

The Impact of Unemployment on Young Afrikaners

(A submission by Tuks Afrikaanse Studente (TAS) to the
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Tuks Afrikaanse Studente

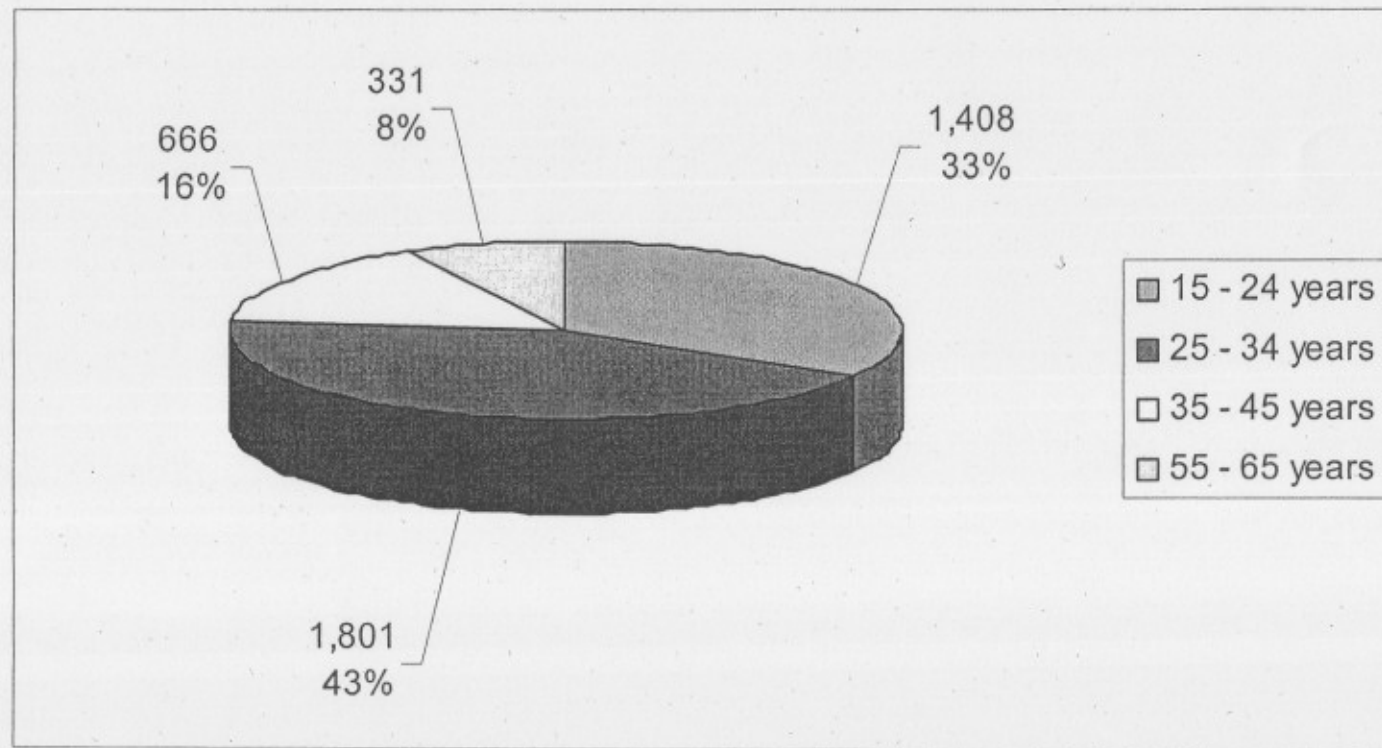
Tuks Afrikaanse Studente is an association of Afrikaans students established five years ago on the campus of the University of Pretoria. We are a civil society organisation that has been established to promote the cultural, linguistic and social needs of the Afrikaans student community at the University.

Youth joblessness a black and white problem

- Currently youth unemployment is a world wide crisis.
- In South Africa 76% of the jobless are youths
- The large scale exodus of highly skilled South Africans to other parts of the globe, should be discounted into the South-African unemployment problem.
- For every one professional leaving the country, at least 8 job opportunities are lost. (Dr Pieter Haasbroek from Barloworld)
- Structural unemployment
- The overall problem of youth unemployment can partly be solved by training students for the right jobs.
- This would certainly address part of the unemployment crisis graduated black youths are facing but unfortunately not for the white youth.

Youth joblessness a black and white problem

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Democracy twelve years on

- The youth under the age of 18, knows no other government except the current one.
- During the past 12 years governmental policy and resource allocation focussed on making quality education achievable to those who did not have it before.
- Statistics show that the number of black students that entered into tertiary institutions grew by more than 100% but that the number of white students decreased by 20% in the recent past
- The decrease in the number of white youths at tertiary level could be attributed to:
 - large scale emigration,
 - changing demographics
 - the quota system in respect of admission to specialised courses

Democracy twelve years on

Since these white youths are being subjected to affirmative action at the tertiary level when they apply for admission to universities and again when they enter into the job market; doesn't this effectively mean that these students are being deprived of equal opportunities twice?

What does the public say about affirmative action?

- Prof Pierre du Toit, from the Department of Political Science at the University of Stellenbosh, conducted a survey on how the South African public viewed affirmative action.
- As a sample he used the same group of people Markinor interviewed in order to accurately project the election results of 2004.

What does the public say about affirmative action?

On the question of whether affirmative action should have a cut off date, the majority of so called designated groups disagreed, while the majority of the white community agreed.

