

apartheid legislation, such as the population registration act, Group Areas Act, Tricameral Parliament, Homelands system and Security Acts, such as the one involving the ability to detain a person for 180 days without trial, are abolished and people are allowed freedom to move, organise, speak and vote there will be no reform that addresses the root of the problem.

The Jewish Board of Deputies also says that it does not want to get involved as it wants to protect the Jewish community and ensure it's security. But it forgets, or seems to, that the very party which is so good to us now, were avid supporters of the fascists in Nazi Germany. Are our memories so short?

If the Jewish Board of Deputies' aim is to ensure the Jewish community's security, surely it must be more long sighted than just seeing the present. There will one day be a majority government and one cannot deny that today the U.D.F. and the A.N.C. are dominant forces in the black communities. Central to these organisations is the concept of a non-racial South Africa. We can either be part of that process which will bring democracy and human rights to South Africa, or we can be on the side of this white government. Blacks perceive the Jewish community to be part of the white oppressors, and if we want to ensure the security of the Jewish community in a future South Africa, surely we should be trying to alter that perception. Jews will leave South Africa, but many will not and a Jewish community, however small, will remain and their future and security needs to be looked after.

We have seen the birth of a new Jewish organisation - Jews for Justice - which have over the last year tried to address many of these issues that face us. We were at first brushed off by many as an overnight sensation but we have proved ourselves and gained more support than was ever envisaged. Obviously many Jews care about their future in South Africa and feel the need to speak out and do something. Other than holding forum meetings, we have been involved in building bridges in the Black communities and we have met with tremendous support and encouragement from democratic organisations. We have met with UDF leadership and leadership of the Call of Islam and worked on a number of projects, e.g. a multi-denominational service to pray for Crossroads. We have also joined with other organisations to speak out against detentions, troops in the townships, clampdowns on speech and forced removals and the two new Security Acts. We have been integrally involved in the relief programme in Crossroads. The Jewish Relief Committee, a sub committee of J.F.J. worked with U.J.W. and Bnai Brith and have looked after 400 refugees for three months now. Notwithstanding