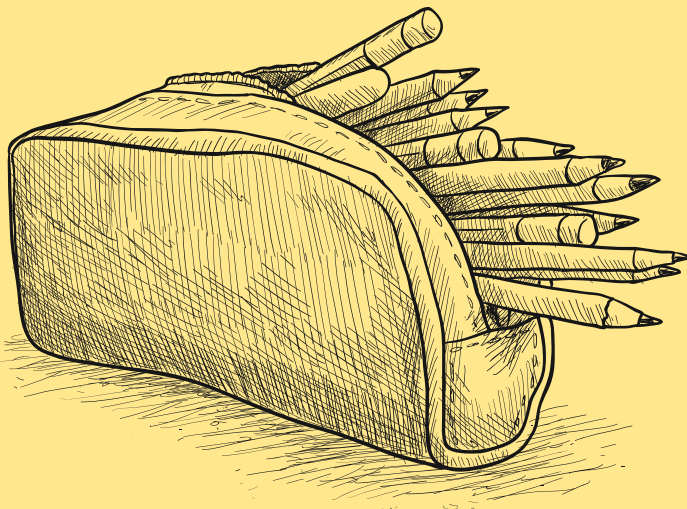


S PAPIERS





Zandile presents her project



WHOMST

Created by Zandile Motsoeneng

...work, but I was, I ca
...why. There are lots of books.
...small way that gnawed at me in the day
...not only why I hadn't read her but why
...adar.
...time to fix my radar, I decided, when it
...son, to read only African women for a year. The
...was not virtue but curiosity. I wondered what I
...missing out on. I wasn't completely ignorant of
...re by women from that part of the world: I'd read
...anda Ngugi Adichie, Ama Ata Aidoo, Bessie Head,
...techeta, Leila Aboulela, Gillian Slovo, Nadine
...ri and Zoë Wicomb. Nor was I entirely ignorant of
...of the world. I lived in Sudan for a year, reported
...with Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and
...one and visited Ghana on holiday. But it has been
...t years since I read any of those authors and five
...ot on the continent.

...my project would have been much harder.
...a few writers published mostly as part of an
...ing of
...ing by
...e. "Now
...are the
...amanda

ARE

...ready come across two
...greater effect. The first is
...west African kingdoms
...and integrity against Ch
...incursion and expansion.
...the height of its glory. Its pe
...outskirts of Jenne ... and it wa
...Timbuktu ... "The book traces
...the Segu king's most trusted
...sons and beyond. Maryse Condé,
...knowledge with a light touch, build
...who are not reduced to vessels of a his
...Condé, the French winner of this year's No
...literature (given in lieu of the Nobel prize), ...
...included here who is not African. Momentarily distract
...the subject matter of Segu, which I already owned, b
...time I remembered that she wasn't African it didn't
...I was already hooked.

The second, *Kinua*, is the first novel by Ugandan
Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi, who now li
chester and was awarded a £30,000 Win
literature prize this year. *Kinua*, published
January, is the story of a curse passed
what is now Uganda. It starts with
mistaken for a thief and then stret
powerful governor who unleashes
through the ages when he kills his ow
style is as haunting as the storyline. "
into the centre of the sky to inflict its w
of barren land came into view ... Eve
dinge, the hum of its heat, was audib
danced in the air warning: You m
own peril."

In his satirical 2006 *Graveyard Book*
Africa, Binyavanga Wainaina
of a well-adjusted African o
unless that African has
ordinary domestic some
death is involved), ref
intellectuals, ment
suffering from p
evolution."

YOU

Created by Zandile Motsoeneng



An unsong



Song of my People

The roots & Tree
of my People



Advocate

The eyes to
mouth
of my People!!



Black Women





Inclusiveness
All who identify as
No Mxn



FEMINIST
Fighting For Justice

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION

Note to

self

After Storm Comes a Rainbow
Our Time is Coming

Africa

Don't

Give

up

...

Reminder

POST CARD



TO: Zandile Motsoeneng
You are enough and if the
World don't value you or your work
Value yourself daughter of the soil

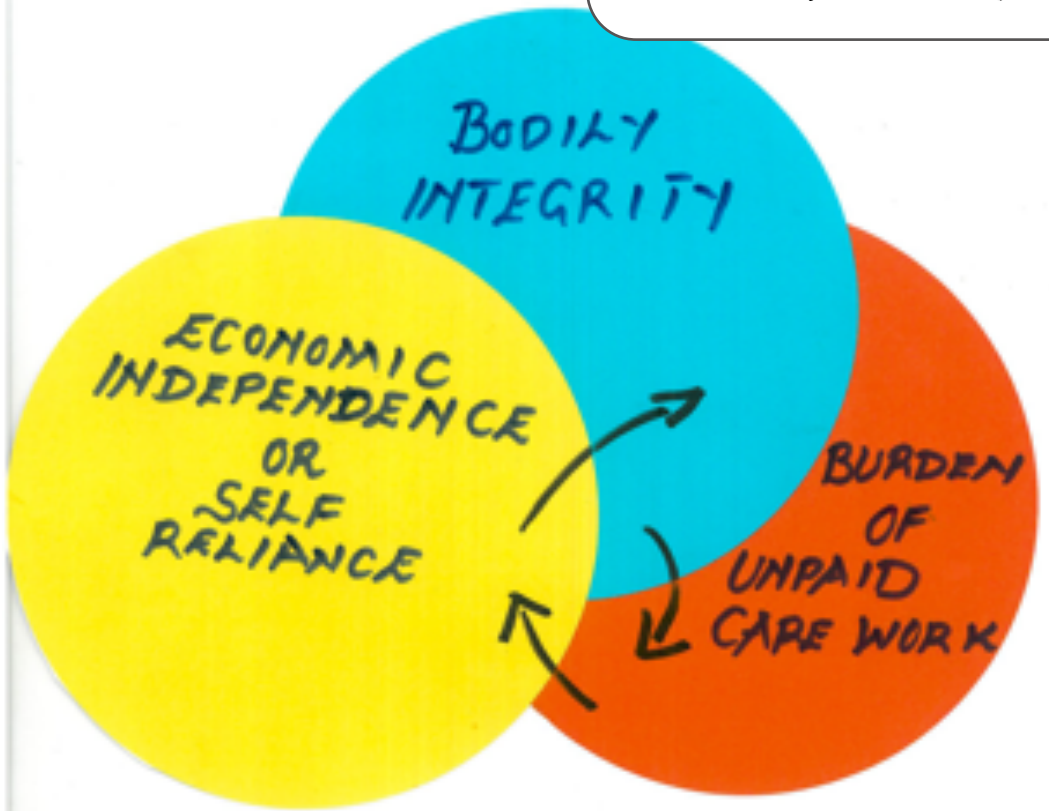
POSTCODE: _____

You are Enough



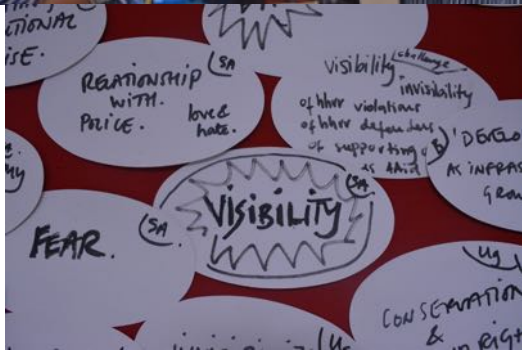
Andrew needed a whole formula to create his zine page.





Globally (there is) less of an appetite for women's rights work as it is a very deep problem, no change in 3-5 years, you need to commit to 10-15 years. Donors and funder don't find that a leading conversation. Historically this is nothing new, the state under Zuma had 'authoritarian vibes', attempts to cut civil society out with a public outcry, as if civil society were a naughty child that needs to be put in a corner, after whistleblowing and corruption challenges,

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
South Africa**



Participants trying to identify themselves in Camille's comic.



FEMINISM!



LGBTQIT RIGHTS!



PEOPLE!



INTERSECTIONALITY!



YOUTH!



CONTINUITY!



A R R E E G V U V O O O L L L U U U T T T I I I O O O N N N ...



Created by Camille Champeaux



WHAT ABOUT CONSEQUENCES

???



Jara presenting her concept.



Azad finally explaining what his dinosaur meant.





DESTROY Natural Resource

WOMEN Right

INequality

OFFSHORE WEALTH

Starvation



CROSSFIRE



Repression

Disappear

Killing

Poverty



Extra-Judicial Killing

CHILD Right

Displacement

Deception





The relationship between the state and citizens is still an unsettled issue, ..the whole social contract is not there...people do not expect to have a right to participate in all of these big documented strategies.

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Bangladesh**



The underlying factor is to what extent are these spaces critical and useful in advancing rights. We are not here to be antagonistic. We are looking at a collectivity, look at it together.

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Kenya**

Our recent history was a history about gaining freedom, liberty, institutions and economic wealth, distribution and social cohesion. That created some trust, optimism, a sense of feeling that citizens could be part of improving things for everybody and for themselves, this was drastically changed by the economic crisis. People suddenly felt that their institutions were not working for them, that the whole transition to democracy failed somehow and that their children would not be living as well as they had been living.

**Human
Rights Defenders Interviews 2019 - 'Civic Space'
Spain**

