

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Moenie haatspraaksaak teen Malema laat vaar - CDP

Die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) het sy kommer uitgespreek oor toenemende beroepe op Afriforum om sy haatspraaksaak teen die ANC en die ANC se jeugleier, Julius Malema te laat vaar. “Ons verstaan baie goed dat die hofsaak polarisasie aanblaas, maar skryf dit toe aan ANC-optrede wat eintlik die sub judice-proses ondermyn, en in die lig van die bestaande verbod op die lied, op minagting van die hof neerkom,” aldus die leier van die CDP, ds. Theunis Botha.

“Ons is meer bekommerd dat te veel meningsvormers nie nou deur ‘n sin vir geregtigheid, vir die langtermyn beswil van die land, gelei word nie, maar opportuniste om nie swart stemme van sekere opposisiepartye te vervreem nie. As nie-rassige party spreek die CDP hierdie mening uit na ‘n oorwoë beoordeling van feite en beginsels. As belangrike feit, is dit so dat die land heterogeen is, en dat verskillende groepe oor verskillende sake aanstoot sal neem. Om net een groep se sentimente nou te akkommodeer, beteken in effek dat die begrip ‘haatspraak’ sy juridiese en grondwetlike sin verloor, en dat groepe van mekaar kan sê en sing wat hulle wil, solank hul eie groep nie daarvoor aanstoot neem nie. ‘n Mens moet voorts onthou dat die huidige bedeling die gevolg van ‘n skikking was, nie as gevolg van een groep se oorwinning oor ‘n ander nie. Deur dié lied word die gees van die skikking aangeval. Dat die saak so ver gevorder is, kan nie voor Afriforum se deur gelê word nie, dit is uit en uit die gevolg van onverantwoordelike leierskap van die ANC wat nie die kiesers met dienslewingspretasies kan oortuig nie, waar beloftes nou yl begin raak in die twintig jaar sedert die laaste apartheidswet afgeskaf is, en nou word teruggeval op rassepolarisasie om van die verkiesing ‘n rassensus te maak.”

“Dit is boonop ook die ANC se vertragingstaktiek wat verseker het dat die hofsaak so kort voor die verkiesing plaasvind – iets waarteen kenners met die uitstel reeds gewaarsku het. Die ANC kan nie vir onverantwoordelikheid beloon word en die land boonop van sy grondwetlike regsproses gestroop word nie. Die CDP sou ook verkies dat die saak nie in die hof uitbakei word nie, maar ook hier moet die ANC geblameer word deurdadig die grondwetlike kommissie wat dit moes hanteer, die Kommissie vir die Bevordering en die Beskerming van die Regte van Taal-, Godsdiens- en Kultuurgemeenskappe in ‘n lakei omskep en gedekapsiteer het.”

Do not drop hate speech case against Malema - CDP

The Christian Democratic Party (CDP) expressed concern at the increasing number of calls on Afriforum to drop hate speech charges against Julius Malema and the ANC. “We clearly understand that the court case fuels polarisation, but we see this as the result of the ANC’s actions which clearly boils down to the ignoring of principles of sub judice and in the context of the present ban on the specific song, to contempt of court,” says CDP leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

“We are even more concerned that too many opinion formers are not being guided by principles and by what is good for the country in the long run, but rather by opportunism to ensure that certain opposition parties do not lose too many black votes. As a non-racial party, the CDP has carefully evaluated the principles and facts involved. We feel it is important to note that the country is heterogeneous and that different groups will have different opinions on different matters, and that one group may be horrified at something another finds to be quite in order. But to only consider one side’s opinion, means in effect that the term ‘hate speech’ loses its judicial and constitutional meaning, and that groups can say and sing what they want about other groups, as long as their own group does not find it offensive. One must remember that the present dispensation is the result of a negotiated settlement, not as a result of a victory of one group over another. By singing this song, the spirit of the settlement is undermined.”

“Only the ANC’s leadership can be blamed for this matter having developed so far. The ANC can not soothe voters by service delivery performance, and to blame the previous dispensation is wearing

rather thin, twenty years after the last apartheid law was scrapped. So they fall back on racial polarisation so as to make a racial census of the coming elections. The blame for the court case being so close to the elections must also be laid at the door of the ANC who used delaying tactics, something several commentators warned against last year. “

“The ANC can not be rewarded for being irresponsible, and for stripping the country of its judicial process. The CDP would have preferred the matter being resolved out of court, but there also the ANC is to blame, especially as they are the one who have degraded the Commission for the Protection and Advancement of the Rights of Language, Religious and Cultural Communities to an ANC mouthpiece and have so decapitated it.”