



A South African Glossary

Words by Prof David Benatar

South Africa has 11 official languages, but politicians have difficulty speaking sense in any of them. As a special service to the readers of Sax Appeal, David Benatar provides a glossary of some helpful terms.

ANC: n. (ēⁱ-en-sī). One Big Party. (Booze provided.) A tripartite dalliance.

BEE: n. (bī). Not for WASPs.

BBBEE: n. (b-b-b-ī). Apiarian empowerment, now with added speech impediment.

CNA: n. (sī-en-ēⁱ). Wins the great majority of the South African dyslexic votes.

DA: adv (dΛ). An affirmative response to the question: "Do you support racial preference and simultaneously oppose it?" Alternative response: Nyet!

Eish: n. (eif). An inebriated Pieter-Dirk.

EFF: (ef). 1. n. Sixth letter of the alphabet. 2. The acronym for the Economic Free Fall party. Hence a giant "Eff-up", eg. Zimbabwe, *vulg.*

Lili: n. ('lɪlɪ). 1. The ANus of the ANC; because it spews forth excrement; 2. Political Party Pooper. Not to be confused with the lily. ("Consider the lily, not the Lili.")

Madonsela: n. (mɒdɒnsɛlɒ). A bastion of democracy; protector of the people; impervious to the bonsela.

Malema: n. (mɒ'lɛmɒ). 1. A contraction of "Major Dilemma", on account of the ambivalence one feels about whether to laugh or cry at Juju's antics. 2. A contraction of "Male Lemming", more specifically of the species *Lemmus austroafricanus*. Leads its fellow lemmings over the fiscal cliff. See EFF.

Marikana: n. ('marɪkɒ:nɒ). Renamed "Sharpeville 2".

Nelson: n. ('nɛlsn). An immobilizing hold on one's adversaries. When both charm and statesmanship are used, it's a full Nelson; if only one is used it's a half Nelson. In South Africa, the chief employer of this technique was the Nelson Maindealer.

Nkandla: n. ((ə)ŋ'kʌndlɒ). Zulu for "sheath"; protection for the spear. "Of the sheath and spear, thou shalt make no (graven) image." (Gospel of Saint Jacob.)

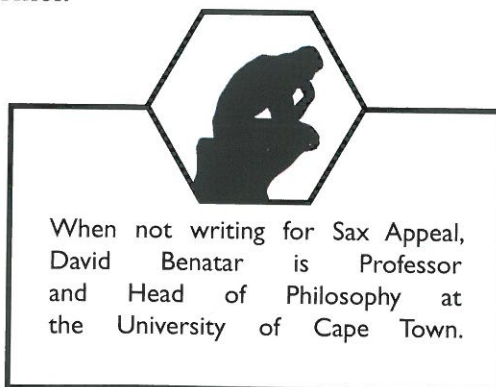
"Racist!": n. ('reɪsɪst). A linguistic stealth ordnance deployed to silence one's enemies. (Particularly effective within the pale; not beyond the pale.)

Transformation: n. (trɒ:nsfɔ:'meɪʃ'n). n. 1. Apple-pie. 2. Motherhood.

Tutu: n. ('tu:tu:). A useful suffix when creating a gmail address. Eg.: Desmond22@gmail.com

Zille: n. ('zɪlə) *var.* zilla 1. One who performs a zillion tasks simultaneously. Opposite of a zilcher. 2. *colloq.* With preceding noun, forming humorous words that depict a person or thing as a particularly imposing, relentless or overbearing example of its kind. Usage: "She's no ordinary Helen, she's a Helenzille."

Zoomer: n. (zu:mə). Variant sp. "Zuma". One who is rushed places by the Blue Lights Brigade. Usage: "Did you see that car speed by with its convoy? He was a real Zoomer."



When not writing for Sax Appeal, David Benatar is Professor and Head of Philosophy at the University of Cape Town.