



Making social worlds

The waiting game

Bernard Mazibuko, Unemployed (subtitles):

You had to have a permit to live in the hostel and if you couldn't show it you would be arrested.

Elina Mazibuko, Caretaker (subtitles):

They were not allowed to bring women here, because these were men's hostels.

If a visitor stays without permission the blackjacks (police) will come.

The police know it's meant for 16 people only and if there are any extra, they would be arrested.

Malesela Selepe, Taxi Drive):

And I didn't enjoy living in the hostel. When I enquired about buying or having a house, it was that I didn't have the right pass. So I was told to spend at least ten years to qualify to have or live in the township borough. So it didn't work for me. And it's when I've start to hate my identity document. There was nothing for me to benefit to me because it stopped me from living outside the hostel. It stopped me from buying a house so I didn't, I didn't appreciate to have it. Later, I hate it, but I was carrying it to avoid arrest because if you didn't have one you'll be arrested. Fortunately seven years later it was changed to the current one and immediately I bought a house so I call my family to live with me.