Workshop on a participatory process for transforming policy into law, May 24-28, 1993

Seidman, Robert

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Boston University
REPORT-BACK GROUP 1

ROLE OCCUPANT: WHITE COMMERCIAL FARMERS/FARM WORKERS

BEHAVIOUR: EXPLOITATION & HUMAN TREATMENT OF FARM WORKERS & THEIR FAMILIES

RULES:

- BASIC CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT
  - Only recently extended to farm workers in the face of continuous resistance by farmers.
  - However, BCCA only protects employers, and educational & health facilities are not provided for by the state or local authorities. Farmers & farm owners have no affirmative right to supply or withhold such services.

- LABOUR RELATIONS ACT/WAGES ACT

- WITF ACT: These do not apply to farm workers and farmers' powers are undermined by the common

- LAWS OF CONTRACT & PROPERTY
  - (LABOUR TENANCY CONTRACTS)

- TRESPASSING & VAGRANCY LAWS & ORDINANCES

- PRISONS ACT: Allows convict labour

- GUN LAWS: South Africa's history is one of dispossession by armed farmers while weapons have always been withheld from the dispossessed!

- LAND RAISE ACT

\[\text{Affirm} \rightarrow \text{Ball}\]
OPPORTUNITY & CAPACITY:

- MIGRANT LABOUR SYSTEM
- UNEMPLOYMENT & LACK OF INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT
- LACK OF RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION
- VULNERABILITY OF FARMWORKERS
- TRIBAL AUTHORITIES AT THE DISPOSAL OF FARMERS
- A CULTURE OF DEPENDENCE WORRIED BY FARMERS
- CAPACITY BASED ON BEING HEREDITARY FARMOWNERS
- INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS
- GEOGRAPHICAL LOCALITY - RURAL STRUGGLES WERE MARGINALIZED
I have a problem. Weren't we supposed to say what we will be doing (based on our research), looking at the 3 proposals outlined? Because it seems people are drifting away from the whole idea?