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TE

Box 1002  
Garsfontein 0042  
24 September 1993

The Chairman  
The Negotiating Forum  
Kempton Park

Dear Sir

I would like to bring the following matter to the urgent attention of the ladies and gentlemen of the negotiating team for constitutional developments. Though I know the matters raised do not fall strictly under your brief I am driven to approach your body out of sheer desperation after the runarounds and obfuscations put in my path by the various arms of the media and the authorities.

The situation I am referring to is well-known the wide world over. I cannot think that your esteemed personage will sink so low as to deny all knowledge of the matter as have various executive figures in the fields mentioned above. Nor can I think that you would deny at least a peripheral involvement in the set up yourselves.

I refer, of course, to the invasion of privacy of members of this family by electronic means by the TV/radio media in particular, elements of official groups and sections of the public at large. It is not the mere fact of invasion of privacy that is at issue here but some of its accompanying evils, namely: harassment on a vehicular level, harassment in the place of work and theft of copyright (myself, being an aspiring author, not in a position to produce work that is not pirated electronically at source and therefore being robbed of a possible source of income) to mention only a few.

Most honourable sir, I as one of the most central victims to this "gilded cage" type of imprisonment can personally assure that I do not find aforesaid condition acceptable, conducive to my general health, prosperity and well-being or as an irresistible "fait accompli" in case there is any ambiguity in your minds on that score. I regard certain features of the stated condition as requiring urgent remedial attention-not in the spirit of desiring preferential treatment but <sup>not</sup> of plain human decency.



Most esteemed Mr Chairman, short of legal action I have done about everything one can do to apprise the SABC (who would appear to be primary lizards under the rock), the media and other bodies ultra-involved of my objections but have received only the most basic or evasive of replies. Naturally I shall persist in exploring this line of establishing a channel of communication or, better still, a platform for negotiation. For as you gentlemen always state one should be open to negotiation. Sadly however the forces involved seem to prefer to operate from under " 'n dekmantel" of subterfuge and "might-is-right" condescension.

I am certain, Mr Chairman, that I do not need to remind someone of your perspicacity and experience of the world that it is not entirely appropriate that a South Africa-in-transition supposedly moving away from injustice and expecting world aid and investment on that ticket should be turning a blind eye to the kind of practices I have described which effectively amount to thieving potential livelihood and peace of mind from out of ordinary people's lives.

I leave the matter for further consideration by your group when the occasion arises.

Yours faithfully

*F.J. van Eeden*  
F.J. van Eeden





THE CHAIRMAN  
THE NEGOTIATING FORUM  
FOR A NEW SOUTH AFRICA  
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