An Account of the Horrors of the 90 Day Detention Law in South Africa



117 Days: An Account of Confinement and Interrogation
Under the South African 90-Day Detention Law
(Penguin Classics) by Ruth First
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The 90 Day Detention Law was a piece of legislation passed by the South African government in 1963. It gave the police the power to detain people for up to 90 days without charge or trial. This law was used to target political activists and opponents of the apartheid regime. Thousands of people were detained under this law, and many were subjected to torture and other forms of abuse.

The 90 Day Detention Law

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under this law, and many were subjected to torture and other forms of abuse.

The 90 Day Detention Law was a draconian piece of legislation that violated the basic human rights of South Africans. It was used to silence dissent and to suppress political opposition. The law was eventually repealed in 1991, but the scars of its use remain to this day.

The Impact of the 90 Day Detention Law

The 90 Day Detention Law had a devastating impact on the lives of thousands of South Africans. Many people were detained for months or even years without ever being charged with a crime. Many were subjected to torture and other forms of abuse while in detention. The law created a climate of fear and intimidation, and it made it difficult for people to speak out against the apartheid regime.

The 90 Day Detention Law was a major factor in the decision of many South Africans to flee the country. Thousands of people went into exile, and many of them never returned. The law also had a negative impact on the economy, as it made it difficult for businesses to operate and for investors to invest in South Africa.

The Legacy of the 90 Day Detention Law

The 90 Day Detention Law was a dark chapter in South African history. It was a law that violated the basic human rights of South Africans and that had a devastating impact on the lives of thousands of people. The law was eventually repealed, but the scars of its use remain to this day.

The legacy of the 90 Day Detention Law is a reminder of the importance of human rights and the dangers of authoritarian rule. It is a reminder that we must never take our freedoms for granted and that we must always be vigilant in defending them.

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Further Reading

- Nelson Mandela's speech on the 90 Day Detention Law
- The 90 Day Detention Law on the Apartheid Museum website
- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report on the 90 Day Detention Law



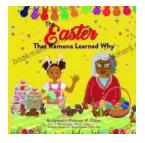
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