**South African Bill of Rights**

The Bill of Rights is a cornerstone of democracy in South Africa. It protects the rights of all people in our country and affirms the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom.

The state must respect, protect, promote and fulfil in the Bill of Rights.

Equality

Everyone is equal before the law and has the right to equal protection and benefit of the law.

Human Dignity

Everyone has inherent dignity and the right to have their dignity respected and protected.

Life

Everyone has the right to life.

Freedom and security of the person.

Everyone has the right to freedom and security of the person, which includes the right: not to be deprived of freedom arbitrarily or without just cause; not to be detained without trial; to be free from all forms of violence from either public or private sources; not to be tortured in any way; and not to be treated or punished in a cruel, inhuman or degrading way.

Everyone has the right to bodily and psychological integrity, which includes the right: to make decisions concerning reproduction; to security in and control over their body; and not to be subjected to medical or scientific experiments without their informed consent.

Slavery, servitude and forced labor

No one may be subjected to slavery, servitude or forced labor.

Privacy

Everyone has the right to privacy, which includes the right not to have-

their person or home searched;

their property searched;

their possessions seized; or the privacy of their communications infringed.

Freedom of religion, belief and opinion

Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience, religion, thought, belief and opinion.

Freedom of expression

Everyone has the right to freedom of expression, which includes— freedom of the press and other media.

Assembly, demonstration, picket and petition

Everyone has the right, peacefully and unarmed, to assemble, to demonstrate, to picket and to present petitions.

Political rights

Every citizen is free to make political choices, which includes the right to form a political party; to participate in the activities of, or recruit members for, a political party, and to campaign for a political party or cause.

Citizenship

No citizen may be deprived of citizenship. Freedom of movement and residence. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement. Everyone has the right to leave the Republic.

Freedom of trade, occupation and profession

Every citizen has the right to choose their trade occupation or profession freely. The practice of a trade, occupation or profession may be regulated by law.

Labor relations

Everyone has the right to fair labor practices. Every worker has the right to form and join a trade union; to participate in the activities and programs of a trade union; and to strike.

Environment

Everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that prevent pollution and ecological degradation. promote conservation, and secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.

*http://www.rebirth.co.za/bill\_of\_rights\_S.A.1.htm*