

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

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**Missing person's day also apply to SA**

"With thousands of missing people in South Africa, approximately half of them children, it is appropriate that we should reserve special prayer today, on this the International Day for missing people. Especially for those who face the trauma of their dear ones who had gone missing.

"Often the inability to find closure is worse than facing the death of a loved one. It is heart rending to see the weekly long list of people who disappeared without a trace," says Christian Democratic Party (CDP) leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

"Some countries are singled out by Reporters without Borders as countries where people disappear after being arrested, often being murdered. South Africa, on the other hand, is suffering from drug related abductions, in order to 'enrol' young girls as prostitutes.

"The social fabric of the country also reflects a situation of missing parents. These parents may be sharing their homes with their children, but they are absent (in mind) when children most need parental guidance to protect them. There appears to be a new generation of street kids, who hang around outside casino's, while parents gamble their earnings away.

"Figuratively speaking absent parents can also be seen in the members of the ANC Youth League running amok during the first day of Julius Malema's trial. In fact, Malema himself appears to be a product of absent parents."

**Dag vir vermiste persone het ook op SA betrekking**

"Met duisende mense wat in Suid-Afrika vermis word, waarvan ongeveer die helfte kinders is, is dit baie gepas dat Suid-Afrikaners vandag, op die Internasionale Dag vir Vermiste Persone, spesiaal in hul gebede dink aan diegene wat geliefdes vermis.

"Dikwels is die onvermoë om afsluiting te kry erger as om vrede te maak met die afsterwe van 'n geliefde. Dit is hartverskeurend om weekliks die lang lys te sien van mense wat vermis geraak het," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen Demokratiese party (CDP).

"Verslaggewers Sonder Grense sonder sekere lande uit waar mense spoorloos verdwyn het na hulle gearresteer is. Dikwels word hierdie mense vermoor. In Suid-Afrika kom dit voor of baie van die verdwynings na dwelmverwante ontvoerings herlei kan word waar meisies vir bordele 'gewerf' word.

"Die maatskaplike toestande in Suid-Afrika weerspieël 'n gemeenskap van 'vermiste' ouers, selfs waar hulle onderdak met hul kinders deel. Hulle is geestelik afwesig wanneer hul kinders hulp en leiding nodig het. Ons het selfs die opkoms van 'n nuwe generasie straatkinders gesien waar kinders verveeld buite casino's rondhang terwyl die ouers hul verdienstes wegdobbel.

"Figuurlik gesproke kan vermiste ouers ook waargeneem word in die amok wat ANC-jeugdige tydens die eerste dag van Julius Malema se verhoor aangerig het. Boonop is Malema self die produk van grootliks afwesige ouers."