



RIGHT2KNOW

24 April 2012

R2K campaign announces Freedom Week activities

The Right2Know campaign is hosting a series of events to mark South African "Freedom Week" – 27 April (Freedom Day), 1 May (Worker's Day) and 3 May (World Press Freedom Day) – in recognition and celebration of the struggles and victories that all citizens, workers and journalists have fought and secured to for our collective 'freedom'. (See list of events below)

Over the past 20 months, opposition to the Secrecy Bill has united ordinary people from across all manner of struggles, across geographical distance and across South Africa's segregated landscape of race, class, and language. We are joined in a common struggle to defend and advance the 'right to know' for all, a right that is essential to the enjoyment of our freedom.

As the Right2Know, we seek a country and a world where we all have the right to know – that is to be free to access and to share information. This right is fundamental to any democracy that is open, accountable, participatory and responsive; able to deliver the social, economic and environmental justice we need. On this foundation a society and an international community can be built in which we all live free from want, in equality and in dignity.

In Parliament, the Secrecy Bill has been the subject of delays, diversions, and disciplinary actions. Despite a number of crucial victories in 2011 to amend the Bill, the outstanding concerns around the scope, concentration of powers and harshness of penalties will continue to galvanise civil society opposition to the Bill (see attached pamphlet summarising our outstanding concerns). There is a great deal of work to do as the NCOP seeks to finalise the Bill by 17 May 2012, in less than four weeks.

Recognising that the Secrecy Bill and more recently the Spy Bill are symptoms and symbols of much broader and longer-term threats to our right to know and freedom of expression, this is a campaign that goes beyond any single piece of legislation. The rights to access and share information, to speak up and to shout out, have always been and will always remain central to all struggles for justice, freedom and equality.

We call on all corners of society to mark 27 April (Freedom Day), 1 May (Worker's Day) and 3 May (World Press Freedom Day), as opportunities to recognise and celebrate hard-fought battles and hard-won victories in the struggle to realise these rights, and to reflect on the challenges that lie ahead.

For comment please contact:

R2K National coordinator	Murray Hunter: 072 672 5468
R2K Gauteng	Dale McKinley: 072 429 4086
R2K Western Cape	Nkwame Cedile: 078 227 6008
R2K KZN	Desmond D'Sa: 083 982 6939
R2K Eastern Cape	Thembanzi Zion Onceya: 078 843 7489

R2K Freedom Week Events

GAUTENG

Fri 27 April (9am-3.30pm)

“Speak out on Secrecy” – public meeting in Kliptown
VENUE: Soweto Kliptown Youth, 29 Station Rd Kliptown

KWAZULU-NATAL

Friday 27 April (9am-12pm)

“UnFreedom Day March” – joint march to City Hall
VENUE: Starts at Botha/King Dinuzulu Gardens, Durban

Thurs 3 May (12.30pm-2pm)

“Fighting for the Right2Know” – public seminar
VENUE: Centre for Civil Society, MT Building, UKZN

Thurs 3 May (12pm-1pm)

Roundtable discussion on Media Freedom
VENUE: Arthur Smith Hall, DUT City Campus

Fri 4 May (6.30pm)

R2K KZN benefit dinner
VENUE: NJM Islamic Centre, Hendry Road, Overport
(Please call Eric: 082 924 9822. Booking is essential)

WESTERN CAPE

Fri 27 April (11am- 2pm)

“Speak out on Secrecy” – public meeting in Langa
VENUE: Ikwezi Hostel, Langa

Sat 28 April (12-2pm)

“Housing & Secrecy” – public meeting in Khayelitsha
VENUE: Andile Nhosa School Hall, Mandela Park

Sun 29 April (10am)

Right2Know Sermon
VENUE: Central Methodist Church, Greenmarket Square

FREEDOM WEEK FILM FEST

Fri 27 April (4pm)

“Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony”
VENUE: Labia Theatre

Sat 28 April (12pm)

“Flow: For the Love of Water”
VENUE: Andile Nhosa School Hall, Mandela Park

Mon 30 April (6pm)

“Site-seeing” (documentary on Chappies Toll Saga) & “Battle for Hangberg”
VENUE: Hout Bay, venue tbc

Tues 1 May (11am)

“The Trouble with Truth”
VENUE: COSATU Rally, Good Hope Centre

Tues 1 May (4pm)

“The Imam & I”
VENUE: Labia Theatre

Wed 2 May (6pm)

“The Battle of Hangberg” (followed by discussion with the filmmaker)
VENUE: Mannenberg People’s Centre

Wed 2 May (7pm)

“Wikileaks, Wikirebels”
VENUE: Rooftop Cinema, Penthouse, Long St

Thurs 3 May (6pm)

“The Most Dangerous Man in America” (discussion with Ivor Powell, investigative journalist)
VENUE: Labia Theatre