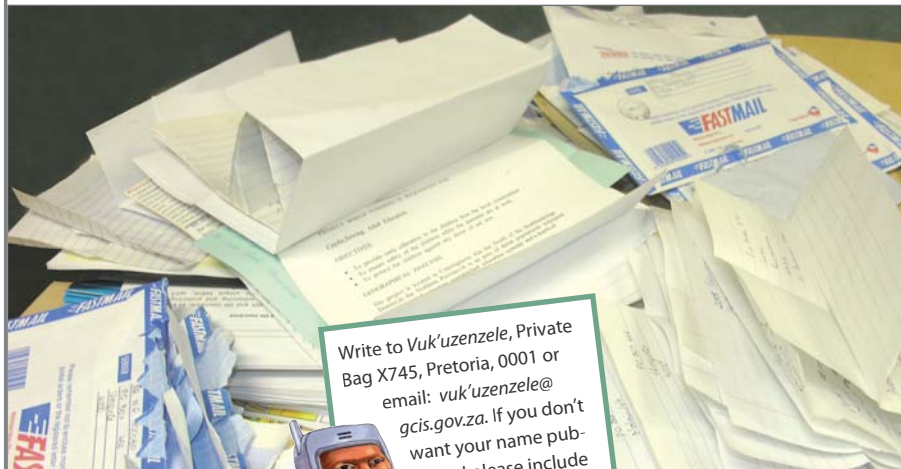




# Give us a piece of YOUR MIND



Write to Vuk'uzenzele, Private Bag X745, Pretoria, 0001 or email: [vuk'uzenzele@gcis.gov.za](mailto:vuk'uzenzele@gcis.gov.za). If you don't want your name published please include your real name and address.

**Best letter wins a Motorola C680 cellphone!**



## Is this freedom?

I am surprised because the government is talking about Batho Pele. We the residents of Tamasikwa and Takaneng Village are being violated by the local government and ward committee. We don't have electricity and roads. Our footpath has been closed and the department has fenced it off. Is this what you call freedom!

**Moses Boepile**  
North West

## Proud volunteer

I'm 21-years-old and unemployed. I completed my matric in 2003. Because of Vuk'uzenzele's encouragement I'm proud to say I am a volunteer in my community. I formed a local action group called "Child Care Forum" where we help orphans and vulnerable

children. We go door-to-door and list children at risk and find help for them from Home Affairs, Department of Health, Social Welfare, Education and the police.

I've learned that: "A vision without a dream is a daydream, and a dream without a vision is a nightmare."

**Dhlamini Nthabiseng**  
Bethlehem

## Stop making excuses

It is time the youth as future leaders of the country woke up. We

are responsible for our failures but we like to blame others. We say immigrants are taking our jobs. We say the government does not deliver. When meetings are called about projects offered by the government, we do not attend yet we keep on complaining. We are running out of excuses. It is time to act. Empty hands are the devil's workshop.

**Thabiso Tsilo**  
Sebokeng

## Don't kill yourself!

Be responsible if you find you have HIV and don't try to kill yourself. We still want to enjoy life with you in this beautiful world. Life is precious and there is still life after HIV.

**Letlhogonolo Mojapele**  
Rustenburg

## Play safe

Somebody says, Love is always around us. But now so is HIV and Aids, and it is here to stay. So do yourself a favour, play safe and take care of yourself.

**Sam Samito Sakeng**  
Rustenburg

## Bad behaviour

Alcohol and drugs don't relieve stress! Most underestimate the causes of stress but one thing for sure is that it cannot be relieved by bad habits. Bad behaviour can cause dangerous situations.

**P. M Matseane**  
Schweizer Reneke

## 16 Days Campaign

The 16 Days of Activism campaign started and I was very touched by what one man said, that we tend to focus on people who are physically abused as it is easy to see the bruises on their bodies., rather than those who are emotionally abused.

This man made me think of many who are suffering through depression. They are emotionally abused and nobody knows about it except themselves and their abusers. I appeal to everyone who is abused to stand up and report it now!

**Busisiwe Mpisane**  
Margate

## Women are our strength

Vuk'uzenzele is making things happen. Women show strength by being independent by doing

their own projects. Keep it up ladies. You are the mothers of the nation and without you there is no better life. Please men, don't abuse women.

**A. Mononyane**  
Soshanguve

## We all care

Women and children are so beautiful and contribute so much to this world that it upsets me very much to know

they are being abused. They are so fragile, yet so strong and do not deserve to be abused in any way. The 16 Days Campaign really raises awareness and highlights the importance of the problem of abuse. The article in the last Vuk'uzenzele reassured me that all good South Africans care and want to help. Our fight against abusers must not stop.

**Louisa Visagie**  
Upington

## WINNING LETTER

Recently I went through my matric examinations and I did not have a clue what I was going to do. So I decided to do something so I could earn money and not have to ask my parents for money.

What I did is this. I opened a very simple hair-dressing salon in my home, weaving hair. After a few days I started receiving support from people who knew me. Then I got support from other friends, street mates and my family. Today I am earning from something that I started on my own. It was not only about money, but about using my talent positively. I just did not want to have a situation of having to always run to my parents when I needed money to buy something special for myself.

Vuk'uzenzele made me wake up and learn how I can stand

up for myself. It is a magazine that motivates and gives direction to our people on how they can improve their lives. I am 17 years old and I want to tell all young people they should not hide their talents and not be afraid to do things because they are young.

**Matshioiso Molathudi**  
Kuruman



MATSHIOISO is the winner of the Motorola C680 cellphone sponsored by: **Lewis**

# Letters to the editor



We received hundreds of letters and e-mails from you. Everyone will get a response.