

South African social attitudes: changing times, diverse voices.

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South African social attitudes: changing times, diverse voices

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Abstract:

A country's attitudinal profile is as much a part of its social reality as are its demographic make-up, and its distinctive social patterns. It helps to provide a nuanced picture of a country's circumstances, continuities and changes, its democratic health, and how it feels to live there. It also helps to measure a country's progress towards the achievement of its economic, social and political goals, based on a measurement of both 'objective' and 'subjective' realities. South African Social Attitudes: Changing Times, Diverse Voices is a new series aimed at providing an analysis of attitudes and values towards a wide range of social and political issues relevant to life in contemporary South African society. As the series develops, it will provide a comprehensive picture of the social and political issues relevant to life in contemporary South African society. As the series develops, it will provide a comprehensive picture of the social and political issues relevant to life in contemporary South African society.

hope that readers will be able to draw meaningful comparisons with the findings of previous years develop a richer picture and deeper appreciation of changing South African social values. This volume in the series, presents the public's responses during extensive nation-wide interviews conducted by the HSRC in late 2003. The findings are analysed in three thematic sections: the first provides an examination of race, class and politics; the second gives a critical assessment of the public's perceptions of poverty, inequality and service delivery, and the last explores societal values such as partner violence and moral attitudes. *South African Social Attitudes* is essential reading for anyone seeking a contemporary social or political issues and debates. It should prove an indispensable tool not only for government policy-makers, social scientists and students, but also for general readers wishing to gain a better understanding of their fellow citizens and themselves.

Keywords:

SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY

SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

VALUES IN SOCIETY

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