



SPECIAL EDITION - APRIL 2015

I am an African

Firstly, let me declare that if you believe just with the title that I am jumping into the current anti-xenophobia bandwagon – you are completely correct because I choose not to be silent when crimes are perpetrated in my name. I am an African who happens to reside South Africa and I condemn in the strongest terms the violence and the anti-black foreigners' campaign that has currently gripped some parts of South Africa because the South Africans I know, understand two key facts – They are African and Ubuntu is at the core of all of them.

I am using this platform as a call for all of us to take the time out to educate our people (friends, relatives, neighbours) in the rural areas, townships and suburbs that we are all people first before we are what our passports declare. Secondly, to use the opportunity to let any of the other Africans in our scope of influence that the lunacy they see, is not South African and is not endorsed by the majority of South Africans who know that they are Africans before they are South Africans.

There are a lot of explanations about foreigners taking jobs, crime, relationships as if that is the preserve of non South Africans...the last crime I experienced was courtesy of locals, locals have gotten jobs over me for years and as for relationships - long story but facts prove that anybody goes with whoever they love and not on their ID or passport details.

So, speaking up is important and stopping xenophobia is our responsibility. If I lost my 'foreign' network, I would be lost given that I have not had home affairs to help me choose the people I love and care about. Just so you know, B's best friend is Ugandan, Zoe is Madagascan, Seven is Zimbabwean, my mentor is Zimbabwean, my stylists are Nigerian and Zimbabwean, my hairdresser is Ghanaian, my financial coach is Zimbabwean, my cell leader is Congolese, my bosses have been Somalian, South African, Ethiopian and Burundian, my children's second mothers are South African, Zimbabwean and from Lesotho, my friends are from all over....My great grandfather was Zimbabwean..that is why I say I am African !



Inspired is a monthly interactive platform for women to share their thoughts and make strategic connections in pursuit of their destinations.

Nuggets for the month

YOU

Being an African is a way of life

FAMILY

Our families are people we choose out of love not on the basis of their citizenship.

FRIENDS

Make friends all over the world so that they can expand your horizon and enrich your experiences.

WORK

People are employed on the basis of the uniqueness of their skills, their attitude and their willingness to make a contribution and a difference.

HARVEST CORNER

Take a stand and make your voice heard...

SAY NO TO XENOPHOBIA