

STUDY GUIDE



THE OLD GLOBE

Presents



Written by **Ian Bruce**

Directed by **Kyle Donnelly**

The Old Globe

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WELCOME TO THE OLD GLOBE

Welcome to The Old Globe. *Groundswell* is a searing and suspenseful drama written by South African playwright, Ian Bruce. The play explores the complex interplay of race, social class, poverty, apartheid, and affirmative action and how these influence the dreams and aspirations of common South Africans in the 21st century. This study guide is designed to maximize the viewer’s theatrical and educational experience of the play. Some of the themes explored in *Groundswell* are particular to the South African context, and will be addressed in the ***History and Context*** section of our study guide. At the same time, many aspects of the play have universal themes—such as the desire to better one’s life; greed; poverty; violence, loneliness, guilt, redemption—some of which are explored in the ***LifeSkills*** section. In addition, we include a section titled ***The World of Theatre***, where you will learn about the unique aspects of this particular production of *Groundswell*, be introduced to some theatre terminology, and to conventional theatre etiquette. At the end of each of the three sections, there are activities that teachers may choose to do with their students in order to connect students’ experiences and daily lives with the themes of the play and to facilitate their independent research into the historical and theatrical context of the play.

ABOUT THE OLD GLOBE

The internationally-acclaimed, **Tony® Award-winning** Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country, and has stood as San Diego’s flagship arts institution for 75 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as ***Dirty Rotten Scoundrels***, ***The Full Monty***, and ***Damn Yankees*** have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of CEO/Executive Producer Louis G. Spisto, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American Theatre.

GROUNDSWELL - SYNOPSIS

On the barren diamond-diving coast of South Africa, Johan and Thami, an ex-cop and a gardener from starkly contrasting backgrounds, maintain a beachfront guest lodge during the off-season while looking for a way out. When Smith, a retired businessman, shows up one foggy night, the two men think they've found an ideal investor for their scheme to buy into a government-run diamond mining concession. Soon, these rootless men find themselves in a power struggle fueled by greed, desperation and entitlement.

Note: The play contains select words and phrases in the South African language of Xhosa.

THE CHARACTERS

Thami: A temporary manager of the guest house. Around 30 years old. Xhosa, Black.

Johan: A permanent resident in the lodge. In his mid-30s. Afrikaner, White.

Smith: An overnight guest at the lodge. In his mid-60s. English descent, White.

Find additional articles related to the play in the full program of Groundswell at

<http://www.theoldglobe.org/upload/productions/pdf/GroundswellWeb.pdf>

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Ian Bruce was trained as an actor in Johannesburg and appeared briefly in the early 1970s on the South African stage and TV before leaving South Africa to begin a 17-year long political exile in Holland, where he cofounded the Tekhwini Theatre Foundation with Anthony Akerman and Joseph Mosikili. In 1978 his first play, *Falls the Shadow*, won a Dutch Arts Council Best New Play Award and several works on South African themes followed. The only one of these to evade South Africa's censorship laws, *My Father's House*, was courageously produced by PACT, the most progressive of the four provincial arts councils that existed in South Africa at the time, in 1987. After his return to South Africa in the early 1990s, Bruce focused on the uses of drama for development and spent some years living and working in poverty-stricken rural communities. In 1998 he began working with the New Africa Theatre Association, for which he and his wife,

Ina, have created a host of productions, educational plays and industrial theater works. He is the current Executive Director of the New Africa Theatre Association. Since *Groundswell*, Bruce has written two more major plays: *Transit* (written and produced in 2009) and *Burnt!* (written in 2010 and currently in production in Cape Town).

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Kyle Donnelly has directed The Old Globe's *Opus*, *Orson's Shadow* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She has had a long association with Arena Stage in Washington, DC, having been Associate Artistic Director from 1992 to 1998 and directed such productions as *Well*, *She Loves Me*, *Born Yesterday*, *Tom Walker*, *The Women*, *Lovers and Executioners*, *The Miser*, *Molly Sweeney*, *A Small World*, *Dancing at Lughnasa* (winner of Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Resident Play), *Summer and Smoke*, *A Month in the Country*, *The School for Wives*, *Misalliance*, *Polk County* (Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Musical), *Plough and the Stars*, *Shakespeare in Hollywood* and others. She directed the American premiere of Brian Friel's *Give Me*

Your Answer, Do! Off Broadway for Roundabout Theatre Company and has directed *Spoon Lake Blues* (The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center Festival), *The Constant Wife*

and *The Three Musketeers* (Seattle Repertory Theatre), *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* (Williamstown Theatre Festival), *The Rover* and *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Goodman Theatre), *Molly Sweeney* (Steppenwolf Theatre Company), *Ah, Wilderness!*, *Hyde Park*, *Aristocrats* and *Little Foxes* (Huntington Theatre Company), *The Constant Wife* (American Conservatory Theater), *Polk County* (McCarter Theatre and Berkeley Repertory Theatre), *State of the Union* (Ford's Theatre), *Pygmalion* and *Paradise Hotel* (Court Theatre), *Zara Spook* and *Other Lures* (Humana Festival), *Collected Stories* (A Contemporary Theatre), *The Rivals* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *Baltimore Waltz* (The Studio Theatre), *Three Nights in Tehran* (Signature Theatre Company), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Alliance Theatre) and many other regional theatres around the country. She founded her own acting studio called The Actors Center in Chicago, a leading training center for actors in that city from 1982-1992. She is a member of Stage Directors and Choreographers, winner of an Alan Schneider Award from Theatre Communications Group, AT&T Onstage Award, Helen Hayes Award and Joseph Jefferson Award and holds the Arthur and Molli Wagner Endowed Chair in Acting. She is the head of the professional actor training program at the University of California, San Diego.

ARTISTIC TEAM

STAFF

Director..... Kyle Donnelly
Scenic Design Kate Edmunds
Costume Design..... Denitsa Bliznakova
Lighting Design..... Russell Champa
Sound Design..... Lindsay Jones
Dialect Coach..... Gillian Lane-Plescia
Dramaturg..... Lily Kelting
Stage Manager..... Annette Yé*
Assistant Scenic Design Sean Fanning
Assistant Costume Design..... Michelle Hunt Souza
Production Assistant..... Amanda Salmons

CAST

(In Alphabetical Order)

Johan..... Antony Hagopian*
Thami..... Owiso Odera*
Smith..... Ned Schmidtke*

UNDERSTUDIES

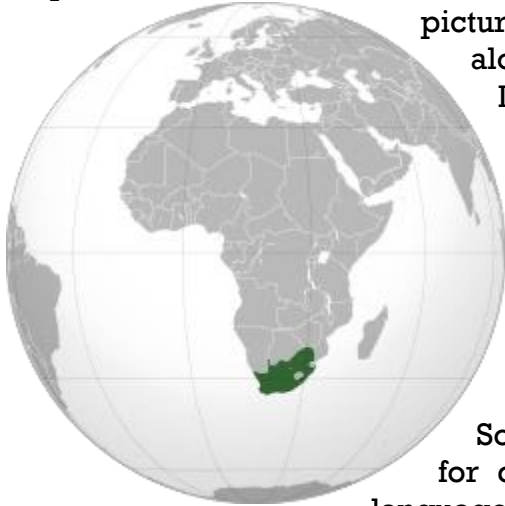
There are no understudies for this production.

**Member of Actors' Equity Association*

HISTORY & CONTEXT

Introduction

The **Republic of South Africa**¹ is a parliamentary democracy comprising nine provinces. It is located at the southern tip of Africa (highlighted in green in the picture to the left). Its coastline is 1,739 miles long and runs along two oceans—the Atlantic on the west and the Indian Ocean on the east.



South Africa contains the largest communities of European, Asian, and racially mixed ancestry in Africa. South Africa provides four major racial categories by which people could classify themselves: Black African (79.4%), White (9.2%), Colored² (8.8%), and Indian or Asian at 2.6%.

South Africa is ethnically diverse and it is also known for diversity in cultures and languages. Eleven official languages are recognized in the constitution. Two of these languages are of European origin: Afrikaans and South African English. Afrikaans originated mainly from Dutch and is spoken by a majority of White and Colored South African (read more below for details about the different populations of South Africa). Though English is commonly used in public and commercial life, it is only the fifth most-spoken home language. The population of South Africans that are classified as Black African, comprises of a variety of ethnic groups speaking different Bantu languages³, nine of which have official status: Zulu, Xhosa, Basoth (South Sotho), Bapedi (North Sotho), Venda, Tswana, Tsonga, Swazi and Ndebele.

¹ History-Social Science Standards for California Public Schools: 10.10.Students analyze instances of nation-building in the contemporary world. 10.10.2 Describe the recent history of the regions, including political divisions and systems, key leaders, religious issues, natural features, resources, and population patterns; 10.10.3 Discuss the important trends in the regions today and whether they appear to serve the cause of individual freedom and democracy.

² 'Colored' refers or referred to an ethnic group of mixed-race people who possess some sub-Saharan African ancestry but not enough to be considered Black under the law of South Africa. They are mixed race and often possess substantial ancestry from Europe, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaya, Mozambique, Mauritius, Saint Helena and Southern Africa. Genetic studies suggest the group has the highest levels of mixed ancestry in the world.

³ The Bantu languages (technically Narrow Bantu languages) constitute a traditional sub-branch of the Niger-Congo languages. There are about 250 Bantu languages though the distinction between language and dialect is often unclear. Bantu languages are spoken largely east and south of the present day country of Cameroon; i.e., in the regions commonly known as central Africa, east Africa, and southern Africa. The Bantu language with the largest total number of speakers is Swahili. It has over 80 million speakers across 8 countries and this number is growing.

According to the International Monetary Fund, South Africa ranks 27th in the world in terms of Gross National Product. South Africa is a major producer and exporter of gold, diamonds, metals, machinery, and wine. Advanced development is significantly localized around four areas: Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, and Pretoria/Johannesburg. Beyond these urban, economic centers, development is still marginal and poverty persists amongst the majority of South Africans.

Flag of South Africa⁴



The national flag was designed by a former South African State Herald, Mr Fred Brownell, and was first used on April 27, 1994. The design and colors are a synopsis of principal elements of the country's flag history. Individual colors, or color combinations represent different meanings for different people and therefore no universal symbolism should be attached to any of the colors.

The central design of the flag, beginning at the flag post in a 'V' form and flowing into a single horizontal band to the outer edge of the fly, can be interpreted as the convergence of diverse elements within South African society, taking the road ahead in unity.

South Africa has 3 Capitals

Unlike many countries such as the United States, South Africa divides its governmental power among three capitals.

Bloemfontein is the capital of the judiciary.

Cape Town is the legislative capital.

Pretoria is the administrative capital.

⁴ <http://www.info.gov.za/aboutgovt/symbols/flag.htm>

South African West Coast

Groundswell is set in a small port town on the South African West Coast. The West Coast Region is located north of Cape Town, the second most populous city in South Africa. It is located along the South-West Coast of South Africa, skirts the Atlantic Ocean from Bloubaai in the Cape Metropolitan Area in the south, to the provincial border in Namaqualand in the north, all within the province of Western Cape. It is a remote strip of land and famous for its spectacular fields of flowers in the Spring, west coast hospitality, wild and desolate coastline, freezing cold water, peace and tranquility.



Look for Cape Town on the bottom, left side of the map. It represents the southern tip of the South African West Coast on the South Atlantic Ocean.

IMAGES FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN WEST COAST



(Right) Flower fields in spring on the South African West Coast

(Right) The coastal town of Strandfontein on South Africa's West Coast



(Left) The Port Town of Cape Town in the province of Western Cape, South Africa

Xhosa



“Molo, Kunjani, umhlobo wam?”

- Johan in *Groundswell*

Johan is speaking in Xhosa, one of the official languages of South Africa. It translates to: “Hello, how are you, my friend?”

Xhosa is spoken by approximately 7.9 million people, or about 18% of the South African population. Like most Bantu languages, Xhosa is a tonal language, that is, the same sequence of consonants and vowels can have different meanings when said with a rising or falling or high or low intonation. One of the most distinctive features of the language is the prominence of click consonants; the word "Xhosa", the name of the language itself, begins with a click.

(Photo: Bible in Xhosa)

Xhosa is written using a Latin alphabet-based system. Three letters are used to indicate the basic clicks: *c* for dental clicks, *x* for lateral clicks, and *q* for palatal clicks. Tones are not indicated in the written form.

Xhosa is the most widely distributed African language in South Africa, while the most widely spoken is Zulu. Xhosa is the second most common home language in South Africa as a whole. As of 2003 the majority of Xhosa speakers, approximately 5.3 million, live in the Eastern Cape, followed by the Western Cape (approximately 2 million). Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu are famous speakers of the Xhosa language.

To get a quick Xhosa lesson, click on the links below

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZ6oe2U7AOA&playnext=1&list=PLE2AA05EF2E5F3B75>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31zzMb3U0iY&feature=relmfu>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SepX94m3XBQ&feature=relmfu>

History of Apartheid in South Africa

Apartheid, which means 'separateness' in Afrikaans, was a system of legal racial segregation enforced by the National Party government of South Africa between 1948 and 1993. Under this system, the rights of the majority 'non-White' inhabitants of South Africa were curtailed and minority rule by White people was maintained.

Racial segregation began in colonial times. South Africa was colonized by the English and the Dutch in the 17th century. English domination of the Dutch descendents (known as Boers or Afrikaners) resulted in the Dutch establishing the new colonies of Orange Free State and Transvaal. The discovery of diamonds in these lands inspired an English invasion, which sparked the Boer War between the Afrikaners and the English. An uneasy power-sharing between these two groups continued until the 1940s when the Afrikaner National Party was able to gain a strong majority. Strategists in the National Party invented apartheid as a means to cement their control over the economic and social system.

Apartheid as an official policy was introduced following the general election of 1948. New legislation classified inhabitants into racial groups—"Black", "White", "Colored", and "Indian". Classification into these categories was based on appearance, social acceptance, and descent. For example, a White person was defined as "in appearance obviously a White person or generally accepted as a White person." A person could not be considered White if one of his or her parent were non-White. The determination whether a person was definitely White would take into account his or her "habits, education, speech, deportment and demeanor". Residential areas were segregated, sometimes by means of forced removals. From 1958, Black people were deprived of their citizenship; legally becoming citizens of one of ten tribally based self-governing homelands called "Bantustans". The

Department of Home Affairs (a bureau of the government) was responsible for the classification of the citizenry. Non-compliance with the race laws were dealt with harshly. All Blacks were required to carry "pass books" containing fingerprints, photo and information on access to non-Black areas, The government segregated education, medical care, and other public services and provided Black people with services inferior to those of White people.

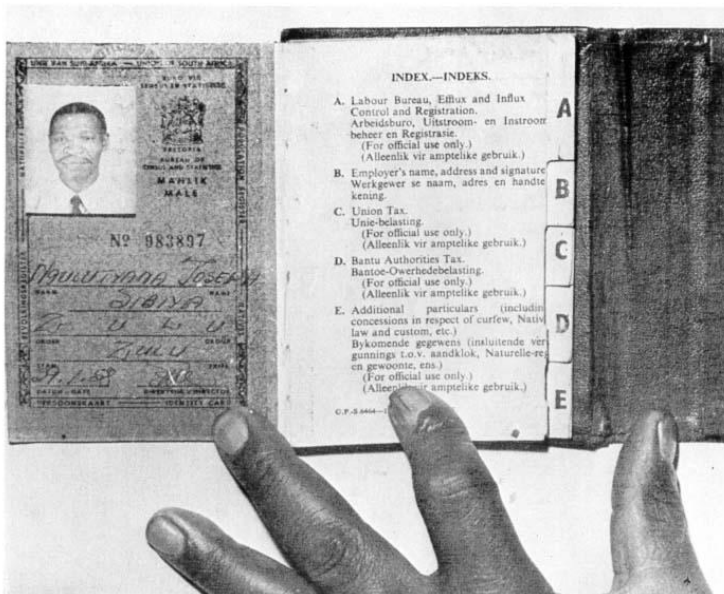


Photo: A passbook belonging to a Zulu man.



Apartheid sparked significant internal resistance and violence as well as a long international trade embargo⁵ against South Africa. The government responded to a series of popular uprisings and protests with police brutality. In 1949, the young wing of the African National Congress (ANC) took control of the organization and launched a Program of Action. A series of strikes, boycotts and civil disobedience actions led to occasionally violent clashes with the authorities. In 1959, a group of disenchanted ANC members formed the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), which organized a demonstration against passbooks on March 21st, 1960. One of these protests was held in the township of Sharpeville, where 69 people were killed by police. Several student organizations became significant protestors during the 1970s in the fight against apartheid. Church groups, too, emerged as pivotal points of resistance. Although the majority of Whites supported apartheid, some 20 percent did not. White resistance came from The Progressive Federal Party that opposed apartheid in the Parliament, the South African Communist Party (SACP) and the

Black Sash, a women's organization (see Glossary for more on Black Sash).

International Action: Following the Sharpeville massacre, the United Nations Security Council agreed on concerted action against the apartheid regime, demanding an end to racial separation and discrimination. The United Nations

⁵ An embargo is the partial or complete prohibition of commerce and trade with a particular country, in order to isolate it.

passed an arms embargo on South Africa in the 1963. In response to these U.N. actions, the U.S government enacted laws and regulations designed to restrict the flow of resources to the South African military and police. After much debate, by the late 1980s, the United States, the United Kingdom, and 23 other nations passed laws placing various trade sanctions on South Africa. In addition, South Africa started to be isolated in sports in the 1950s; they were banned from the Olympic Games in 1964; and several nations refused to play South African sports teams until their teams were chosen on a non-racist basis. In the 1960s, the Anti-Apartheid Movements began to campaign for cultural boycotts of apartheid South Africa. Artists were requested not to present or let their works be hosted in South Africa. Over sixty American artists, including renowned actor Marlon Brando, signed a statement against apartheid and against professional links with the state. Sporting and cultural boycotts did not have the same impact as economic sanctions, but they did much to lift consciousness amongst South Africans of the global condemnation of apartheid.



The most prominent leader of the anti-apartheid movement was Nelson Mandela (see photo on the left). Mandela belongs to the Xhosa clan. Born in Transkei, South Africa on July 18, 1918, his father was the chief of the Tembu Tribe. Mandela decided to give up his chieftainship so he could focus on the anti-apartheid resistance movement. In 1942, Mandela qualified in law and soon after joined the ANC and started engaging in resistance against the National Party's apartheid policies. In 1962, Mandela was arrested for plotting to overthrow the government by violence. In 1964, he was sentenced to life imprisonment. Mandela served 27 years in prison, spending many of these years on Robben Island.

Apartheid finally came to an end in the early 1990s. Apartheid was dismantled in a series of negotiations from 1990 to 1993. By 1987, the growth of South Africa's economy had dropped to among the lowest rate in the world and its government was under tremendous pressure to end apartheid. In 1989, President P.W. Botha who had been a staunch advocate for the status quo of apartheid-driven policies, suffered a stroke and was compelled to resign. He was succeeded by F.W. de Klerk. On February 2, 1990, De Klerk announced that he would repeal discriminatory laws and lift the 30-year ban on leading anti-apartheid groups such as the ANC, PAC, SACP, and the United Democratic Front. He ended the Land Act, which prevented non-Whites from freely purchasing land in South Africa. He lifted media restrictions and released political prisoners who were not guilty of common-law crimes. On February 11, 1990, Nelson Mandela was released from prison. Following his release from prison, Mandela led his party in the

negotiations that led to multi-racial democracy in 1994. In 1994, elections were held in South Africa with universal suffrage; for the first time, all South Africans, irrespective of race, were able to vote. The ANC was voted into power and Nelson Mandela became President of South Africa. From 1990 to 1996, the legal apparatus of apartheid was abolished and consequently international trade sanctions and embargoes, as well as cultural boycotts were lifted so that South Africa could become a fully participating member of the international community.



Nelson Mandela and F.W. deKlerk receive Nobel Prize in 1993

Photo: Huffington Post

As president from 1994 to 1999, Nelson Mandela frequently gave priority to reconciliation between different groups in South Africa and between South Africa and the international community. Mandela has received more than 250 awards over four decades, including the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize, which he shared with F.W. deKlerk for their work for the peaceful termination of the apartheid regime and for laying the foundations for a democratic South Africa.

Truth and Reconciliation

Groundswell references the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)**. The TRC was a court-like restorative justice⁶ body assembled in South Africa after the abolition of apartheid. Witnesses who were identified as victims of gross human rights violations were invited to give statements about their experiences, and some were selected for public hearings. Perpetrators of violence could also give testimony and request amnesty⁷ from both civil and criminal prosecution.

The TRC, the first of the nineteen held internationally to stage public hearings, was seen by many as a crucial component of the transition to full and free democracy in South Africa. Despite some flaws, it is generally (although not universally) thought to have been successful.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu (see glossary) headed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Tutu is generally credited with coining the term **Rainbow Nation** as a metaphor for post-apartheid South Africa after 1994 under African National Congress rule. The expression has since entered mainstream consciousness to describe South Africa's ethnic diversity.

Films, Documentaries, and Plays Based on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Films & Documentaries

- *Confronting the Truth* by Steve York. 2006, documentary, produced in association with the United States Institute of Peace.
- *Facing the Truth* (1999) by Bill Moyers. 2-part PBS series.^[5]
- *Forgiveness* (2004) directed by Ian Gabriel. A South African feature film starring South African-born actor Arnold Vosloo as a disgraced ex-cop seeking forgiveness from the family of the activist he killed under the Apartheid regime. With Quanita Adams and Zane Meas.

⁶ Restorative justice is a sub-movement in criminal justice which focuses on repairing the harm done by a crime, rather than on merely punishing the perpetrator of the crime. This movement focuses on bringing together victims, offenders, and community members in the hope that the dialogue between them will lead to transformational change that will benefit all parties and reduce the occurrence of the crime. For more information, visit www.restorativejustice.org

⁷ Amnesty is a legislative or executive act by which a state restores those who may have been guilty of an offense against it to the positions of innocent people. When granted, it obliterates all legal remembrance of the offense. The word has the same root as amnesia.

- *In My Country* (2004), very loosely based on *Country of My Skull*, an autobiographical text by Antjie Krog which dealt with her coverage of the hearings, starring Samuel L. Jackson and Juliette Binoche
- *Long Night's Journey into Day* (2000) by Frances Reid. Documentary.^[6]
- *Red Dust* (2004), based on the novel of the same title by Gillian Slovo, starring Hilary Swank, Jamie Bartlett and Chiwetel Ejiofor
- *Zulu Love Letter* (2004) directed by Ramadan Suleman and starring Pamela Nomvete.

Plays

- "Truth in Translation" (2006), by Paavo Tom Tammi, in collaboration with American director, Michael Lessac and the company of Colonnades Theatre Lab, South Africa.
- *Ubu and the Truth Commission* (1997), by Jane Taylor and William Kentridge.
- *Nothing but the Truth* (2002), by John Kani
- *The Story I Am About to Tell*, created in collaboration with the Khulumani support group
- *The Dead Wait*, by Paul Herzberg

Affirmative Action

“And when the time came for change, the future I had spent my strength building, I was asked ... I was *told*, to relinquish it, just give it up. Give it away, surrender it, just forget about it. Others now will receive the rewards of my work. Their children, not mine, will inherit it ... their grandchildren, not mine”

- Smith in *Groundswell*.

In the play, Smith critiques the policy of affirmative action that he believes has negatively impacted his life as a White man in South Africa. Post-Apartheid, Smith was forced into early retirement to make room for a non-White employee as per the Affirmative Action laws in South Africa. Affirmative action refers to policies that take factors including "race, color, religion, sex, or national origin" into consideration in order to benefit an underrepresented group, usually as a means to counter the effects of a history of discrimination. The focus of such policies ranges from employment and education to public contracting and health programs.

Following the transition to democracy in 1994, the African National Congress-led government chose to implement affirmative action legislation to correct previous imbalances (a policy known as Employment Equity). In addition, Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) was a program launched by the South African government to redress the inequalities of apartheid by giving previously disadvantaged groups (black Africans, Coloreds, Indians and some Chinese--who are SA citizens)

economic opportunities previously not available to them. The formerly privileged white minority was compelled by law to employ previously disenfranchised groups (Blacks, Indians, and Coloreds), collectively referred to as "blacks"⁸.

The Employment Equity Act and the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act aim to promote and achieve equality in the workplace by advancing people from designated groups. The designated groups who are to be advanced include all people of color, women (including white women) and disabled people. Employment Equity legislation requires companies employing more than 50 people to design and implement plans to improve the representation of workforce demographics, and report them to the Department of Labor.

The policies of Employment Equity and, particularly, Black Economic empowerment have been criticized both by those who view them as discriminatory against white people, and by those who view them as ineffectual.

Read more about South Africa on The Old Globe website available at <http://www.theoldglobe.org/upload/productions/pdf/GroundswellWeb.pdf>

Questions to Ponder

Debate the positive and negative consequences of Affirmative Action.

Why might Affirmative Action be necessary?

Brainstorm alternatives to Affirmative Action that might serve the same purpose.

⁸ Also see <http://www.kirwaninstitute.org/research/projects/affirmative-action/around-the-world/south-africa.php>

Diamond Mining

Groundswell explores the issue of diamond mining in South Africa. Johan is a commercial diamond diver. Thami and Johan are hoping to secure a better life for themselves by securing a diamond concession (see glossary) on the South African West Coast. Diamonds are seen as a way to escape a life of poverty and economic strife.

Diamond is one of the best known allotropes⁹ of carbon. The hardness and high dispersion of light of diamond make it useful for both industrial applications and jewelry. Diamond is the hardest known natural mineral. This makes it an excellent abrasive and makes it hold polish and luster extremely well. No known naturally occurring substance can cut (or even scratch) a diamond.

The market for **industrial-grade** diamonds operates much differently from its **gem-grade** counterpart. Industrial diamonds are valued mostly for their hardness and heat conductivity, making many of the gemological characteristics of diamond, including clarity and color, mostly irrelevant. This helps explain why 80% of mined diamonds (equal to about 100 million carats or 20 tons annually), unsuitable for use as gemstones, are destined for industrial use. In addition to mined diamonds, synthetic diamonds found industrial applications almost immediately after their invention in the 1950s; another 400 million carats (80 tons) of synthetic diamonds are produced annually for industrial use—nearly four times the mass of natural diamonds mined over the same period.



The dominant industrial use of diamond is in cutting, drilling (drill bits), grinding (diamond edged cutters), and polishing. Most uses of diamonds in these technologies do not require large diamonds; in fact, most diamonds that are gem-quality can find an industrial use. Diamonds are embedded in drill tips or saw blades, or ground into a powder for use in grinding and polishing applications.

There are a limited number of commercially viable diamond mines currently operating in the world. Diamonds are also mined alluvially over disperse areas, where diamonds have been eroded out of the ground, deposited, and concentrated by water or weather action. There is also at least one example of a non-commercial diamond mine (Crater of Diamonds State Park in Arkansas, USA).

⁹ Allotropes are different structural modifications of an element such as carbon where the atoms of the element are bonded together in a different manner. For example, diamond and graphite are both allotropes of carbon, where the atoms are bonded differently.

Below are two major means of diamond mining.

Alluvial diamond mining

Alluvial diamonds is the term used to describe diamonds that have been removed from the primary source (Kimberlite) by natural erosive action over millions of years and eventually deposited in a new environment such as a river bed, an ocean floor, or a shoreline. Alluvial diamond deposits are found on the Atlantic coast of South Africa and Namibia. Alluvial diamond mining is the term used to describe the



process through which such diamonds are recovered from sand, gravel, and clay. Large concentrations of alluvial diamond deposits are mined on an industrial basis. However, most alluvial diamond deposits are spread across huge geographic areas, which cannot be easily isolated and therefore are not mined industrially. These deposits are mined informally, in a non-regulated way. This is commonly known as artisanal or small scale-alluvial diamond digging.

Off-Shore Diamond Mining & Diving

The character of Johan in *Groundswell* is a diamond diver. Shallow-water mining operations are conducted using small-scale, diver assisted suction equipment. Shore-based operators generally operate in the intertidal down to a depth of around 10 meters, while the boat-based operators usually work in the 10-30 meter depth range.

The techniques used for shore- and boat-based operations are very similar, except that boat-based operations generally employ larger equipment and more divers. A typical boat-based operation consists of a 10-15m vessels with a 5-8 man crew, of which 2-3 are divers. A shore-based operation typically consists of 2-3 divers, their assistants and a tractor modified to drive a rotary classifier and centripetal pump to which an eight inch suction hose is attached. The divers, operating on surface-supplied diving equipment, guide the



terminal end of the hose into the gravel deposits, which are sucked up and delivered directly to the classifier. Concentrate is bagged and brought to central sorting houses onshore. Large rocks are often moved by the divers (or pulled up onto the shore using a tractor) to allow the pump nozzle to reach deep layers of gravel where the heavy diamonds settle. Coarse material is allowed to build up on the shore, while fine material is returned to the sea. In some instances, kelp may be cut to facilitate access to shallow inshore ore bodies.

It was not until 1961 that diamonds were mined offshore on the west coast of southern Africa. Sam Collins a rich Texan whose company specialized in submarine pipelines became interested in the theories that rich diamond deposits lay offshore of the Orange River mouth. His pipeline experience enabled him to develop techniques for dredging diamonds from the seabed. The feasibility of this venture was doubted, however, as it was accepted at that time that the deposits could not be mined economically. Sam Collins was not deterred and tenaciously stuck to the task, proving his critics wrong. His company Marine Diamond Company Ltd successfully mined payable deposits in shallow water off Chamies and Bakers Bay. In the process he experimented with various sea going vessels, from small fishing boats, to large mining barges, to a converted 70 m ex-US Navy tank landing craft, using a combination of airlifts and centripetal pumps.

Initially De Beers, the world's leading diamond company, had thought that this would not be economical but admitted their error, eventually buying a controlling share of MDC in 1965. Soon after however, the diamond market slumped and MDC ceased offshore mining operations in 1971. Small-scale shallow water operations continued to increase steadily over the years, but deep-water offshore mining operations only really started again in the early 1990s. These deep-water operations now represent the pinnacle of technological development in the diamond mining industry, requiring dedicated mining vessels, complex electronic navigation systems and specialized remotely operated mining tools.



JOHAN

Only two boats on this part of the coast haven't lost at least one diver in the past five years. There are sixteen boats, at this time, working from here. It's more than two divers killed every year. Rock falls, mainly, and serious embolisms.

THAMI

(Explaining "embolisms".)

They get bubbles of something in their blood. It happens to Johan. Then they have to put him in the decompression chamber.

JOHAN

(Turns back to them.)

And the Atlantic is cold, ice-cold.

Risks of Diamond Diving. Being a commercial diver for diamonds is a very dangerous occupation that has many health risks and injuries associated with it, such as embolisms. An embolism is caused when a mass of solid, liquid, or gaseous nature gets lodged into an arterial vessel causing a blockage. In the play, Johan suffers from embolisms, causing him tremendous pain.

A common sickness that is associated with divers is Decompression sickness (DCS; also historically or colloquially known as divers' disease, the bends or caisson disease) a condition arising from dissolved gases coming out of solution into bubbles inside the body on depressurization. Since bubbles can form in or migrate to any part of the body, DCS can produce many symptoms, and its effects may vary from joint pain and rashes, to paralysis and death.

Pulmonary (lung) pressure damage is another health risk for divers. It is usually caused by breath-holding on ascent. The compressed gas in the lungs expands as the ambient pressure decreases causing the lungs to over expand and rupture unless the diver breathes out. The lungs do not sense pain when over-expanded giving the diver little warning to prevent the injury.

Read more about politics of Diamond Mining on The Old Globe website available at

<http://www.theoldglobe.org/upload/productions/pdf/GroundswellWeb.pdf>

FURTHER READING

Diamonds, Gold, and War: The British, the Boers, and the Making of South Africa (2008)
by Martin Meredith

A History of South Africa, Third Edition (2001) by Leonard Montearth Thompson

South Africa's Brave New World: The Beloved Country Since the End of Apartheid
(2010) by R. W. Johnson

South Africa: The Rise and Fall of Apartheid (2004) by Nancy L. Clark and William H.
Worger

Racial Redress & Citizenship in South Africa (2008) by Kristina Bentley and Adam
Habib

Affirmative Action Around the World: An Empirical Study (2005) by Thomas Sowell

Language in South Africa (2002) by Rajend Mesthrie

Blood on the Stone: Greed, Corruption and War in the Global Diamond Trade (2010)
by Ian Smillie

The Diamond Mines of South Africa, Volume 1 (2010) by Gardner Fred Williams

Activity: Compare and Contrast

United States of America

versus

South Africa



South Africa and the United States of America have some things in common and some very important differences.

For this activity, choose a point of comparison that you'd like to focus on and compare these two countries: For example, sports, music, political structure, geography, demographics, languages history, civil rights struggles, economy, politics, natural resources, etc.

Conduct some research and share your findings with your classmates.

POST SHOW

Discuss some aspects of the play that you thought were uniquely South African.

THE WORLD OF THEATRE

Scenic Design

Scenic design is the creation of theatrical scenery. The 'stage picture' is the 'look' or physical appearance of the stage for a play. It reflects the way that the stage is composed artistically in regard to props, actors, shapes and colors. The stage picture should express good principles of design and use of space. It should be visually appealing for the audience or should express the show's concept.

The scenic designer is responsible for collaborating with the theatre director and other members of the production design team to create an environment for the production and then communicating the details of this environment to the technical director, production manager, charge scenic artist and prop master. Scenic designers are responsible for creating scale models of the scenery, renderings, paint elevations and scale construction drawings as part of their communication with other production staff.

On the next page are two pictures of the scale model of the set for *Groundswell*.

Notice that light design is very important to the play. *Groundswell* is set in a beach-front guesthouse in a small, run-down port town in South Africa.

Note the differences in the mood the set relates simply by the changes in lighting. Kate Edmunds, the scenic designer explains that the world of *Groundswell* combines naturalism and surrealism: The guest house where the play is set, is shabby and forlorn. Thus, the furniture on the set looks washed out. Above the stage, an open ceiling piece is hung. It is asymmetrical and contains some panels of translucent plexi that have been aged. Netting, buoys, and other ocean-related items are hung from the ceiling. According to the director's interpretation, the guest house is at the end of the world and the inhabitants are figuratively dead. Sound of the swirling ocean and wind give the feeling that one is very near the ocean. Marine imagery is threaded throughout the set—shells, stones, fishing nets, buoys.

POST SHOW

What aspects of the set captured your imagination? Why?
Why do you think the scenic designer designed the set in that particular way?
How did the scenic design enhance or clarify the setting and plot of the play?



Scenic design by Kate Edmunds

South African English Dialects and Accents

In *Groundswell*, the three characters, Thami, Johan, and Smith speak English with three distinct accents. An accent is a manner of pronunciation peculiar to a particular individual, location, or nation. An accent may identify the locality in which its speakers reside (a geographical or regional accent), the socio-economic status of its speakers, their ethnicity, their caste or social class, their first language (when the language in which the accent is heard is not their native language), and so on.

Thami, who is from the Xhosa group, speaks English with an accent of a Xhosa man. Johan has a distinct Afrikaner accent when he speaks English. And Smith, who is of British descent, speaks with yet another distinct accent. South Africans speaks dozens of languages and dialects. Due to the existence of so many native languages and the long segregation as well as the differentiated schooling of different ethnic groups in South Africa, there are many different English accents (some say as many as 15!) of the various English speakers in South Africa.

Question: What are the different accents that you hear in your school or neighborhood? What does a person's accent tell you about them? What kind of judgments do you make when you hear a particular accent? What kind of judgments do you think others make of you based on your accent?



The Speech Accent Archive

The speech accent archive is a web space established by George Mason University by the Program in Linguistics (Department of English) to uniformly exhibit a large set of speech accents from a variety of language backgrounds. Native and non-native speakers of English all read the same English paragraph and are carefully recorded. The archive is constructed as a teaching tool and as a research tool. It is meant to be used by linguists as well as other people who simply wish to listen to and compare the accents of different English speakers.

Click on the link below and browse through the different English accents!

<http://accent.gmu.edu/about.php>

Theatre Etiquette

Your students are representatives for your school when you are at the theatre. The pointers below will help you prepare your students for their visit to The Old Globe. Please take the time to educate your students on appropriate behavior at the theatre.



1. **Arrive on time**

The time posted is the time the show actually starts. Unlike at the movies, there are no commercials or previews! If you have arrived after the performance has begun you may be asked to wait to take your seats until it is appropriate to do so. Since parking can be a challenge, we suggest you plan on arriving in Balboa Park one hour prior to the scheduled start time. If you are coming to a designated Student Matinee, please follow the instructions given by our Education Department.

2. **Keep the theatre clean**

We allow no food or drinks in the theatre. However, after the show you may picnic on the plaza or eat at the tables in front of Lady Carolyn's Pub.

3. **Be considerate of other audience members**

Talking, whispering, shuffling about in your seats or rattling candy wrappers during a live performance is disruptive to other audience members who are trying to enjoy the show.

4. **Do not distract the actors**

The actors can see and hear what goes on in the audience. While our actors appreciate your enthusiasm for their performance, please do not attempt to interact with, talk to or touch them while they are on stage or entering/exiting via the aisle. If you need to take notes for your class, please make sure you are not seated in the first three rows as it can be extremely distracting to the actors. Your comments to one another (both good and bad) can be heard by the actors. Please do not talk about their performances while the show is going on.

Theatre Etiquette (continued)

5. Turn off electronic devices

Pagers, cell phones and electronic watches are disruptive and may interfere with the theatre sound system. The lights from text messaging are distracting to the actors. Turn electronic devices off completely during the show.

6. Remain seated during the performance (except for emergencies)

Actors frequently enter and exit via the aisles and so for safety reasons the aisles need to remain clear during the show. Be sure to use the washroom before the show or during intermission.

7. No photographs or recording devices

For the safety of cast members, stage crew and the enjoyment of other patrons, no photography (flash or no flash) or recording devices are permitted during the performance. It is also illegal, since we are bound to the copyright rules of several labor and artists' unions. Avoid a situation in which the house manager might be forced to confiscate photographic equipment.

With your cooperation in preparing your students to follow theatre etiquette, rules and guidelines, we are sure you and your students will have an enjoyable and entertaining theatre experience!

LIFESKILLS

JOHAN:

Before you can enjoy yourself, Smith, you have to make things right in your life. There's a word in the scriptures.

SMITH:

I don't need redemption.

JOHAN:

Yes, that's the word. That why you were sent here.

SMITH:

Look, I don't have significant cash, so really, there's isn't much you can take from me.

JOHAN:

While you were getting rich... Thami and his family were suffering in miserable poverty....

Means and Ends of Persuasion

In *Groundswell*, Thami and Johan use several strategies to persuade Smith to invest in a diamond concession with them. They try to appeal to Smith's generosity, to his sympathy, to his religiosity, etc. But when Smith appears unwilling things take an ugly turn and Johan resorts to several violent strategies in a bid to persuade Smith to part with his money.

While Thami and Johan appear to be united at the beginning of the show in their bid to get Smith's money, they reach a point where they disagree on the means that should be used to convince Smith to part with his money.

Question:

What would you be willing to fight for?

What means do you think would be justified to get to that goal?

What means do you think would not be justified?

POST SHOW

What strategies did Johan and Thami use to get Smith to co-invest in a diamond concession? Which did you think were justified? Which were not?

Extreme conditions can lead people to desperate acts. How extreme do you think conditions have to become in order for someone to resort to violence or crime?

Entitlement

SMITH:

I don't have to still defend myself to you, or anybody because of the color of my credit card, or the size of the car I drive... because the world wasn't ideal at the time, was I supposed to turn down what came my way...wait in the streets for the world to improve?

In *Groundswell*, Johan tries to convince Smith that as a White man of privilege he owes Thami and his family financial compensation because he benefited as a White man during the Apartheid era and Thami's family on the other hand was severely disadvantaged. In response, Smith defends his right to hold on to the money, arguing that he is entitled to his money since he earned it himself.

Question:

What are some material privileges you enjoy? Where do these privileges come from? Do you feel entitled to these privileges? Why? Why not?

POST SHOW

Do you think Smith should give Thami and Johan the money? Why? Why not?

GLOSSARY

Black Sash: The Black Sash is an independent, non-governmental Human Rights organization that has worked tirelessly for justice and equality in South Africa for nearly 55 years. The Black Sash was a non-violent white women's resistance organization founded in 1955 in South Africa by Jean Sinclair. The Black Sash initially campaigned for voter equality and against the removal of colored or mixed race voters from the voters' roll in the Cape Province by the National Party government. The Black Sash's resistance movement came to an end in the early 1990s with the end of apartheid, the unbanning of the African National Congress (ANC) and the release of Nelson Mandela from imprisonment. Its role was recognized by Nelson Mandela on his release and by subsequent political leaders. The organization was reformed in 1995 as a non-racial women's humanitarian organization.

Blood Diamond: In relation to diamond trading, blood diamond (also called a *converted diamond*, *conflict diamond*, *hot diamond*, or a *war diamond*) refers to a diamond mined in a war zone and sold to finance an insurgency, invading army's war efforts, or a warlord's activity, usually in Africa where around two-thirds of the world's diamonds are extracted. (Photo: A miner in Kono District, Sierra Leone searches his pan for diamonds. Courtesy: Wikipedia).



Buthelezi: Inkosi Mangosuthu Buthelezi (born August 27, 1928) is a South African Zulu politician who founded the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) in 1975 and continues to lead the party today. The party is the fourth largest political party in the National Assembly of South Africa. The IFP was very close to the ANC during the anti-apartheid struggle but it distanced itself and later was in conflict with the ANC over many issues. Buthelezi is considered an important leader

of the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa. (Photo: Nelson Mandela [left] and Inkosi Mangosuthu Buthelezi [right]. Courtesy: oryxmedia.co.za)

Carats: The carat is a unit of mass equal to 200 mg (0.007055 oz), and it is used for measuring gemstones and pearls.

Collateral: In lending agreements, collateral is a borrower's pledge of specific property to a lender, to secure repayment of a loan. The collateral serves as protection for a lender against a borrower's default - that is, any borrower failing to pay the principal and interest under the terms of a loan obligation. If a borrower is unable to pay the loan in time, she or he gives up the property pledged as collateral and the lender then becomes the owner of the collateral.

Cracks and Gullies of the Bedrock: A gully is a landform created by running water, eroding sharply into soil, typically on a hillside. Gullies resemble large ditches or small valleys, but are metres to tens of metres in depth and width. Diamonds are sometimes trapped in the cracks and gullies of rough bedrock found in Southern Africa.

Crossing the Rubicon/ Prime Minister Botha famous speech in 1985:

The Rubicon is a shallow river in northeastern Italy. It runs from the Apennine Mountains to the Adriatic Sea. It is about 80 kilometers long. The idiom "Crossing the Rubicon" means to pass a point of no return, and refers to Julius Caesar's crossing of the river in 49 BC, which was considered an act of war. On August 15, 1985, South African President PW Botha gave a speech to the National Party, where he announced: "Today we have crossed the Rubicon". Contrary to expectations, President Botha refused to make bold reforms to end apartheid and instead projected himself as the uncompromising leader of a White minority determined to fight to the end for its survival. This speech became a turning point, signaling the end of White rule in South Africa. Botha's reference to the idiom became an object of scorn and ridicule, since it didn't advocate radical change or a point of no return that is traditionally associated with the use of "crossing the Rubicon", but instead represented a stubborn, unrelenting support of the then existing system of social, economic and political oppression in South Africa.



Desmond Tutu: The Most Reverend, Dr. Desmond Mpilo Tutu (born 7 October 1931) is a South African activist and Christian cleric who rose to worldwide fame during the 1980s as an opponent of apartheid. He was the first black South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa. Archbishop Tutu has been active in the defense of human rights and uses his high profile to campaign for the oppressed. He has campaigned to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, homophobia, poverty and racism. Tutu received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984, the Albert

Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism in 1986, the Gandhi Peace Prize in 2005, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009. Tutu has also compiled several books of his speeches and sayings.

Diamond Mining Concessions: refers to licenses to mine diamonds in a particular area. These concessions are usually granted by the government of a country.

Diamond Sweepers: On the beach, diamonds sit on the old seabed. Miners strip away the "overburden," non-diamond-bearing sand and gravel, and sweep the bedrock for gems.

Early Retirement: Early retirement can be at any age, but is generally before the age (or tenure) needed for eligibility for support and funds from government or employer-provided sources. Thus, early-retirees rely on their own savings and investments to be initially self-supporting, until they start receiving such external support. Early retirement is also a euphemistic term for accepting termination of employment before retirement age. In this case, a monetary compensation may be involved.

Groundswell: is a broad undulation of the open ocean, often as the result of a distant disturbance. It is often used in common parlance, as a broad-based, growing shift in public opinion.

Investment banking: Investment banking is a field of banking that aids companies in acquiring funds. In addition to the acquisition of new funds, investment banking also offers advice for a wide range of transactions a company might engage in.

Manslaughter: **Manslaughter** is a legal term for the killing of a human being, in a manner considered by law as less culpable than murder. Manslaughter usually implies no prior intention to kill the victim.

Rand (right picture): is the South African currency. It derives its name from Witwatersrand (*White-waters-ridge* in English), the ridge upon which Johannesburg is built and where most of South Africa's gold deposits were found.

Redemption: is absolution from past sins or protection from damnation. It derives from Christian religious tradition.

Salt pan: is a dried up lake that is now a arid landform. It is found in certain parts of Africa. The Kalahari Salt Pans are world renowned salt pans.



Shares (Diamond): A joint stock company divides its capital into units of equal denomination. Each unit is called a share. These units i.e. shares are offered for sale to raise capital. This is termed as issuing shares. A person who buys share/shares of the company is called a shareholder and by acquiring share or shares in the company he/she becomes one of the owners of the company. The total capital of a company is divided into number of shares. Diamond mining companies, such as Rockwell Diamonds in South Africa, offer stock/shares that are commonly referred to as diamond shares.

Southern Bank of Gariep River: The Orange River (also known as the Gariep River, Grootte River or Senqu River) is the longest river in South Africa. It rises in the Drakensberg mountains in Lesotho, flowing westwards through South Africa to the Atlantic Ocean. Historically, the river played an important role in the South African diamond rush, with the first diamonds in the country being discovered in alluvial deposits on the Orange. Today, several commercial diamond mines operate on the last stretch of the river, as well as the beaches around its mouth. Diamond mines also operate on the middle stretch of the river.

Syndicate: A syndicate is a self-organizing group of individuals, companies or criminals formed to transact some specific business or to promote a common interest.

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