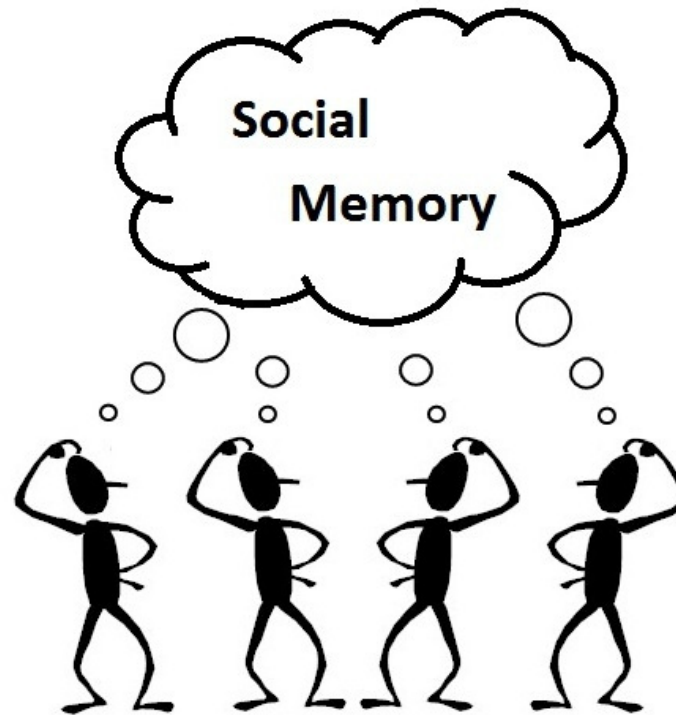


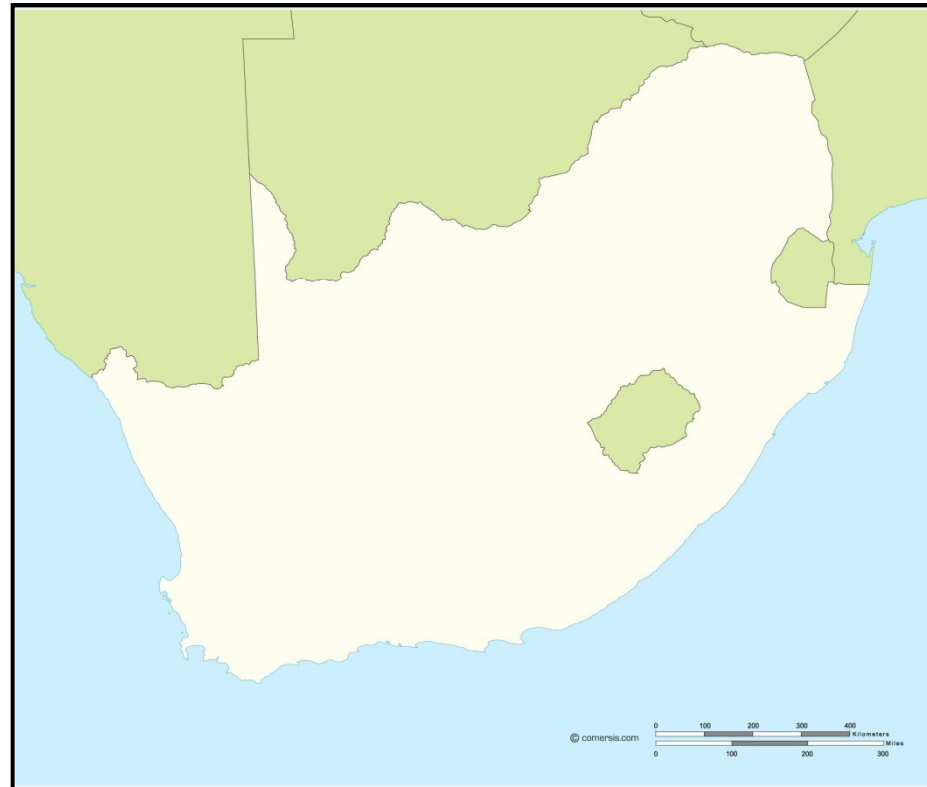
Appraisal and Social Memory



Belinda Kilduff, Claire Woodforde, Fanny Wirsing, Jouni Alanen,
Laura Walker, Magdalen Pickering, Nils Troselius

12. August 2011

11th February 1990



"The Role
of Archives in
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Appraisal and Social Memory

- ▶ Definitions of Social Memory
- ▶ Appraisal in South Africa
- ▶ Methodology and Memory Recovery
- ▶ Call of Justice
- ▶ Conclusion and Questions



Definitions of Social Memory

“Social memory is articulated memory; memory that is structured, framed, organised and used by and for the benefit of a community”

Laura Millar

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Definitions of Social Memory

“The collective memory of communities transmitted through the generations orally and in writing supported by documentary and object evidence...”

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of Archives in
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Appraisal Practice in South Africa

- ▶ In the Apartheid era
- ▶ In the Post-apartheid era



Township Soweto



Johannesburg

- ▶ Black vs White



End of Apartheid

- ▶ Rise in the number of collecting institutions
- ▶ Community Archives: A Voice to the Voiceless
- ▶ Filling the Gaps?

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Methodology of Memory Recovery

Documentation strategy

- ▶ Filling the gaps of the documentation of the past
- ▶ Systematic analysis and plan of documentation
- ▶ Important area of appraisal



Methodology of Memory Recovery

“Archive appraisal is an incomplete process if it is done without consideration of the information in non-textual records that archivists often do not take responsibility for”

Richard Cox

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Methodology of Memory Recovery

“Non Archives”

Voortrekker monument



Germany monument



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Methodology of Memory Recovery

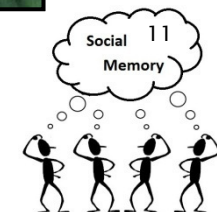
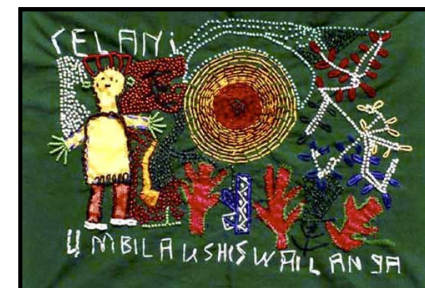
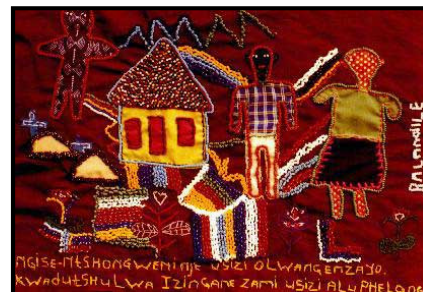
Examples from South Africa

1) Interviews

- 200 interviews of exiled people

2) Drawings and memory cloths

- way to process the past and record events



Methodology of Memory Recovery



FINNISH LITERATURE SOCIETY

Finnish Literature Society

- ▶ Write down Finnish culture and traditions
- ▶ Themes to write on:
 - Sauna Tradition
 - Alcohol habits and impacts on life

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Call of Justice

Healing and Reconciliation

Example: Albie Sachs

Judicial justice

Example: Steve Biko

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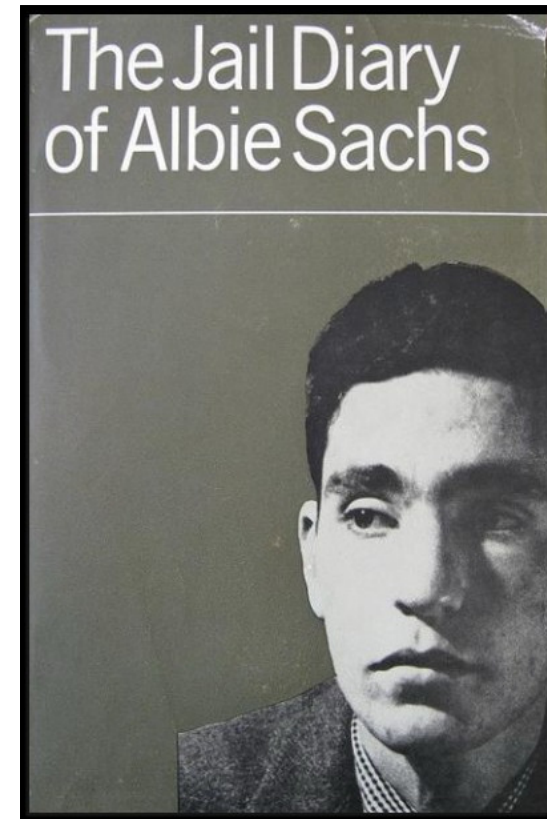


Call of Justice

Healing and Reconciliation

- ▶ Truth and Reconciliation Commission was founded to deal with past horrors and facilitate a healing process

Example: Albie Sachs



Call of Justice

Judicial Justice

- ▶ Amnesty from prosecution
- ▶ Court cases

Example: Steve Biko



Call of Justice

Judicial Justice



steve biko
foundation

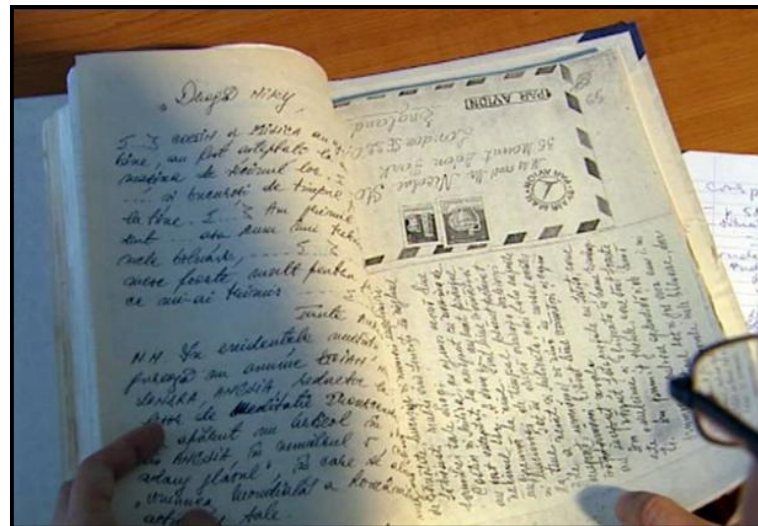
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Call of Justice

Conclusion

- ▶ Still horrors in archives that were never processed or gained justice
- ▶ Our view of justice?



Summary

- ▶ Re-appraisal of South African past
- ▶ A more holistic approach to appraisal in the South African past
- ▶ Blurring of the boundaries of traditional memory institutions
- ▶ Focus on outside of printbased media
- ▶ Rethinking of traditional notions of evidence and authenticity?



Recommended Reading

- ▶ Richard Cox, “The Documentation Strategy and Archival Appraisal Principles: A Different Perspective”, in *Archivaria* 38 (1994), pp. 11 – 36.
- ▶ Verne Harris, “Madiba, Memory and the Work of Justice” (2011) (unpublished).
- ▶ Anthea Josias, “Toward an understanding of archives as a feature of collective memory”, in: *Archival Science* 11, Nr. 1 – 2 (2011), pp. 95 – 112, (available at <http://www.springerlink.com/content/a8603w750590154r/>)
- ▶ Laura Millar, “Touchstones: Considering the Relationship between Memory and Archives”, in *Archivaria* 61 (2006), pp. 105 – 126.
- ▶ Albie Sachs, “Archives, Truth, and Reconciliation”, in: *Archivaria* 62 (2006), pp. 1 – 14.



Thank you!

