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Interviewer: It's the 22nd August 2010, Jabu, just for the record may you state your full name please?

Molobela: Jabulani Molobela

Interviewer: Jabu I'm just going to ask you a few questions about yourself. Where and when were you born?

Molobela: I was born here in Phiri in 1969; actually I was born in Barangwanath Hospital, 1969 on the 23rd September.

Interviewer: And have you lived all your life in this area?

Molobela: Yes.

Interviewer: Just tell me a little bit about your family, your brothers, sisters, parents?

Molobela: Okay. I was born by mother Joyce Molobela then, so she got married to another man ... so because Joyce is the first child of her parents, my grandparents, I grew up calling my uncles and my aunties my brothers and sisters not as uncles because we grew up together and my mother got married and she got a house in 1984 in Chiawelo Extension 3 those first houses in Soweto is Chiawelo Extension 3. So my grandparents refused the permission for me to go with her. She wanted me to go and grew up with her new husband, by then 1984 when they got a house they were having three children actually so I stayed behind as an adopted child - that is I'm the first grandchild of 306B where I stay - we grew up like that. I went to school my primary in 1976 at Penyo Combined School. During 1976 we got disturbed actually because we were children. After June there was no schooling until 1977. I repeated Sub A in 1977. I completed Penyo Combined School in 1983. In 1984 I went to Ibhongo High School in Dlamini so at Ibhongo High School we were using a bus. Actually after passing Standard 5 they were taking us with groups how we managed our marks ... they will took others to Mapetla High School and others to Seanamarena, others were taken to Ibhongo High School. So at Ibhongo we paid everything there - school fees - so when you paid school fees at Ibhongo they will give you stationery, they will give you text books at which they are telling you at the end of the year we want them back, if you lost one you'll pay. What helped us was that our parents went back to the Principal because at Ibhongo there were strikes, they were opposing a certain principal Fourie, he was a white guy. So there were too much Azanian students movements at Ibhongo, actually most of the Azania student leaders were at Ibhongo and they were doing Standard 10, Grade 9 and so they were influencing. We were in Grade 8, I mean Form 1, so our parents decided always

they are buying a coupon of Putco, we were getting Putco here to Dlamini. Myself and the other one Victor Thabo, he is no longer staying here he is in the States now. So they said they are always spending much more money because we are always asking for pocket money and again bus when we are going to school but we are coming very early because 11/12 we are back there is no schooling there, toyi-toying we don't understand what's happening. The reason was that they don't want a white principal so they took us to Sekwanyentane around April/May in 1984, Sekwanyentane is overcrowded so the principal actually forced our way. He said I want education for these children so they register us so we went to Sekwanyentwane, eish we were overcrowded in that class, Form 1A. I was doing Maths, History, Biology and as an additional subject including three languages including Afrikaans, English and North Sotho. So after that 1985 it's when there were COSAS members here in Sekwanyetwane and we join COSAS. Actually I didn't join like I want to join, 84 when we arrived we had books we had everything at Sekwanyentwane they don't have everything especially books but they are overcrowded so we participate especially myself and Thabo, we are from Ibhongo. We pass to Standard 7 of which Form 2, that's 1985. In 1985, January, February I was elected to be an SCR member in the class so it's then I got involved about what's COSAS, what's happening, I was easily recruited from a class by class mates to elect me as a rep of the class. I was like active going to chalk board others were shy. In 1985 COSAS was banned. After the banning of COSAS that's when our school Sekwanyentwane got out of order going to other schools mobilising and I'm saying it's out of order because most of our parents were saying we are out of order. We will get soldiers in the school shooting and we fought back. I remember one day we were staying and learning how to smoke a cigarette, 1985 after June police came in the school and they beat us with sjamboks not like teachers who will whip you in the buttocks. So we fought back. There were others who were doing Standards 9 and 10 – the big ones, they organised us and said lets do this and that so we burned the police car. It was burnt before other police can reinforce there was an SAB brewery truck next to the bottle store delivering beer to that bottle store so other students went there and grabbed beer. Putco Buses, it was a busy road was stoned. We grew up, sometimes very poor - you find comrade Dale that we are hungry and sometimes there was a bakery vehicle that came to deliver, it will drive to Koma road and we will sleep on the road. It will stop. The minute it stops we will take bread, whatever we could take. My grandfather passed on in 1985. In 1986 there was a saying of 'Pass one, pass all, pass Nyamazane'. By 1986 I was doing Standard 8, that's Form 3, we never went to school that's where someone became other way round, there was no one to take you to colleges or boarding school because its where things were better so we never went to school sharp – sharp in 1986 but everyone passed but we never wrote final examinations,

others did so you see that kind of situation. In 1987 I was doing Standard 9, that's Form 4 so I failed and Thabo passed and his parents take him back to Ibhongo but I stayed here because I was having new friends we were doing other stuffs, I was busy actually so I failed. I repeated, I was having a strict grandmother who was selling umqombothi, African beer, she was brewing it, it was a tavern there so always we will have R2, R5 pocket money to spend at school. By 1988 I was repeating Form 4. In 1988 after June after half yearly exams I was arrested for rape with a certain guy his name is Tsietsi. Actually I was wrongfully arrested because she was my girlfriend so Tsietsi said I'm taking that lady calling her so they came tracing me but I was not around I was somewhere else smoking, drinking, heavily smoking ganja and so I started then. So when it was like Jabu and Tsietsi raped the lady, it was like no Jabu was not there. The police arrested me for rape; we slept at Moroka the following day we went to Protea. At Protea we just appeared so the magistrate just said R300.00 bail is recommended so we had to go to Sun City, we were not allowed to go back to Moroka so we slept there on Friday, Saturday. On Sunday my parents came and paid bail so I left Tsietsi there. So the lady said that Jabu was not there but she was saying it to the wrong people but I must attend trial. Sometimes they were writing so I missed North Sotho and Biology, I missed 2 or 3 subjects I didn't write and automatically when you fail Sotho you've failed, your mother tongue, you don't know your mother tongue hamba you've failed. In 1989 my mother came and said Jabu had better go to Petersburg and finish schooling. I went to Petersburg in 1989 and do standard 9 again. In 1990 I went to standard 10 - when I was in standard 10 I met a girlfriend I made her pregnant, no it was in 1989, late but in 1990, she was pregnant and she got a child Kokesto, she is my first daughter, she is a 20 now, she is a big girl now, she is here in Pretoria, Tshwane South College, she stays somewhere in Atteridgeville. Then I didn't write the final examination, instead I was given money, exam fee, I didn't pay. I take that money to the lady because she was sick, she wanted to go to hospital and I loved her, unfortunately she is no longer here she passed on she was having breast cancer but the daughter is still here we are still together. So 1990 I dropped, I didn't write at all it's when I'm leaving school.

Interviewer: So that's when you finished school, 1990? After that in 1990 I mean political things started changing at that point, so what did you do then? Did you start working?

Molobela: No, I did not actual start by working in 1990; I started by gambling dice and selling in the stadium, being a hawker. Even during 'mzabalazo' time in 1985-7 I used to sell when I was going to the stadium and I was making money when I was selling. My brother used to say go buy this and this and he was making money and said I could take some at least it was better at that time, I could go to the stadium and make some. In 1995 the mother

of my child passed on and the other lady who I was dating underground got pregnant and I had my second child. So 1995 my second child was born but still I was participating with COSAS as SOSCO (Soweto Student Congress) because immediately after COSAS was banned, SOSCO was formed. We were participating in a different way because cars were burned, we will go to the meetings, after the meetings there will be an action.

Interviewer: So now, from the mid 80s onwards, you're still staying here you're just making yourself and making a living?

Molobela: Ya, from 1991/92 my child is growing that side. In 1999 I was arrested in Witbank. We were stealing cars with a certain guy from Alexandra, Sidwell and I ran away from court, there were corridors and the police that were escorting us was in front and it was easy for me to turn back. After a while I was arrested in Alexandra sleeping. They were looking for someone else where I was sleeping, there was no move for touch so they got me and finger printed me and said no wena you are wanted in Witbank. So I was taken to Witbank; so I was convicted and sentenced to 6 months for escaping. I was sent to Pathek prison, attending that car theft case being further charged. That car theft case then convicted me. I was given seven years but I appealed but not through lawyers, through public protector, writing letters complaining. Then my sentence was reduced to three years and six months, by then it was 2001, early. Then I was released in 2003 in April.

Interviewer: ... around the time when you were released, I'm assuming you came back here, you came back home? That was around the time when the new struggles began?

Molobela: Exactly!

Interviewer: So just tell us a little bit about how that struggle started, how that Phiri Concerned Residents started.

Molobela: Okay. 2003 I was back at home. I was released with conditions so police were coming to check on me and I'm at home I'm not working. I'm afraid to steal again because I'm a church goer in prison and I joining SAPHOR in prison especially when I was in Witbank

Interviewer: SAPHRO is the South African Prisoners Human Rights Organisation.

Molobela: Yes, I was a member but it was not effective; warders were suppressing us. And after that - outside - we were standing here just chilling, smoking you know we will get cold drink after long hours so we decided let's just go there by the corner this guy Brigadier Kofifi Kobe had just passed on he was a member of SAFTA so there was his car and people were complaining 'electricity, electricity, there is no electricity'. They sleep without electricity until

the following day. The following day there were people who were digging trenches that side ... and it's them who tampered with the pipes so electricity tripped. We asked them 'guys what are you doing' they said we are digging so that pre paid water meters will be installed. So we ask what are those things because we had never been told. We were having Vusi so we went to the Councillor, Kunene by then and we asked him we don't have electricity in that street of ours, what is happening? So he told us why those people were digging so we told him we don't want prepaid because people had never been consulted. So where they had already putted those pipes at Matikili we removed them but electricity was already back on track. The following day they wanted to work and we said no, remember I'm around, what I do especially after those guys from Correctional Services visited me and they see Jabu is not drunk, sharp, sign here. After they left its when we said no look guys we had better say we don't want this, we don't want them we are not gonna buy for water, its how Phiri Concerned Residents started. I found myself, Vusi, Veronica, we were too vocal in calling for the meetings. The council realised that we did not have any direction where we were going so they called a meeting. When they called a meeting Herman, the guy from the corner told us that SECC and SECC came. The first guy who came was Bongani and we told him that we are Phiri Concerned Residents help us in fighting this and then he said we are helping ourselves, that's when we resisted. The meeting called by the councillor was the biggest meeting ever. It was full in that meeting, Kunene was there, Johannesburg Water was there, people from Orange Farm were there. We were told there is no pre paid meter where people are going to buy water, this is how its gonna work, you are going to conserve water that's Operation Gcinamanzi that's how they tried to convince There were others in that meeting like Trevor who told them 'look that how it works' including Virginia, those dealers they lose direction because they know Trevor is here that one maybe he is the one influencing people from Phiri and others were saying no its not him so it got disrupted, chairs were thrown flying so it was busy. It's when Thabo Modisane and Tshepo were arrested, after that it's when APF actually, because SECC was a member of APF decided to form Coalition Against Water Privatisation of which Phiri was a cofounder even there we were having Comrade Veronica (pause) ...

Interviewer: Okay, you were saying after that meeting, so what happened after that where you chased the councillor out?

Molobela: After that meeting its where we started saying we meet every Thursday here at Phiri Hall. So security guards for that councillor refused to give us permission to the access of the hall so we decided to go back and then we decided to go back and remove those things that Johannesburg Water was installing, they decided to call security and those that

like to remove people from their houses, Red Ants. Fortunately or unfortunately was lady was killed at Matikili and others we injured so they decided to leave. That was the only security and Johannesburg water applies for a court order against us and then it was too much oppressive so they came with people from Orange Farm to convince us, others were beaten. Johannesburg Water decided to invite a committee of Soweto concerned residents to go to Orange Farm to see for them how it works. We drove there with a Johannesburg Water Kombi; they were giving us tips on how it works. They took us to Kagiso, they were still complaining about prepaid water telling us 'agh this thing doesn't do' others they were afraid to say anything.

Interviewer: Tell me a little bit about, you said Coalition against Water Privatisation was formed so the Phiri Concerned Residents basically joined the SECC first? So is that how you/ they came into contact with the APF? Is that how you found out about the APF?

Molobela: No, others of us knew there was APF, we knew about it but we didn't know how it works, maybe we thought it's something for other people, those people who are saying this is wrong maybe we can form an organisation opposing privatisation. So we didn't thought APF is part of the struggle opposing this so when we know about the APF it's when coalition was formed. During coalition it's when we know there is Jubilee, like myself I didn't know there is Jubilee, I only know Jubilee when I was in the APF.

Interviewer: Just tell me in terms of the initial resistance around pre paid meters - as the coalition was formed and meetings begun to happen how did the struggle develop from there and did you get to get any information and connect with other people and so forth?

Molobela: It went very good cause according to Johannesburg Water this was a very simple project it went on as simple as that, so in Phiri we gave them a hard time with the help of APF including SECC. Because it's in Soweto where as they were here in Phiri and others amongst the comrades were selling us out cause I remember one day there is a guy who came to me trying to get more information about APF asking me about names of Tebogo, Tebogo was the administrator of the APF and a member of the SECC, so they promised me that they will give me 'something and I will be grand' you know who ever of which we grew up together and is still a member of the ANC those people. So that guy says he is NIA, he said his name is Touch they call him 'Touch' and I tried to ask him his real name and he said 'no we will talk' and I can't involve myself in those kinds of situations. I'm hungry yes I need money. He said they will organise a phone so that they will call me. Then I raised it in the meeting of the coalition, I said 'comrades look there is so-and-so' unaware sometimes I was supposed to chose who I was telling instead of saying it in a meeting because that particular

spy or sell out was inside that meeting - because he left me for those few weeks, after a while he came back and he stopped the car and said 'you Jabu, you are a coward, why are you telling those people about so-and-so - here is what we have about that meeting, attendance register because that one was a photocopy of the attendance register and my name was there. I said 'yah mfowethu I can't do that' - luckily my brothers were there and they started to ask who was that and I said 'kimutho o so' and he started his engine and go.

Interviewer: Just tell me a little bit about ... you said when you started resisting and pulling out the pipes and things got tough what was Joburg Water and Red Ants and that security during that time what was called the Phiri Water War, what was happening?

Molobela: Ya, you see during that time the situation was very bad here at Phiri because others were hunted here at home promising that we are going to kill you. So like comrade Veronica she decided to go away ... in Phiri others decided to remain. Others resisted like us, we decided we don't want this. During the night - because Johannesburg Water was doing it by force, security guys all over here in Phiri - but at night they were patrolling and we were also patrolling when they were working to remove those pipes they will cut them and you will find there is water everywhere in Phiri where there is those pipes. And then other members of coalition like comrades Dale, John and others visited Phiri to give the people of Phiri support, and said no we are with you even here in Phiri when we were doing those things at night others were arrested. I remember my friend Mathews Ndlovu, he was arrested that day we had court of Bongani, Thabo and others, that court was postponed, after that court we said today we are going to remove this because we were always trying to engage with the councillor to no avail. We said, 'we will remove those pre paid nomakanjani' when we were still busy the police came with guns, others ran away, Mathews was arrested so I was explaining to the cops what was happening because they are not removing this there are others that are doing it - we want to talk to the councillor why don't you take us to the councillor. Then the other police said no you can organise a march and we said 'but we have been trying and we can organise a memorandum. So we went there - Mashia was arrested we went to Moroka, we were toyi-toying they never released him.

Interviewer: That lasted for quite some time, almost a year and that resistance led to some other tactics ... just tell us what happened with regard to the legal case and how that started.

Molobela: About the legal case, it's started when CALS approached Phiri. Other comrades in Coalition inside APF decided not to take the matter to court because they did not want what was happening, but it was opposed by SECC comrades who were saying CALS failed wherever, but we were not knowing those kinds of things. Other people were doing research.

I remember a certain lady, she was from Durban she came, the meeting was called, the names of people who were taken was called, we were seventeen including Jennifer and myself they took how many of us were living in our families, we are living with whom those kinds of things. When she came back she explained to us that look you as leaders we are going to use the names of those we took but few names and those names are representing the whole Phiri, the whole Soweto, the whole South Africa, because it started here in Phiri if we could have volunteers, maybe 11 or 12 people volunteered. Then those comrades from CALS – like Jackie - decided that we are going to chose five because they were always here in Phiri, these people will represent us; Sophia Malogudo, Jennifer Motsoakane, Lindiwe Mazibuko and you know pre paid was rolling now - Johannesburg Water was proud and those who resisted were given time that you will not flush the toilet, if you want to flush you go with a bucket and others we not having water completely, there was no water in that house. I remember Lindiwe Mazibuko, her neck was broken after she carried 20l of water, maybe she was doing that 7km return many times because she wanted to fill the bucket, water is important. Nothing was done, she was taken to hospital but she came back and said 'A luta Continua', she continued with the struggle. Others visited other areas especially a guy called Tshepo Mahotla boasting about Phiri. So in Phiri we were forced to attend those meetings or when SECC organised those meetings we were forced to go to that meeting to tell them what's happening in Phiri to tell them 'no, no, no in Phiri we said no to pre paid they cut it even those who were saying prepaid is good they starting crying saying help us remove this thing. Others started by passing pre paid, others started by passing certain pipes with the influence of us. We got real direction from Coalition who were saying people can resist but don't do that and that because the court case is still on even if it took a long run for the case to be finalised, we were resisting even now after the court case in Bloemfontein because it was judged here it went to Bloemfontein. Still we are not satisfied at all.

Interviewer: I see that that court case in the Constitutional Court was lost, so just a few other questions about Phiri, in Phiri Concerned Residents and to the SECC. Give your sense of how joining the APF and the Coalition besides the court case, but on other fronts, I mean water was not the only struggle necessarily so how was the Phiri Concerned Residents influenced or the kind of politics that you leaned as a result of belonging to these large organisations?

Molobela: During the resistance of pre paid because we were having meetings every Thursday on a weekly basis we got concerned *kahuluhulu* because of electricity and evictions that were taking place in the houses it's when we got especially myself, Jennifer

got involved to say no man here is electricity these people are oppressing us, people are struggling electricity is not a favour *kubanaliyona* it's a need that you must have it so that you survive but you must have accommodation to stay. So we realised because of attending meetings that those things comes from, maybe they want to recover the costs that were lost. So Jubilee then comes into our place ... no these people now want us to pay their debt that is why they are doing this and Jubilee is fighting for the cancellation of those debts. It's how we got involved even Khanya College is there preparing to give workshops and those that APF was doing here in Phiri helped a lot of people. Others even here today like us, we are still believing that government of us is not good it's still going this and this it's not right. That's how it influenced many people because our struggle was not only water, yes water was there but it was not only water even other issues.

Interviewer: In these struggles there are positive things as you've said but there are also lots of problems, lots of challenges. Can you speak to some of them within the movements, within the organisations?

Molobela: The challenges that we were having is that people were getting bored by attending the meetings and there was no action at all after the meetings. Johannesburg Water was going out installing prepaid even recruiting other comrades to work and get paid so other comrades went there to work and get paid digging the trenches for Johannesburg Water. There was no belief in other comrades that this is going to make it. You'll find that we are losing good people, others are not attending at all, you'll find that when there is a mass meeting or a march they will come they will be thinking that maybe there will be an action after the march or during the march. Come the meeting day you will find few people dropping in inside the meeting. What happened in Phiri - so that Phiri Concerned Residents fall - is because of other comrades from the SECC believing now Phiri is an affiliate of Soweto Concerned Residents. There was a split in SECC they thought that this thing, these people are part of those why are they calling themselves Phiri Concerned Residents? But others in the SECC tried to explain that no it's been a long time we are not having a representative in Soweto Concerned Residents but in Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee always they are having meetings on Tuesday and Jennifer and Nhlanhla you are always going there, maybe it was jealous because others were not politically motivated so it came back to haunt Phiri because Nhlanhla want to organise in Phiri and now she has problems with Jennifer including with Sis Zodwa so it became difficult. Because on Thursday we were having a meeting and Jennifer is our secretary but she can't take the minutes if Nhlanhla is there but she wants to chair so that she can suppress her. So it's when things went the other way round. I now have a temporary job, by doing that temporary job was employed after some

time maybe after six months but I was still attending some meetings by then, you'll find its only five people, three people until now there is no one.

Interviewer: So at this point there is really no Phiri Concerned Residents?

Molobela: At this point there is no Phiri Concerned Residents operating except Sis Zodwa and others attending meetings at SECC maybe there are five or six trying because we are still having a venue at Phiri HP and we are not paying for that venue. But Phiri Concerned Residents is now gone especially after Jennifer's illness it affected most of us because she was crazy when she started and others said it's because she stole the money when she went overseas, she was chowing money of APF, she was doing that and that so everyone was like 'oh whoops!' .

Interviewer: You mentioned that during the course of the struggle as it went on from 2003 onwards you mentioned that you hooked up as Phiri Residents with a number of organisations. Were there others besides APF and Jubilee?

Molobela: There were organisations, ANC, IFP, PAC ... I remember Pinky, and I remember mum Zondi from IFP. AZAPO I remember that one of AZAPO was also a candidate saying no to pre paid, viva to Phiri Concerned Residents, everyone including churches here like Seanoane St Hildas was also supporting, school principals, members of ANC claiming that no ANC doesn't know that thing of pre paid they are mad these people, let's call Thabo Mbeki, let's call his spokesperson Smuts Ngonyama let's talk to him, we found them participating in the meeting actively.

Interviewer: So do you think when you look back on this time, you've mentioned some of the challenges with the SECC in Phiri but in the broader opposition to pre paid, the court case and other things what would you say was the main reason the organisation fell? The weaknesses until now it doesn't seem like much is happening.

Molobela: The weaknesses came other organisations who were part and maybe at the end they were not understanding what is going on with pre paid because even Johannesburg Water was busy work-shopping people. Maybe ANC even those members of AZAPO in their workshops decided because we are not seeing this, because of APF undermines the government inside our president because it was all over, it's a Mickey mouse organisation, they are opposing, they were expelled from ANC, most of the leaders of APF were expelled like the one from Pimville he was a councillor. So there was not that thing, even those who were participating removing those cables, removing those pipes of water, closing the trenches, saying hayi we are not understanding, we are going to have 6000l per month? You

see, so convincing people so that's what made this to be a flop. And others were ... like this case has been taken to the constitutional court, let's leave them to put them, lets buy water, when we win at court they will give our monies back. And most of those who were saying that they came from the ANC; they were participating, heavily participating ANC members. IFP was like we don't want this we want action but they were not saying much about action and they can say that when they are in Phiri. Phiri was resisting, others maybe were looking for support for their organisation because Phiri especially recruited according to what the NIA worked with they will say come we will pay you so I think that's the most challenge.

Interviewer: Were there any - outside the initial gains that were made in the mobilisation out of all these struggles that have happened in Phiri - would you say there have been any gains, any good things that have come out of this for people here in this community?

Molobela: For people here in Phiri, ya, ya, ya because most of the people in Phiri did not know that they have the right to use the hall and they did not know that they didn't have to buy water. There is not too much gain, it's there because Phiri is recognised now, it can resist and pre paid there was a time frame for it instead it was prolonged instead. Most of the people understand APF especially here in Phiri, their rights others were not knowing there is a constitution that constitution booklet you can read it, others were not knowing about Palestinian struggle it came into push that the people of Phiri were told about Palestinian struggle because there was Palestine solidarity committee of which gained access to Phiri . People were told how brutal Israel was, how Picketup came from Israel and how we are supporting it, how bad Coca-Cola is and why we are saying we want free water, we are not compromising they must tax those big companies. So it worked that way actually that some of the people gained knowledge or understanding about politics.

Interviewer: And would you say as a result of the struggles waged here in Phiri and the huge attention that the water struggle got here - because there were people from all over the world who were paying attention to what was going on - do you think that affected the ANC and the policies ...?

Molobela: Exactly because the whole world was here in Phiri, you would find people from Japan, interviewing people about water, Germany, Italy, USA, people from all over. Before the World Cup they were coming here so ANC was saying what are these white people doing here in Phiri because the whole world was watching? We were sometimes singing when we were handing in the memorandums' - 'the whole world is watching, the whole world is watching, you are selling water, we are not going to vote because you are selling water' stuff like that.

Interviewer: The water policies, the basic service policy, have you seen any change in the policies in the way that the government locally here has approached these things as opposed to when you started?

Molobela: Ya, ya because now they can consult before doing whatever as now they wanted to change the prepaid water meter. As I was saying before there was a huge meeting, a community meeting last of last week Saturday and Gcinamanzi was on the agenda so that is the first one that they have learnt that we must consult first.

Interviewer: Out of interest what did they say at this meeting about Operation Gcinamanzi?

Molobela: They said these pre paid meters are going to change again because others are easily by-passed unlike before where you couldn't by-pass it so they are going to change it to make people's lives easier and again they are not going to be tough as before where you will find there is no water. They are going to upgrade and for those who have by-passed they will fix them and they will make others to pay, they will fine Dale because since the installation of the meter he never bought water and that one will be left out because he bought water sometime when he arrived and that token won't work when he bought water so about water its what they said, so they will come sooner. Phiri is no longer there you see when they are coming back now they will do their things very very easy but there were people inside who were opposing them saying 'no'.

Interviewer: Just another aspect of that - what has been the outcome with regards to the indigency policy because that is also been one thing that they started.

Molobela: You see that one here in Phiri it never worked. Most of them went there and are still crying even today because they will come, you see if you're living in this situation of like this you are not qualifying he stays alone in the house, he went there and told them both his parents passed on and his sisters got married and he was staying with his child but the child was taken by her mum because he is not working, he is struggling he's selling Simba chips. But with that indigency policy they will come to inspect, they will say mfowethu you can survive at least you have a big television and sofas and the house is nice you can buy polish to be clean so it never worked here in Phiri. I can't point one or two people that I know of but I can point twenty-seven that went and came back empty handed.

Interviewer: So what you're saying is that you have to be living in a shack or living in some kind of really ...

Molobela: It must be a crate of beer or a paint of bucket you see, no heater maybe that old thing with no TV but others you must remove them only one must be left there.

Interviewer: So it makes no difference if you're unemployed, you have no income ... Now given the situation where things have gone in the last years that we've talked about, what would you say when you are looking back again when you are also looking into the future what would you say in terms of community organisations like Phiri, APF as a social movement, they seem to be quite weak ... now what would you say is the problem and what needs to be done?

Molobela: About that one I think power struggles is most dominating to the collapse or to the weaknesses of those organisations because you will find comrades thinking or assuming that comrades chowed our money or that comrade since we elected him/her to be such a thing or since we elected him to represent us somewhere he thinks he is better than other comrades. Or a certain comrade suggests opposing what he suggest but with facts, instead of him talking it comradely he will take it personally, he is no longer going to talk to me, he is no longer going to smile with me. I'll respond to the very same thing and influence others that side. One thing that needs to be done is for the people to be worshipped and you see monies are the problem. If someone worked hard to get the funds if money came in there are others who think or will say he wants to direct everything because last week he opposed his suggestion and the other one will say you can go ahead with that workshop so people were thinking workshop is a means of generating money. So people were thinking there is going to be a workshop in Phiri, when I'm in Phiri I'm gonna spend at least R300 from the R2000 or R1000 that I took but I can't account then someone from Naledi, Zola is gonna do it and this is research and we don't know how important it is. I'll just go 'Hi, how are you comrade Dale how do you feel about pre paid? And I'm not gonna go to the second house or third house. I'm going to write all my stories in two minutes I'm finished so that research is based on lies. Then someone is going to raise it in the meeting that comrades never do that research , comrades do 1,2, 3, it never went to those houses, they will say 'don't do yourself better than us' - you see they take it personally. The important thing comrade Dale that needs to be done, those people whom we know these are active comrades, comrades are called to the meeting, comrades let's set up a workshop, a workshop where it will be like one-on-one group discussions where we gonna raise our struggle against privatisation because it's still going on and nothing is happening so let's wake up in this struggle this time, let's not put money forward of course it's a capitalist country and we are surviving with money but let's not put money forward but let's do it this way, in a proper way and again in that meeting we decide that look let's ask the funds but until this meeting, lets draft a plan

first, we need this and this. Roughly this can cost R5000, let's ask R5000 for this period. When that money comes it gets spent cause you see others feel like look these people are using us, look he bought new shoes, he is an organiser all I know he was like asking cigarette and that particular person was like chosen from the affiliates of SECC to represent them in the APF maybe in APF he was elected or chosen to be part of leadership of APF. So he doesn't want to participate, to organise, to do the pamphlet, to loud hail, to organise a community meeting the people who made him/her to represent them there. So I know too much because I'm always in town, I know too much because I'm always at the Careers Centre so you can't tell me nothing wena so I'm going there to this meeting even with no report no nothing so even in that meeting Phiri report, agh Phiri is fine they are continuing with pre paid. You can't exactly get what is happening in Phiri okay, pre paid is there but what are comrades doing in Phiri-nothing so everything got lost, so I'm repeating it again comrade Dale, if comrades from Vaal, wherever, we know those comrades others were like stealing this money because I saw Tebogo stealing it. Like Jabulile, we dated with Jabulile she was my girl so she was doing those things because she can see how someone is doing it and how she cover up. You see that's when the problem started now everyone is a thug inside the meeting, we get someone to represent us somewhere so that particular person when she is there she is not doing anything maybe she is jolling, sleeping around, no report, no nothing ... you see now he bought leather fancy shoes, trousers on my expanse, hayi suka I'm no longer going to participate. You see jealousy counts hard and you will find there is no such hatred and hate influences ... I'll make example about comrades from the SECC - those comrades were hating other people and using other people to hate others - I hate Dale, I'm using Sam to hate Dale, Dale doesn't know nothing maybe he is supporting Sam in that suggestion of his so Sam looks that side with no motivation. After awhile because he was told this was gonna be like this I'm changing my mind, this is gonna be like this and that first suggestion was right that is why it got supported. And others believe that as from school, as from tertiary level I will drop out from university so this one he never passed even Standard 7 he is my leader, he is your leader because he is good he can do whatever - you will jealous him and say, I don't want that kind of a thing now I'm no longer interested in that kind of a thing. Even Jabulile she is no longer participating but she sometimes calls. Others believe in witchcraft, Nhlanhla most of the people were like Nhlanhla is like this, is like that she fights with Ma Mthembu, she fights with many people she fights with Jennifer and her politics you can't even understand Nhlanhla even if you are trying to be close to her because she is in monies, she hit by a stroke, neh? So no one says comrade Dale has been hit by a stroke, comrade Dale has been witchcraft someone will say comrade Dale is right she has everything there, comrade Dale is working with monies, you know those who sympathises

with you, you know you are losing direction again going to the witchdoctors, you want to find out and someone tells you they bewitched you (makes sounds mimicking a sangoma). There is no such, its life, it's like comrade Dale when someone passes on at my place I believe he has been bewitched I go to the witchdoctors, they are making money those people they will make me pay and sprinkle their muti and say this thing is not gonna happen sometimes it's happening continuously now after this one its this one and you find out that there is no one left at home because you kill yourself by saying you're being bewitched. You see Nhlanhla was doing funny things, she was not good at all, she killed SECC even today when you go around or you go to SECC meeting you find 10 or 19 people claiming to represent the whole Soweto but try to go to Ma Mthembu's you'll find many people even around Orlando wearing t-shirts going to support COSATU struggle. I saw others on Monday at Orlando even here near Bara then Tuesday I went to SECC unfortunately the machine was off because I was there at 2 o'clock and they said they are now meeting at 11 o'clock but there was no one, not enough people that is why I'm looking for Thabo now because I believe ...

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Interviewer: So we just had to take a break there. We are continuing our discussion about the problems of personal jealousies, of power and money and those kinds of things as the main problem.

Molobela: Ya, ya, those are the main issues that lead our struggles down or weaken our struggle. I cannot say its dead like Phiri Concerned Residents its dead because if someone might find a loudhailer and if someone can volunteer to call a meeting people might come to that meeting and someone might give direction. Okay, everyone has his/her opinion to say firstly we did that and that and we know our wrongs now and to make people believe that now if we can start by reviving the APF including the SECC, Phiri Concerned Residents as well we are going to be one big family, we are going to be united, we are going to fight whatever comes across us because now I'm sure I'm not the only one who knows that our struggle was weakened by jealousy and problem of monies. There are other people or comrades who know that our struggle was killed by those kinds of things and some other people may add on that because we are having too many opportunists inside the struggle. I can go there saying mina I'm going because I want 1, 2, 3 and I make sure that I get them, I'm going there because I'm bored, I know at the workshops they will give me food and I will get transportation. There are other comrades who feel that his contribution at that workshop was gonna help a lot of people but he was left outside but someone who can't even say

anything at the meeting always he is there, youth camp, Cape Town, he is there, Khanya College Winter School he is there but there are others who are prepared to learn. In my conclusion comrade Dale I can say let's not when we raise funds get more funds before we get a plan, lets draw a plan when it came we categorise it and then we go forward because Jabu might come because he knows APF has just got R78 000, APF has R208 000, let me go and get something there. And I get others who are like me who are going to say 'right let's start by taking workshops, road shows to the East Rand they will give us money, we need resources, organise, resources, resources, resources. Come on comrades now you can't do anything without saying in APF you want to be paid cause you see the problem is we know the monies are there you will claim these monies are here because of fighting poverty, fighting prepaid so let that money flow, we can fight pre paid.

Interviewer: Okay

