

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)**

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**Verklaring deur Richard Botha, woordvoerder oor grondwetlike sake van die Christen-Demokratiese Party**

**Statement by Richard Botha, spokesperson on constitutional affairs of the Christian Democratic Party**

**Alleged abuse of Afrikaans and Christian in Eastern Cape**

From reports that have allegedly been broadcast on the radio in the Eastern Cape, it would appear that Afrikaans as a language is to be relegated to an immigrant language. If true, this would mean that Afrikaans will no longer enjoy the same status and protection as the other indigenous official languages in the country. From these reports, it is also alleged that members of the public are beginning to show intolerance toward Afrikaners and Christians alike. It has been alleged that there is a marked increase in verbally abusive behaviour towards Christians and Afrikaners by the Muslim community in schools in that area. Is this a sign that what is happening in Nigeria may be rearing its intolerant head here as well, or is it just the expression of a broader belief as expressed by the President, when he stated that Christian missionaries are to be blamed for many problems that we are facing in this country? It would seem that the intolerance that we saw in the xenophobic attacks may have shifted its focus. What ever happened to religious and cultural freedom or is that rule just for those countries that believe in the Christian faith.

**Beweerde onverdraagsaamheid jeens Afrikaans en Christene in die Oos-Kaap**

Uit berigte wat na bewering oor Oos-Kaapse radiosenders uitgesaai is, blyk dit dat Afrikaans na bewering tot die status van "immigrante-taal" afgegradeer gaan word. Indien dit waar sou wees, sou dit beteken dat Afrikaans nie langer op dieselfde status en beskerming as die ander amptelike tale aanspraak sal kan maak nie. Volgens die bewerings word daar na bewering toenemende onverdraagsaamheid van Moslems teenoor Afrikaners en Christene ervaar. Na bewering is daar 'n beduidende toename in gevalle van verbale diarree teenoor Afrikaners en Christene in skole in die area. Is dit 'n teken dat dit wat in Nigerië aan die gebeur is, ook ons onverdraagsame voorland is, of is dit maar net nog 'n manifestasie van die president se uitlating dat Christen-sendelinge vir baie van die land se probleme verantwoordelik is? Dit wil voorkom of die karakter van die xenofobiese aanvalle wat ons beleef het se fokus nou verskuif het. Wat het van godsdienstige en kulturele vryhede geword, of is dit net vir lande gereserveer wat die Christelike geloof aanhang?