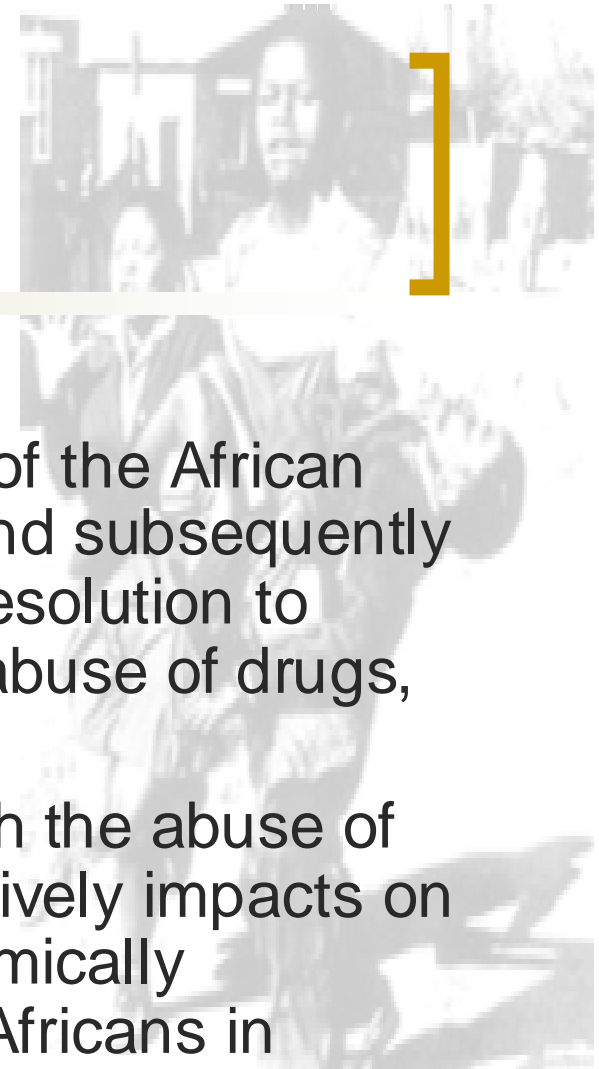


Campaign against alcohol,
drugs and substance abuse.

ANC YL Policy Position

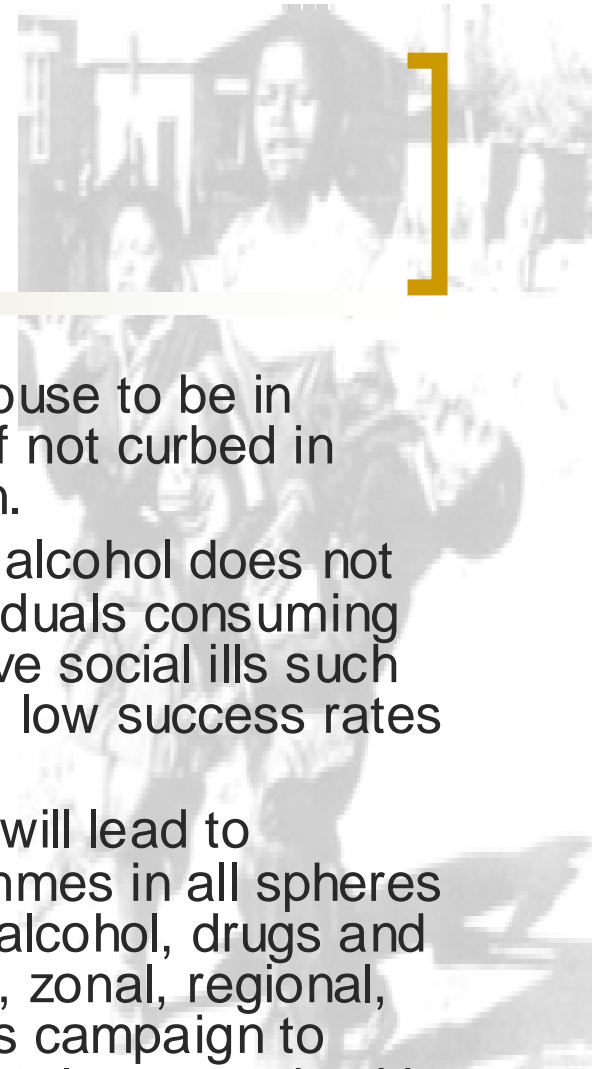
[Introduction



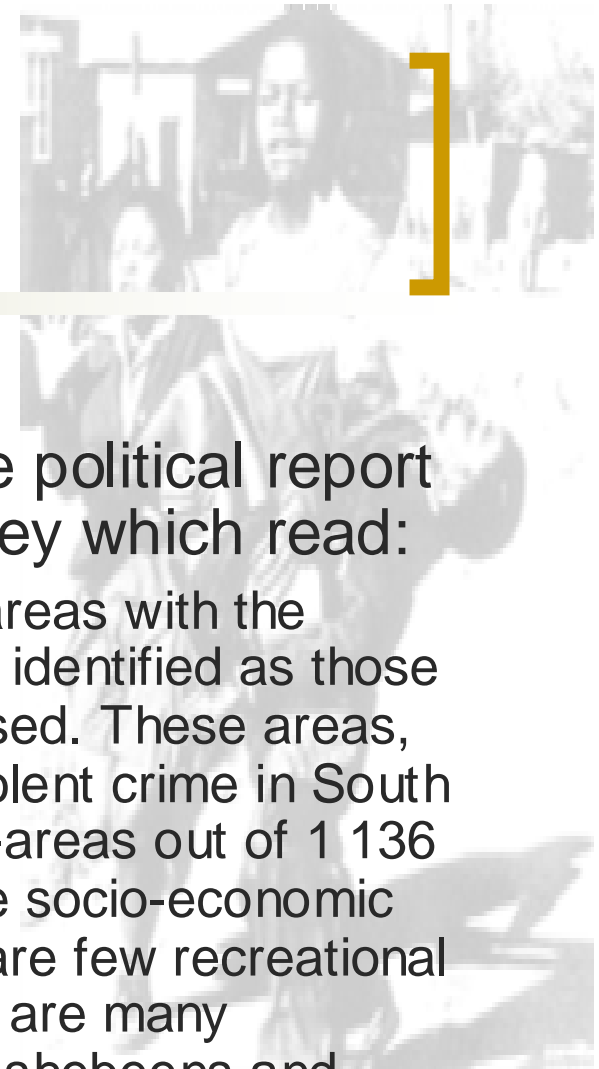
- The National Executive Committee of the African National Congress Youth League and subsequently the 23rd National Congress took a resolution to intensify the campaign against the abuse of drugs, alcohol, and substances.
- On the belief that the extent at which the abuse of drugs, alcohol and substance negatively impacts on the struggle to politically and economically emancipate the black majority and Africans in particular in our construction of a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and united South Africa is profound.

Background

- We understand Drugs, alcohol and substance abuse to be in essence a counter-revolutionary feature, which if not curbed in society, could reverse the gains of our revolution.
- The abuse of these intoxicating substances and alcohol does not only negatively impact the wellbeing of the individuals consuming them, but distorts society and leads to other grave social ills such as crime, rapid spread of HIV/AIDS, poor health, low success rates in education, etc.
- Our campaign is not a rhetorical campaign, and will lead to concrete and decisive interventions and programmes in all spheres of society in ensuring that we curb the abuse of alcohol, drugs and substances. Structures of the ANC YL at branch, zonal, regional, provincial and national should be engaged in this campaign to ensure that alcohol and drugs abuse and completely stopped, with a targeted focus on young people.



[What's the Issue?]



- The ANC 52nd National Conference political report quoted a government scientific survey which read:

“Accordingly, in the past five years the areas with the greatest number of violent crimes were identified as those that are poor and economically depressed. These areas, which account for more than 50% of violent crime in South Africa comprise only 169 police station-areas out of 1 136 police station-areas in the country. The socio-economic profile of these areas is similar. There are few recreational facilities. Unemployment is high. There are many dysfunctional families. There are many shebeens and other alcohol outlets and the levels of substance abuse are very high”.

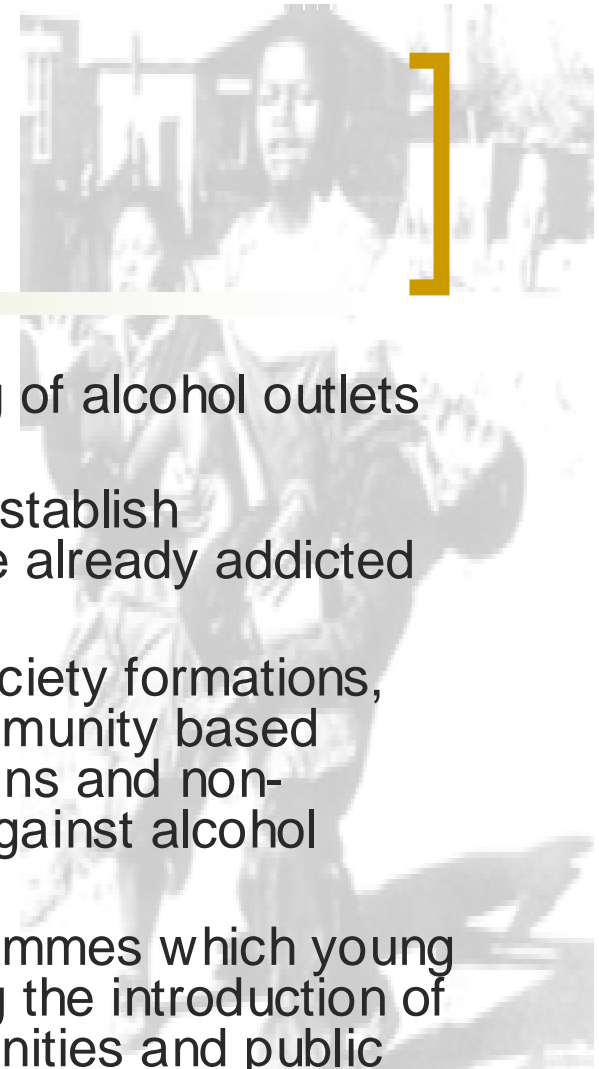


[Aims of our Campaign:]

1. To raise community awareness on the destruction has in our communities and society at large.
2. To discourage irresponsible consumption of alcohol by all people in society and particularly youth.
3. To ensure that there is legislative interventions on the days and timeframe within which alcohol outlets can sell alcohol.
4. To ensure that there is a legislative intervention on the number of year young people are eligible to buy alcohol, with a focus of increasing the number of years from 18 to 21.
5. To campaign for a complete ban on the advertising of alcohol within all media channels.

[Aims... continued]

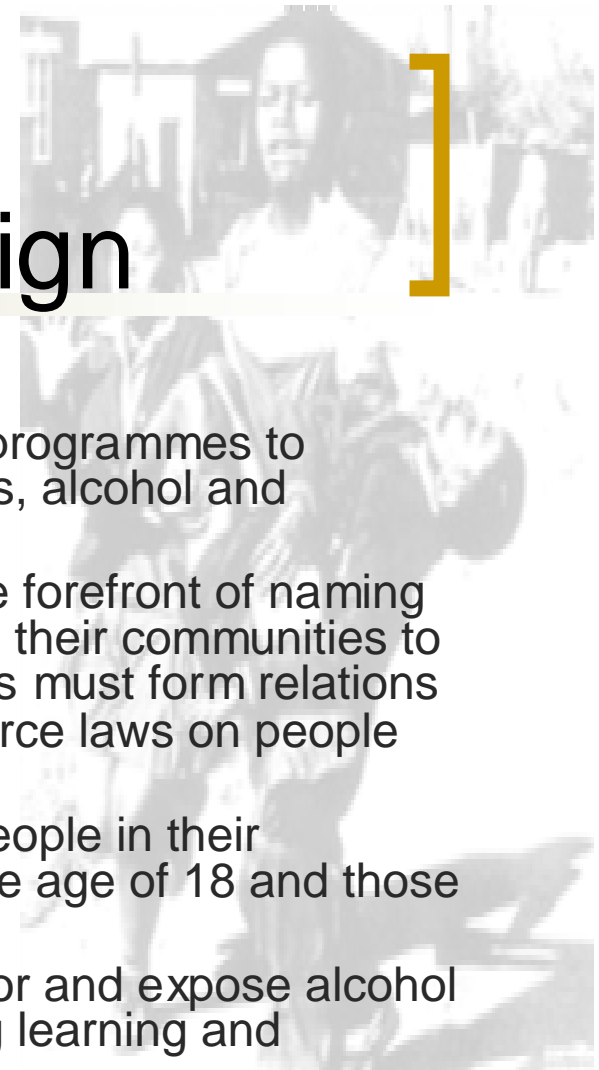
6. To call for a stronger regulation and monitoring of alcohol outlets next to schools and learning institutions.
7. To ensure that government at various levels, establish rehabilitation centres for young people who are already addicted to alcohol.
8. To form programmatic relationship with civil society formations, such as Non-governmental organisations, community based organisations, religious formations, Trade Unions and non-political youth organisations in the campaign against alcohol abuse.
9. To campaign for alternate activities and programmes which young people should engage themselves in, including the introduction of new sporting codes in particularly poor communities and public schools to increase participation in sports amongst young people.
10. To form partnerships with government departments that are relevant to the issues we raise in the campaign, particularly the Departments of Sports, Arts and Culture, Social development, education, health, etc.



Structure of the Campaign

■ BRANCHES

- All structures of the ANC YL will draft their own programmes to effectively engage in the campaign against drugs, alcohol and substance abuse.
- Ensuring that Branches of the ANC YL are at the forefront of naming and reporting illegal alcohol and drugs traders in their communities to relevant authorities. In some instances, branches must form relations with Community Policing Forums (CPFs) to enforce laws on people who illegally trade alcohol and drugs.
- Branches of the Youth League should expose people in their communities who sell alcohol to people under the age of 18 and those who buy alcohol for the same age group.
- Branches should mobilise communities to monitor and expose alcohol traders that sell alcohol to school children during learning and teaching period.
- Branches should organize seminars and forums to raise awareness in schools on the destruction of alcohol, drugs and substances.



Provinces:

- Provinces and Regions should engage with their Provincial Governments, District, Metropolitan and Local Municipalities:
 - To increase levels of law enforcement on illegal alcohol and drugs traders.
 - To invest in sporting, arts and recreational activities and facilities in communities and set a programme to attract more young people to partake in these activities.
 - To form partnerships with relevant government departments in the intensification of the campaign.
 - To call for establishment of youth-friendly rehabilitation centres and programmes in communities to revive youth that are addicted to drugs and alcohol.
- Provinces and Regions should form partnerships with provincial, regional and local civil society formations in the campaign against alcohol, drugs and substance abuse.



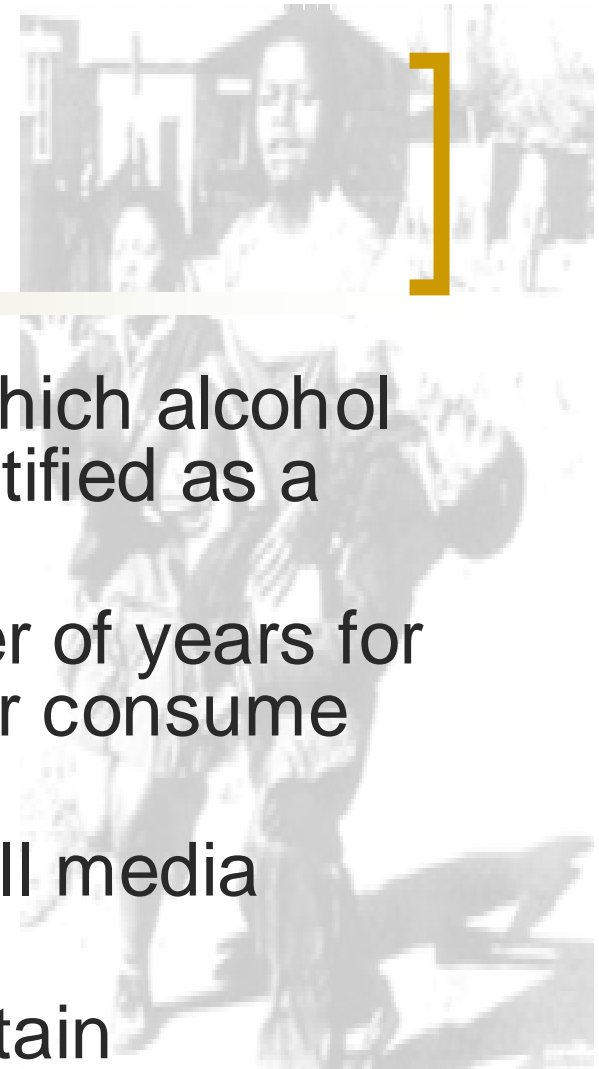


[The campaign]

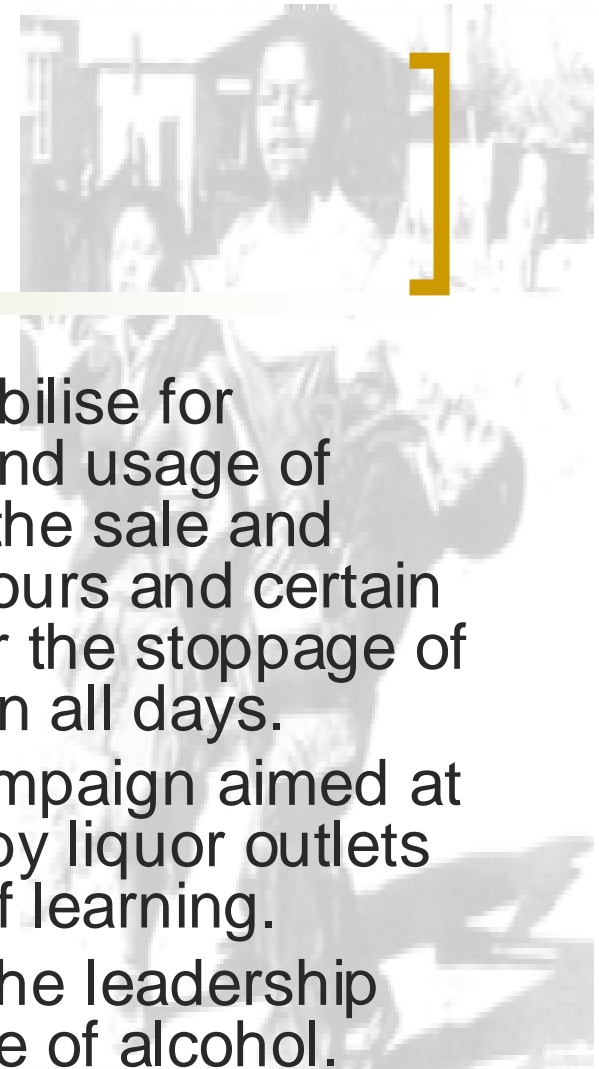
- While participating in these programmes at branch, regional and provincial level, the National Executive Committee should run a mass campaign calling for stronger legislative regulations of alcohol trade and distribution, and calling for ban on all alcohol advertisements in all media channels.
- The National Executive Committee should find a way of forming programmatic relationship with the Department of Social Development on the “*Ke Moja*” Campaign and ensure that it is intensified in all communities.
- Where deemed necessary, the National Executive Committee should call for a Convention against the abuse of drugs, alcohol and substances as a way of brining all social partners (communities, government, law-enforcement agencies, alcohol traders, alcohol brewers, civil society, etc) to deliberate on a common strategy to deal with alcohol and drug abuse.
- Finally, the National Executive Committee should call for a **National Day of Action** against Drugs, Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

[Legislative Regulation]

- Limiting the number of days on which alcohol can be for sale, with Sunday identified as a resting day.
- Consider increment of the number of years for people eligible to purchase and/or consume alcohol from 18 to 21.
- Ban All advertising of alcohol in all media channels.
- Ban the sale of alcohol within certain parameters of schools.
- Strengthen the enforcement of alcohol regulation, through tougher penalties for offenders.



23rd National Congress Resolutions



- The ANC YL should advocate and mobilise for legislative interventions on the trade and usage of alcohol which must consider banning the sale and trade/sale of alcohol beyond certain hours and certain days. We should in this context call for the stoppage of all alcohol outlets by 12H00 midnight in all days.
- The ANC YL must develop a mass campaign aimed at monitoring compliance to regulations by liquor outlets located within or close to institutions of learning.
- Members of the ANC YL, particularly the leadership should lead by examples in their usage of alcohol.
- The ANC YL should advocate for the establishment of more State Rehabilitation Facilities in order to rehabilitate and integrate affected youth back to society.

Resolutions



- The ANC YL lead a campaign to advocate for and ensure the complete banning of alcohol advertising in all media channels, including billboards, broadcast, print and electronic media.
- The ANC YL should establish programmatic relations with Non-governmental organizations, Community-Based organizations, Trade Unions and religious formations in the campaign against drugs, alcohol and substance abuse.
- The ANC YL should advocate for and ensure the adoption of a single national legislation on the regulation of alcohol trade, distribution, and consumption in communities.
- The ANC YL should mobilise communities to report people who sell drugs, illegally sell alcohol and sell alcohol to young people below the accepted age limit.

Resolutions



- The ANC YL NEC should explore the possibilities of increasing the number of years of people eligible to purchase alcohol, with a consideration of increasing the number from 18 to 21.
- The campaign against alcohol abuse and for healthy lifestyles should be a mass campaign and filtered to all structures.
- The ANC YL should support and be part of campaigns aimed at educating the youth about the dangers of substance abuse.
- To dissuade irresponsible consumption of alcohol, drugs and substance abuse, we should call for intensification the development of sporting, arts and recreational activities and programmes, and encourage the involvement of young people in these activities.

[Conclusion]

- Irresponsible consumption of alcohol, abuse of drugs and substances should not be a fashionable practice in society.
- Young people should be encouraged to desist the abuse of all intoxicating substances.
- Great focus and dedication will lead to a successful campaign.

Aluta Continua!

