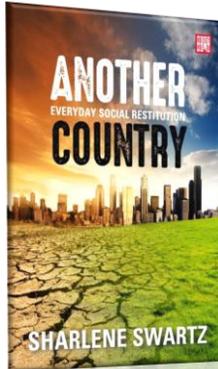


# Business and restitution



Sharlene Swartz

9 November 2017

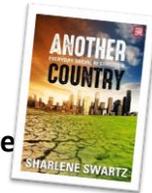
The Vineyard Hotel, Cape Town



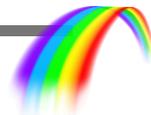
Social science that makes a difference

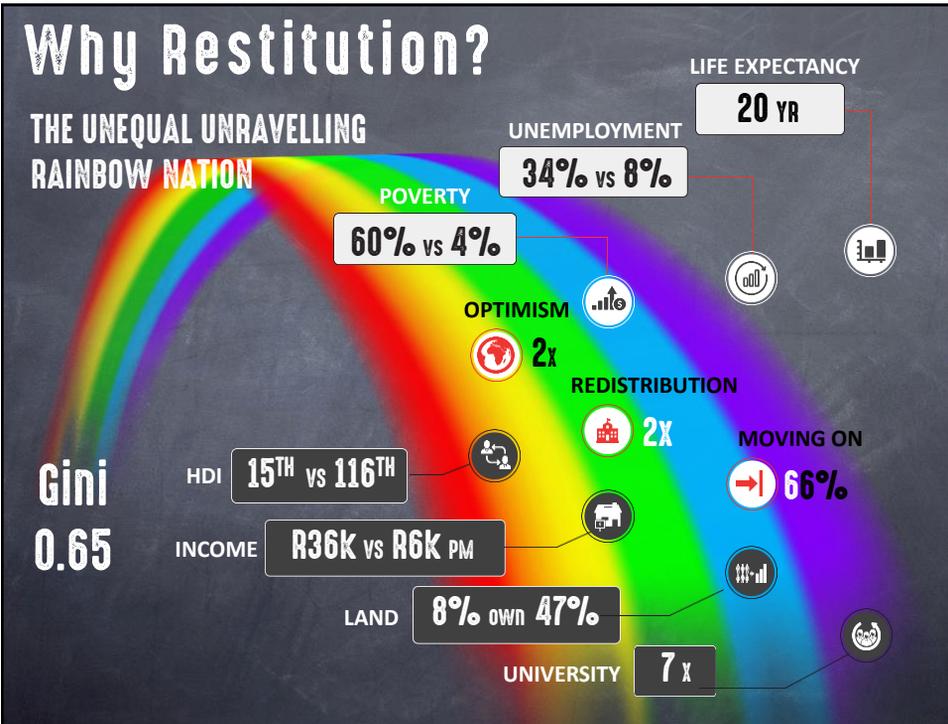


1. We are a deeply **unequal** society
2. Our **past** remains present
3. We need to recognise **Black pain** and **White privilege**
4. We need to **locate** ourselves accurately in our story
5. **Social restitution** offers one way of acting
6. As **individuals** and **communities**
7. Through a process of intentional **dialogue**
8. Based on the premise that injustice **dehumanises** us, and **restitution** can make us **human** again
9. **Dialogue** can **shift** how we see and catalyse action
10. Social restitution needs to happen **alongside other action** (legal redress, government provision, business contribution, student agitation)



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## *Another Country* tells 5 stories

1. **OUR STORY:** Our country and how it came to be so unequal and unjust
2. **THEIR STORY:** The story of 60 Black and White South Africans and the effects of the past in the present
3. **TWO FICTITIOUS STORIES:** To help us think about restitution (personhood, locating selves, dialogues)
4. **MY STORY:** With cycles of consciousness
5. **OUR POTENTIAL NEW STORY:** Based on dialogues and acts of social restitution by individuals and communities

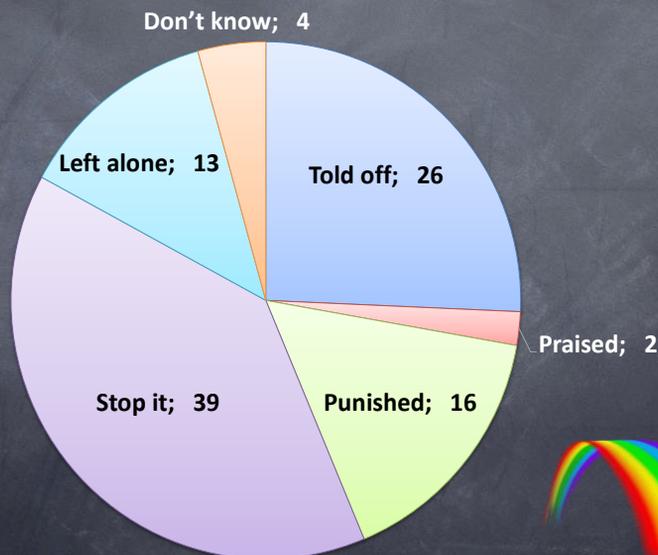


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## "Fuck White people"

SASAS 2017



### Talking points (1)

1. **Woman on a plane** – development, corruption, tax havens
  - **Corruption** cannot be an excuse to do nothing
2. **We have laws** but too many business are doing only what is needed to stay out of trouble
  - We need to look at the law and the NEED and the inequality
  - A quest for dignity, opportunity and belonging
  - For a country to be proud of
3. We must remember how we got here
  - Victim, perpetrator, bystander – but also **beneficiary** and resister
  - **Meritocracy** – 300m head start
4. Through a process of intentional dialogue – talking while doing – space for some to be shouting
  - Based on the premise that injustice dehumanises us, and restitution can make us human again
  - We can fail at being human, humanity is acquired



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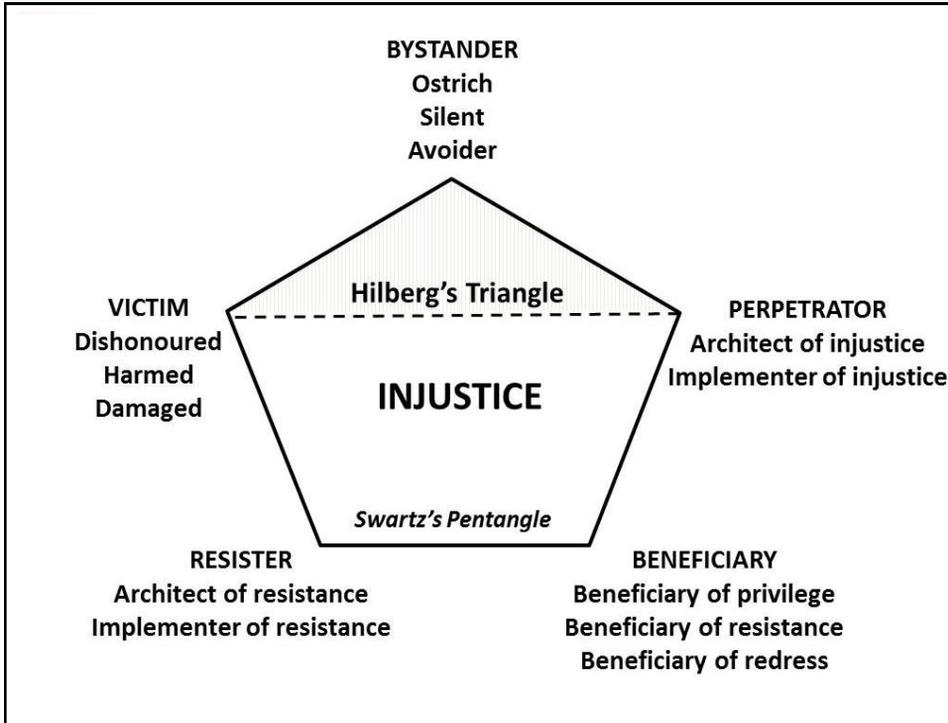
### Talking points (2)

5. Social restitution needs to happen **alongside other action** (legal redress, government provision, business contribution, student agitation)
6. **Leaders are needed** to get involved at every level – offering plans, guidance, negotiation skills
  - A plan beyond the shouting and the protests
7. **Some figures**
  - Fuck white people 2% - maybe another 13%
  - White SA must act to repair the past 60%B 20%W
  - Restitution fund or tax or talk – only 8% or 12% or 22% W
  - Forget the past – used to be 2/3<sup>rds</sup> now 76% W and 51%



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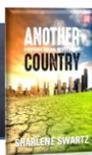
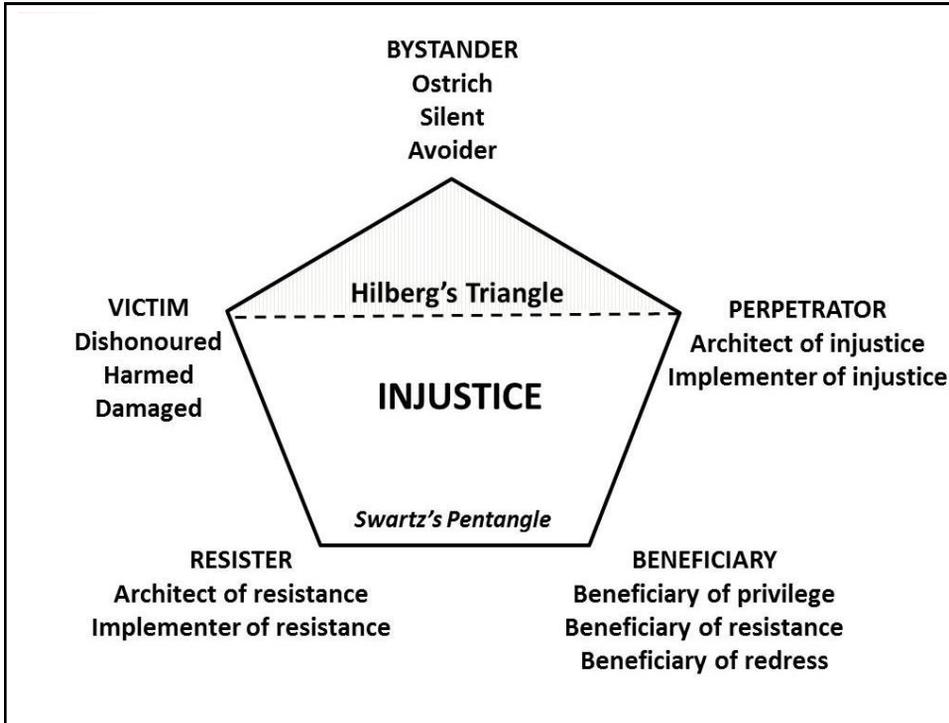
## Ideas for social restitution

### ALONGSIDE GOVERNMENT

1. COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING LEGISLATION - SPIRIT NOT JUST LETTER
2. A WEALTH TAX
3. PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS
4. MAXIMUM WAGES - BASED ON MORAL RANGES
5. A SALARY-INCREASE MORATORIUM FOR HIGH EARNERS
6. DOWNSCALING AT THE TOP...

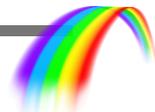
### CIVIL-SOCIETY INITIATIVES

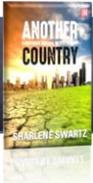
1. CHALLENGE 'WHINGERS'
2. SPATIAL MISMATCH AND WORKERS TRANSPORT
3. DIALOGUES ABOUT TRANSFORMATION
4. MENTOR YOUTH AND PROFESSIONALS
5. SHARE INHERITANCES
6. ...



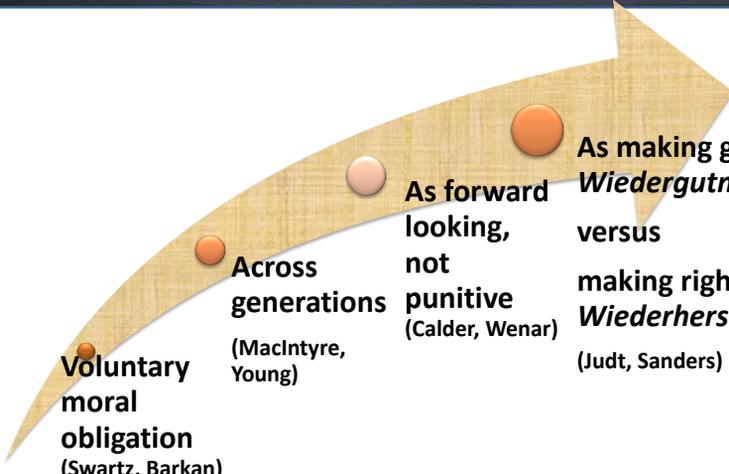
## What restitution has begun?

1. Land restitution
  - Good legislation (being modified); poor implementation; ignores some
2. Employment equity and Black economic empowerment
  - Enriched a few; open to fronting and corruption
3. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission
  - Recommendations not implemented





# Everyday SOCIAL restitution



- Voluntary moral obligation**  
(Swartz, Barkan)
- Across generations**  
(MacIntyre, Young)
- As forward looking, not punitive**  
(Calder, Wenar)
- As making good**  
*Wiedergutmachung* versus **making right**  
*Wiederherstellen*  
(Judt, Sanders)



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**READ** About the book and author of *Another Country*, what people are saying about the book, restitution, and the dialogues

**DISCUSS** Questions to guide dialogues, with space to comment on the process

**ACT** Ideas for restitution scaled by time, money, effort needed, and number of people required

**SUGGEST** Ideas for everyday social restitution; added to scaled ideas under 'act'