



Interview with Magdeline Motsusi

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Tshepo Moloji [TM]: So Maggie we will start at the beginning and you will speak about what you remember and what you don't remember, you do not need to speak about as there is no point to speak about something that you do not remember.

Magdalene Motsusi [MM]: Okay

TM: I will start by saying that today it is the 22nd of September 2013 and I am with Maggie, she will provide more details about who she is?

MM: Magdalene Motsusi

TM: Okay, Motsusi, from Braklaagte and I am Tshepo Moloji and I am with Elsie Motsusi and we will talk to Maggie about Braklaagte history. I would like to first thank you for meeting us and providing us with the information that you will give us. Like I said the main reason for this project is to write about History about Braklaagte and we would like to write the history of this place and include the people that were involved in it. We did not want to take the information from people who were not involved at all. To start off with, I would like you to introduce yourself and tell us where you were born?

MM: I am Maggie Motsusi; I was born here in Braklaagte

TM: Okay, when was this, do you still remember the year that you were born?

MM: Do you mean when I was born?

TM: When you were born?

MM: I am 56 years

TM: Okay, do you still remember or did your parents ever tell you where they were from?

MM: My parents were born here. My mom was born here in Braklaagte and my father and there was a mess from before but he was born Ko Nokaneng [Place]. His surname is Motsusi and he ended up here in Braklaagte with his elders.

TM: As you were growing up, how would you say this place was while you were growing up?

MM: This place that we live in, while growing up, it was a very nice place to live in. In 1956/1957, I hear from my parents that there were problems related to the forced removals, where they [government] were moving us to Driefontein. Our elders refused though, as they said we are not moving and they were paid to even take passports. The others left and others were being hit even at work. My father worked in Zeerust and he started working there in 1955 and he stopped in 1980. They came back from work and they found the mess and our elders were being taken to the dam by foot.

TM: So they wanted to move them from here to the dam?

MM: They were taking them to Driefontein

[TIMECODE: 04m:15s]

TM: Okay, so is Driefontein where the dam is then?

MM: No, Driefontein is down there. They would take them to the dam to remove them forcefully but they refused and in the end they did not leave and they said this is their land and they will stay and the land belonged to Sebogodi.

TM: When you say that this is their land, what do you mean by this?

MM: This was their land, it belonged to the *Kgosi [Chief]*, most of them were born here, it is not that it was bought or anything but it was their land.

TM: It is their land?

MM: Yes

TM: At this time the *Kgosi [Chief]* was Sebogodi

MM: Yes, it was Sebogodi, he went to jail with others and for this land he has fought, as he has been arrested for it. This is the history that we are being told by our parents.

TM: Okay, as you were growing up, you said your father used to work in Zeerust, what did you mother do though during this time?

MM: My mom was at home as she was a woman and she would need to take care of the children. When there was a problem the policy would come and take them and I would be on my mother's back at that time. (Laughing)

TM: That means that the woman really had a tough time then?

MM: Yes, (laughing)

TM: As you were growing up, did you go to school?

MM: Yes, I did go to school and I stopped going to school in 1977.

TM: When did you start?

MM: I started here in Braklaagte and I went to *Bana Bakhayi [where are the children – school's name]*.

TM: Okay, *Bana Bakhayi [Name of School]*, where did you go to after this school?

MM: I passed my Standard 6 [Grade 8] in 1974. I then went to attend school Ko Nokaneng [Name of School]. I left school and I was told that I am old and I did not go back to school. They said that I am too big (laughing).

TM: Was this at school?

MM: No my dad said that I was too big and he said that I was a woman and did not need to school at all.

TM: Okay

MM: I ended up feeling like I can go to Gauteng, (laughing)

TM: Okay, this side - what was the school called?

MM: The school was called *Keaitse [I know – school's name]*

TM: Okay, *Keaitse [I know – school's name]*

MM: Yes

[TIMECODE: 07m:24s]

TM: So when you father said that you are not going to school, you are going to Gauteng, how did you feel?

MM: I ended up going and looking for employment, (laughing).

TM: Where did you go for this?

MM: I went to Parktown, this is in Braamfontein

TM: What did you do there?

MM: I was a domestic worker

TM: How long did you work there for?

MM: I worked there for three years as my mother went blind in 1980 and my father phoned me and told me about this and that is when I came back home. My father then passed away in 1985 and my mother passed away in 1991 and I was with them all the time, as I was the last born here at home.

TM: Okay, as you are sitting at home in 1980, how was life during this time while you were at home?

MM: Life was fine and there were no problems. In 1986 - this is when the problems started as Bophuthatswana was around and that is when the problem started and this is when the committee was formed.

TM: Who formed this committee?

MM: It was me, Tshegofatso

TM: Okay

MM: We then started going out and I remember the one time when we finished meeting with others that came home. I think it was people from Black Sash. We met them in Mathopestad and we met with Mr. Mathope himself as he was from exile.

TM: Okay

MM: We finished the discussion there about the water from the rural areas and there were a lot of people from different areas. We spoke about our lives and our water and how things are.

TM: Let me ask you a question, when this thing started, that you need to fall under Bophuthatswana, how did you hear this?

MM: I do not remember. It could have been in 1985/1986 and this is when I was getting to understand things better and they wanted us to get out and it was getting too much for the *Kgosi* [Chief] as they did not understand what was happening. This is when they asked for help and we met with them again at Motophostad.

TM: Who was meeting? Was it the committee?

MM: We all just went in one car

TM: Who was in the car: was it not the committee that you formed?

MM: It was that committee that had been formed

TM: Okay, you said Elsie was there and you were part of the committee?

MM: Yes, there was another lady from Driefontein, who else was there? It was Agriep; i have forgotten their names now

[TIMECODE: 11m:03s]

Other: They used to take a person from each section

TM: Okay, how did you tell which section was which?

Other: Okay, this section that we are on was Kgarongwana, the one that I am on is Madibane and the one that Agriep was on was Moneng section and that is how they went really.

TM: Okay, so who would identify you to be on the committee then for that section?

MM: The community would identify us so that we could represent them

TM: Okay, so they would say who would be the representative of each section?

MM: Yes

TM: When they chose you Maggie, the community, what did they see in you?

MM: I think they saw the way that I process things and my thought process and as you can see that the place where we stay does not have a community hall. So when I was chosen by the community, I was still working on things and another committee was formed where we contributed R1 and they added all of this and bought cement to build a hall in the area. That is why they chose me to go in and represent them as I was already working.

TM: Okay, did this committee have any men present in the committee?

MM: It did have men as Jacob was there and Ngwatse and they were also part of it but they have now passed away

TM: Okay. What is Jacob's surname?

MM: It is Modise, however they have all passed away now.

TM: They have now passed away?

MM: Yes

TM: They have passed away. And now you are travelling to Mathopestad to hold your meetings there. [This is a reference to the launch of the Rural Women's Movement, where women from many areas under threat of forced removal met in Mathopestad]

MM: Yes we would have our meetings there and we would discuss details about our land and explain to our elders the way that they would tell us things as we would travel.

TM: Okay, so these are the people from Black Sash and TRAC?

MM: Yes

TM: They would be writing things?

MM: Yes, they would. Also Lydia was involved and Clive as well

Other: Clive is the lawyer that we used

MM: Yes, they are lawyers, Lydia is a German ?? [Mam Lydia Kompe is a Black SA woman, but German churches funded the RWM meetings in part]

Other: Do you mean Clive?

MM: No I mean Lydia she was the one that represented the rural areas

TM: Okay, how many days did you stay there in Mathopestad?

MM: I think it was just over a week and a few days

TM: Oh

[TIMECODE: 14m:23s]

MM: Yes

TM: Okay

MM: It is various communities that were there to discuss various matters and that is why it took so long.

TM: Okay, so when you came back, how did you come back?

MM: When we came back home?

TM: Yes

MM: We used our own car and Pupsey's, transported us there

TM: Okay, so when you came back do you report to the *Kgosi* [Chief]?

MM: Yes, we do go to the *Kgosi* [Chief] to let him know that we are back and what will happen going forward.

TM: How did the people from Black Sash help you though?

MM: They did help us because I remember in 1986 all the way to 1989, that is when they [Government] said we should fall under Bophuthatswana.

TM: Okay, this was in 1989?

MM: I remember it was Good Friday, the school children that attended school in Zeerust, when they came back from school that day in Zeerust. They met up with a roadblock at the bottom before coming home. There were police and army members there and they were looking for people who were fighting as they did not agree with the *Kgosi* [Chief] and others were fighting to also not form part of Bophuthatswana. The school children were stopped there and taken off the bus and they were young children. My sister's child also attended school in Zeerust as well. We heard that there was a problem and this is when the people came out. We went there and found our children had been abandoned there and we had been searching for the children all this time. They then told us that they had been beaten. They had beaten them really badly. The children said that it was the police who had been beating them like that with the army members. They said they were looking for Motswana and they asked us where he is. We came back and Good Friday was going to be on the next day. We went home. I remember I had a small baby at the time, and my mom was blind. They told us that the police and the army members were coming. It happened at night around 2am, I heard a truck and they knocked on my door. I responded by asking who is it? I could hear though that there were a lot of footsteps outside. It all happened and they had a lot of trucks there with them. I opened the door and they came in and I was with the father of my child and they told me that they are looking for me.

TM: Okay, so they were looking for you?

MM: Yes, they wanted to take me as I was in the committee that requested the R1 from the community to build various structures. I then asked them where they were taking me to? They just told me to come and go with them and they will bring me back. When I was outside I realised that Agriep and Steve were also there as well. They had taken other members as well.

TM: Okay, so they were looking for you?

MM: Yes, they were the ones that I worked with. They said that you are lucky as you work in Roodepoort, but if it was not for that, we would be taking you in right now.

TM: (Laughing)

[TIMECODE: 18m:50s]

MM: I told them that I do not want to go into the trucks, we started walking down. Now we were arrested and they said I am going to show them where Mopeng was. Agriep had showed them where I stayed so I had to show them where Mopeng stayed.

TM: Okay, so you were all showing them where you all stayed. All the members of the committee?

MM: Yes, we were going to take Mopeng and the small boy as well. As they said he was a part of this as well. They instructed me and told me that we had to go. They took me and we walked down to go and look for the person and when we arrived they told us that they were part of the police and the army as well and it was very dark. This is when they poured us with water, we got very wet and we were in the grass. They beat us up in the grass, they did anything that they wanted with us. It was a struggle and this side there was our underwear and dresses were up and our bottoms were out. They continued to pour us with water. At this point we heard the men also complaining and this was Mogosi.

TM: They came with them?

MM: Yes

TM: Okay, so they left you with the others and they went to the take the others?

MM: Yes, they went to take the others. When I looked they went to take Mogosi. He came with his clothes and they were old men and the sjamboks were working on them and the old men were complaining and crying at the same time.

TM: Laughing

Other: Ditchaba

MM: In the morning they took us with the trucks and they said we are going to jail. We asked where are we going to now?

TM: Now when they have you here, where was Remule?

MM: He was nowhere to be found but his wife came and she was singing and she was singing and we did not even know where the song came from

TM: Laughing

MM: It was a big problem and they took us to Motswedi and then to jail and we went into their rooms. They took statements to say that our *Kgosi [Chief]* is Remule. The others were okay with the beating but I told them straight that I have been in the committee for a long time and I do not know that person to be the *Kgosi [Chief]*. I know Sebogodi only. They took us out of the cells and it was water all over and they took us back and they had a bigger one now and they put us with the men in a small room and they were going to use a gun now. They put the men on the floors and they were hitting the men with the guns.

TM: Was this the men now you are referring to?

MM: Yes, they were hitting the men and they would put them on a chair and they would hit them and the men were crying. We were sitting and then Tshegofatso came and they wanted to start looking for the others. They wanted others to stay, to go to court and eventually they let us go. We went to court and the rest were taken out. The second thing was about to start...

TM: In court though what did they charge you with?

MM: They said that we said our *Kgosi [Chief]* is indeed the *Kgosi [Chief]*?

(Phone beeps)

TM: Okay

[TIMECODE: 25m:08s]

MM: They had a problem with this thing related to the *Kgosi* [Chief]

TM: Where did this thing of the *Kgosi* [Chief] come from though and who was the *Kgosi* [Chief]?

MM: The *Kgosi* [Chief] is Sebogodi. They wanted us to go to Bophuthatswana and Sebogodi said he is not a person from Bophuthatswana and he is not going there

TM: Okay, now the case came to an end?

MM: The case came to an end but the police were still here

TM: So they did not go away after the case?

MM: Yes, we eventually decided to join a political party and at that time it was the ANC. The lady came from Gauteng and we went with her and she came and delivered cards from Gauteng to allow us to make people to join the party. We did this at night signing up members to be part of the ANC.

TM: Were the people not afraid to do this at night though?

MM: No, it was really only me that was signing up members

TM: Really?

MM: I did this really and made members join the political party, ANC. However when the fighting began the members of the community, they showed which side they were on, they made their own choice. There were others that would come to me at night to request to sign up to get their card from me. They really did mess us around a lot, (laughing). The other time I saw a truck which came through to my house and they said we are coming to you as you are the woman of the ANC. They said Motswedi again, we are going there again, as we now have a problem with these cards that you are issuing.

TM: Okay, the second time round, who did they take with them?

MM: Are you referring to the cards?

TM: Yes

MM: There was another man as well, but he has since passed away now. His name was Ronald. He was with us with another lady as well and Remule and Nake and these are the few that I can remember really. They took us and we spent time in Motswedi again, but this time we were arrested for these cards that we were issuing.

Other: Laughing

MM: We need to wait up until we get lawyers again as they wanted their people and this time we were mixed with other people who came from Alexandra, from Gauteng, as well. There was a lady who was making a noise as well there but we were used to her as she had their children there.

Other: Simane was also locked up and I was in one cell with him

TM: Okay

MM: They came to take us out and they took us home and the court proceeded. It just happened that way we ended up going to see Pupsey as well at the same time.

TM: Where was Pupsey now?

MM: Pupsey was in Gauteng at this time. When he had left, the word went out that he was in exile and now the truth would come out of where he was exactly. We submitted our requests and we then received our t-shirts from our father at the time.

[TIMECODE: 29m:49s]

TM: Okay, so was this Mandela you mean?

MM: Yes, it happened early in the morning around 8am and we came across a road block and this is where they stopped us.

TM: Was this on the way you said?

MM: They stopped us on the way

TM: I would assume that there were a lot of taxis' then?

MM: Yes, there were about 15 taxis' if I remember correctly

TM: Were you singing at this time?

MM: No, there was no singing at this time really on the taxis'. They stopped us and they said that they are looking for Motsusi and they provided details of where I stayed and the house and address as well, so it was clear that they knew me very well and had all the necessary details about me. I got out of the taxi and they said "Maggie we have you now and they are looking for you as you are the one that is causing all the problems here." I did not understand what they were saying and I asked them how is that? They then asked "where are you going to now?" I responded and told them that we are going to Rustenburg. They then asked me "what are you going to do in Rustenburg?" I said to them I am not too sure really but there is a Rally that is being held there. They then asked me "where is Motswedi?" I told them that I do not know where he is. I told them though if I see him where I am going to now, I will let you know. I was speaking to them comfortably really. However it was clear that they really wanted to know what was going to be discussed at the Rally. I told them that I do not know what was going to be discussed at the Rally. I told them that I honestly do not know what would be discussed there however when I come back, I would let them know what was discussed at the Rally. This is when they called someone else and they said "we have found her". At this point they put me in the back of the truck and they took me to Welverdact and they took me off. Upon our arrival here there were others as well and we went into a house and they put me into a room on the side. I asked myself why they were putting me here alone. While sitting in this room two policemen came and asked me where were we going to? I told them that I have already told the policemen before you that we are going to Rustenburg. They too asked me where Motswedi was and I told them that I do not know where he is but if he was in Rustenburg, I would let them know. They too wanted to know what was going to be discussed at the Rustenburg, I told them that they must wait for me and when I come back I will let them know what was discussed at the Rally. Then another policeman came, this was the second one and I told him the same thing as the others as well. He then told me that Captain Dube was calling me. I went to Captain Dube, when I walked in I found Captain Dube swearing at the elders.

TM: Okay, this Captain Dube was he speaking in Setswana?

MM: Yes, he was when I got in he told me that I must go with him so I went over and did exactly as he said. He was speaking to the others at this time, and he then turned to me and said Maggie where are you going to? He had my name as he had been given the details and he had it written down on a piece of paper. I responded to him and said I told the Policemen that we are going to Rustenburg. I told them that I would tell you when I come back. He also asked me about Pupsey as well, I responded and said that I am not sure if he is there but if he is there, I will definitely let you know when I come back. He asked me what are you going to discuss there, I said I am not too sure. He let it go. I thought he was going to kill me today. When he moved he just called and looked at me and he hit me with a slap on my face and he looked straight into my face. I said to him what you are doing because I told you that I am going to tell you when I come back. He said Mandela is doing nonsense and he tore my shirt and he took someone else's and he tore them all.

[TIMECODE: 36m:06s]

He said I can shoot you and shoot this Mandela as well.

Other: Shooting Mandela on the shirt?

TM: (Laughing)

MM: Yes, it is the truth and he left us there. We were all amazed and the elders said let us go home as it has been messed up. I said we are going to Rustenburg and we are going to the Rally. They all agreed and we went to the Rally. They appeared and to take us and they swore at him. They were swearing at him as though he is a small child.

TM: Was this the police swearing at her?

MM: Yes, she was being sworn at by the police

TM: Okay, what was her name?

MM: It was Brandenburg

Other: Mrs. Brandenburg as those are far away from Johannesburg so I had asked her that as soon as anything happens she needed to tell us.

TM: Where was she?

Other: She stays in Zeerust. She would help people in a speedy manner and she was also part of Cheadle Thompson and Haysom

MM: They said what do we do now, I told them that we are going to the Rally. We are proceeding forward to the Rally

TM: What time did they take you out there?

MM: They only released us around 2pm

TM: Oh, they kept you in there for a long time

MM: Yes, we eventually left and when we moved out, there are these boys. I got out and I asked them what was wrong as my knees were painful

TM: Which boys were these?

MM: It was the ANC boys

TM: Oh, okay from the Rally?

MM: Yes, they took me to the first and they want to see how my feet are and what is happening and they then brought another shirt for me. (Laughing) and Black Sash was there as well and we were at the Rally and it was going to come to an end and I did not take a jersey as well and it was the shirt of the very person that we are looking for. We came home. When I got home they said we have already heard, so I just said we are from the Rally

TM: Was there no road block anymore?

MM: No, there was no road block anymore. In the morning we woke up with Tshegofatso to go and provide the details and give them the shirt to Brandenburg to show them what happened at the Rally.

TM: It was really difficult then. You said that in 1986 this was when you heard that they wanted to enforce the incorporation. So they only enforced this in 1989 and in between 1986 and 1989 what was happening in this time?

MM: We still met as this was due to the *Kgosi [Chief]*. It was a big fight

[TIMECODE: 40m:17s]

TM: Now they are fighting this *Kgosi* [Chief] prophecy that they did not want: did this not cause a division in the community though?

MM: Yes there was a big division

Other: Even now there is still a division

MM: We thought that at some point it was over but it continued as they did not believe that the *Kgosi* [Chief] was Motswana. They wanted it to be

TM: They still thought it was Remule (Moilwa)

MM: Yes

TM: So with this division how did you live as you all live in one area?

MM: It was difficult as we were being beaten by the people in the community and the police as well.

TM: They were harassing you?

MM: There was a lot of fighting. If you were walking around at night they could hit, as they did not want the *Kgosi* [Chief]

TM: They did this as they knew you now?

MM: Yes, they did know us.

TM: So what did you do then, did you defend yourself though?

MM: Yes it was fighting and things came to an end and people were arrested and they came back.

TM: Did they arrest people though?

MM: They would arrest everyone on this side only though.

TM: So, I am trying to understand how the community was divided. Was it Sebogodi only this side or how was it?

MM: No it was just a mess up here in the community

Other: Like here, let me show you Tshepo, let me show you they would call the police

TM: They would call the police here?

Other: Yes, at home

TM: They work for TRAC

Other: Yes, they work for TRAC, when the car came out of the yard, then they came. We went out and the items were in the other car and in front we met up with another truck.

TM: Is this in the afternoon?

Other: It was in the afternoon

TM: Okay

Other: We stopped again

TM: They put you in the middle now?

Other: Yes, they came to our car and they asked us, what are you going to do in Gauteng?

[TIMECODE: 43m:09s]

I responded to them and said that is none of your business what we are going to do in Gauteng. They asked me who is this? Is it Janet and Harold and they asked me what are they coming to do with you? I told them that they are coming to see me and that is nothing to do with you. They told me that they know that these white people are coming and staying with you. I responded and said they do stay with him; they used to stay in the house with others that came from Germany, USA and all over. They then took us and we went to Welverdiend and they went into Harold's car and they took us to the jail and they put us in separate room. They put Janete in one room, Harold in another room and they put me in a separate room as well. They asked as a lot of questions as to what we are going to do where we were going to. They just wanted to delay us as they released us at 9pm in the evening.

TM: They took you in the afternoon?

Other: Yes in the afternoon, in the evening at 9pm they released. They had come with two cars. This was Harold and Janet and they came with Samuel and he worked for TRAC. He had a van and he left that in Sebogodi so when they left here, he had left and gone to Zeerust. However they did not know that these people came with two cars. As I was arrested they had come to ask where is the other car? Tshepo said which car? Yes and she told them that did you not see these people come into the house. They were very stupid

TM: How do you meet with the ANC to make other people join the political party?

MM: These women were part of the committee and they were older than us and they were wiser.

TM: Okay, you are referring to Elsie here?

MM: Yes

TM: They were the ones, now Elsie how did you come to know about the ANC and to make people join the political party?

Other: ANC- I got to know about it while I was in school. The riots of 1976 -I knew about it when I was in Gauteng and this side there was the white Government and that is when in 1976 the school children said they do not want to do Afrikaans at school. That is when I became active about the ANC and that is how I gained knowledge about the ANC. I used to travel with them *Ma Winnie, Ma Sisulu, Ma Mbeki* and that is how I got to know about the ANC. It went on and then there was Luthuli House and I used to take the member cards and the member forms and fetching them from that side and bringing them back to Gauteng, to allow Maggie to make people join the political party.

TM: Okay, Black Sash and TRAC - prior to you going to Mathopetsad, did you know about these organizations at all?

MM: They would come to my house. Lydia, prior to meeting at Mathopestad, and we met there and we met as though we were celebrating, as Mr. Mathope had returned from exile at that time.

TM: When they got here for the first time, who did they meet with? I am referring to Lydia?

MM: They met with us as we knew that they were coming

TM: Okay, I hear you. Prior to you leaving for Mathopestad,, what did you discuss here before you departed?

MM: We discussed the issue about water

TM: It was a big topic this one

MM: Yes it definitely was and you are talking about our History as this is not what just happened in one area but rather inclusive of everything

[TIMECODE: 48m:39s]

TM: So this thing regarding you falling under Bophuthatswana : where did that end off?

MM: It ended because Mangope eventually left the presidency and that is how it came to an end.

TM: Okay

MM: He did not return to presidency and there was no other president. At the time it was just Bophuthatswana really.

TM: Okay, this division here in the community did this continue still?

MM: Yes, it continued. The problem was that it had been there already.

TM: Okay

Other: The other men at the school - you heard Ntathe Rampo said he can fix this and he can fix this and I told him that I have been working with these things from 1957 and I understand them better than you will ever be able to understand. I told him to go back from where he is from because I understand these things better.

TM: Now Maggie, after you have fought and you were in jail and you were being beaten. Are there any changes after the new Government has come to party?

MM: There are changes that are visible. You can see that there was no more arrests and they took their tents as things changed. This was because of the *Kgosi [Chief]*. Our father has now passed away now, as they said that he is not the *Kgosi [Chief]*. Mangope was the president and he did not know that our father had a card to be a *Kgosi [Chief]*.

TM: Was Mangope rude to the *Kgosi [Chief]*?

MM: Yes because he wanted this land

TM: Why though was he rude towards the *Kgosi [Chief]*?

MM: He would say he is not the *Kgosi [Chief]*. He would be surprised that the people of this land through these fights - we would take out policemen and we did wrong things in this land.

TM: Did he agree to this?

MM: Yes, he did. We went to the *Kgosi [Chief]* and he took out his card

TM: Okay

MM: All these things came out at that time really.

TM: Are there any other changes that you have identified here at home?

MM: There are a lot of changes that have been identified.

Other: It shows that our land can go on and there can also be development but they are being blocked by these things we have experienced.

TM: The other thing that we have picked up as we have been doing our research is that the community could live and make an income by farming? Is that still happening now?

MM: No, there is no farming now

TM: What is the problem though?

MM: There is no rain that is coming and this causes problems for us and the people that are farming - and you can try, but then you don't see the profits of it

TM: So how do people live though now?

[TIMECODE: 53m:47s]

MM: People make bunny chows and sell food and I do not have a father and a mother and I live by selling things in town.

TM: What do you sell?

MM: Anything that can be bought like steel wool and peanuts and I sell those and there are times for everything but you make this income in this way.

TM: Is there no employment though?

MM: No there is no employment

Other: Poverty is very high in this area

TM: Okay, what do you think can assist this issue of poverty though?

Other: We can end this poverty by using our hands and having facilities as well and people that can help us where we need help. This yard is big. If we have a tractor to farm here, and find a group of woman to do farming here on this farm. We can use this money to feed our children and sell to people at a lower price and we can make a market and sell it to people who are travelling. We are struggling as we do not have the facilities

TM: The land to farm - you have it already?

Other: Yes, we do have the land to do farming on and we have projects, but we struggle with facilities

TM: Which farms have projects on them here?

Other: There was a big farm down there that had a project running on it. The vegetable project we started it with Pupsey and we asked for funds from organizations and we came and spoke to the community and those that agreed with us they said let us go to the farms and get trees and take some money out and we put water up as well and we asked for help from a lot of people and Kagiso Trust and they helped us and it was a big farm and the vegetables were very nice that came from that farm. It ended because there was dishonest people there. The vegetable garden that was there- I was part of the committee there. The money came out and Pupsey said you need to get out

TM: The problem was money

Other: Even his mother said Elsie must come out and my relation will work here and that is how Ntathe Randa, and he was from exile. The money was released and vans were bought and tractors and everything and they spent the money recklessly and the vans became theirs and the project came to an end because of dishonesty. You cannot do something if you are not trained for it as you need to get someone to train you so that you know what you are doing with it. They need to get a chairperson, secretary and they need to be trained to ensure that they know that this money is used wisely. This money is for the community so when this one gets R5000 and this one gets R10 000 and then there is no money in the bank, and that is how it ended. We are struggling because we do not trust each other and no training and allowing us to do something that we know will give us and our children an income.

TM: Those were the problems

Other: We need training

TM: Okay, I would like to know if Maggie was part of the Rural Women's Movement. That is what you used and you worked closely with women. Were you a part of it?

MM: Yes, I was a part of it

TM: Okay, what do you remember about it, what did you do there?

[TIMECODE: 59m:35s]

MM: You know what this thing is now because I cannot tell you what we did

TM: Okay

Other: The meeting of Rural Women's Movement was good for the women in the rural areas as, if you look at things: the women bring the children up and they teach them and that is why we want it to come back and we can protect each other and our children as woman and we can go on with life and corruption can be decreased as well. I found the pamphlet that I was telling you about, I must give it to you.

TM: Okay, during the times of ANC. When they started, when people were still fighting, the things of the incorporations and there were songs of which they called them as *Mzabalazo [The struggle]*

MM: Yes

TM: Did you sing them as well?

MM: You mean the ones from ANC?

TM: Yes

MM: We did sing them

TM: Do you remember any of them though?

MM: (Laughing), there are a lot such as *Siyaya e Pitoli [We are going to Pretoria]*, there is a lot also *Comrade Mandela* we are going with you, there were a lot really.

TM: Okay, I think Maggie, we have got a lot of information from you and we will meet with others and get more information from them and we heard the incorporation story and if you did not stand up then things would not be as they are now.

MM: It could have all been messed up

TM: Yes.

[TIMECODE: 01h:02m:11s]

[END]

