

# Themes



## Apartheid

### Definition:

Translated from the Afrikaans word meaning 'apartness', it was the ideology supported by the National Party (NP) government. It was introduced in South Africa in 1948. Apartheid laws forced the different racial groups to live separately and develop separately. It severely disadvantaged the majority of the population, because they were 'non-white'.

<https://www.sahistory.org.za/article/history-apartheid-south-africa>

### Example:

The pencil test was used to determine racial identity in South Africa during the apartheid era. A pencil is pushed through the person's hair and how easily it comes out helps distinguish whites from coloureds and blacks.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pencil\\_test\\_\(South\\_Africa\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pencil_test_(South_Africa))

## Brotherhood

### Definition:

This is a strong bond amongst people who love and care for each other and share the same ideology and goals.

### Example:

'Equality lies only in human moral dignity. ... Let there be brothers first, then there will be brotherhood, and only then will there be a fair sharing of goods among brothers.' (Fyodor Dostoyevsky)

## Classism

### Definition:

This discrimination favours one group of people over others based on their social class.

### Example:

A labourer may win the lottery but not be allowed to marry the king's daughter, due to class.

## Compassion

### Definition:

This refers to feelings concern for the pain and suffering of others.

### Example:

Have compassion for all beings rich and poor alike, each has their suffering. (Buddha)

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## Feminism

Definition:

This is a movement drawing an awareness to the unjust and unequal consideration of women.

Example:

A woman should never be paid less than a man for executing the same professional functions.

## Racism

Definition:

This is a discrimination, based on race or ethnicity, against an individual or a group of people.

Example:

'I look to a day when people will not be judged by the color of their skins, but by the content of their character'. (Martin Luther King Jr.)

## Sectarianism

Definition:

This is an excessive attachment to a particular sect or party, especially in religion.

Example:

Sectarianism in Glasgow is visible in the rivalry between the supporters of Glasgow's two main football clubs: Celtic and Rangers. From the early 20th century Rangers had a policy of not signing Catholic players or employing Catholics in other roles.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sectarianism\\_in\\_Glasgow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sectarianism_in_Glasgow)