

all b.

In the development of the apartheid resistance in South Africa, Steve Biko & his Black Consciousness Movement <sup>played</sup> ~~was~~ a significant role in changing the mind sets of the <sup>black</sup> South African people, particularly youths. The long term effects of apartheid had hindered the effectiveness of the resistance, and BC changed that significantly. However, before BC, the resistance movement had already developed significantly - and Steve Biko's movement did develop it further, leading to a stronger, ~~no~~ <sup>more inclusive and</sup> lasting, <sup>more</sup> effective movement across all South Africa.

The resistance to apartheid had existed long before Black Consciousness came into being. Organisations like The African National Congress had been active for many decades - since the 1940s. However, these organisations

had been limited in their support base. When Pixley Ka has started the ANC, it ~~was~~ only gained support from an educated black minority, not an equation for success. Thus, the ANC aimed to change this, to include blacks ~~at~~ all across the country. The movement, which was more a philosophy rather than an action, supported <sup>black</sup> self help schemes during the 1970s. ~~It~~ This was important in including a wider ~~popula~~ percentage of the population in resistance - people would not be ~~water~~ deterred by a lack of education. Hence the ANC was extremely significant in gaining support, which would lead to massive action in the future.

Also, the movement overcame significant psychological and social barriers, instigated by ~~the~~ the oppression of apartheid. The system had introduced many laws and policies

which, since ~~was~~ its implementation from the early 1950s, would have led to an acceptance of apartheid for all those born after its implementation. Notably, the Bantu Education Act (1953) affected the psyche of black Africans - they were taught to accept an inferior status, and accept their futures, which ~~would~~ were mapped out to <sup>generally</sup> be low-paying, laborious jobs for white South Africans. Steve Biko proclaimed "the black man cannot live with people telling him he is worth nothing". As a young university medical student, he aimed at spreading a mantra of appreciation and self worth. The importance of this mental appeal ~~was~~ was that it changed attitudes and enlightened the black population. ~~But~~ This would also lead to ~~more~~ massive support for resistance activities, as well as a more determined and unwavering movement towards the

end of apartheid. The appeals of ANC were not matched by any other ~~or~~ resistance organisation, hence his teachings were of high value in the development of the resistance

The impacts of the ANC movement can then be seen to ~~lead to~~ have effect on all other areas of the internal anti-apartheid resistance. One notable example is the Soweto uprising in 1976. Although not directly ~~to~~ organised by ANC, the student uprising was inspired by their philosophy. The uprising began when ~~the~~ 15000 students in the township marched against new laws stipulating ~~teaching~~  $\frac{1}{2}$  the curriculum in black schools to be taught in Afrikaans - another form of oppression. The initiative in the protest ~~were~~ included peaceful means, yet the violence started by the S.A. security forces led to retaliation. Over the riots and

disobedience campaigns lasted well into the 1980s, Hence, developing the sturdiness of the resistance. Many of the blacks involved in the conflicts were youths, which were the particular target of A.C. Therefore, A.C. can be seen to have developed the resistance in the younger generations, which was ~~very~~ extremely important in the ultimate <sup>ungovernable nature</sup> ~~ungovernability~~ in South Africa, which led to the collapse of apartheid.

On the other hand, ~~it cannot~~ the fact that the resistance was already developing in South Africa cannot be ignored. ~~the fact~~ up to the 1970s, the ANC and PAC had gained a support base of hundreds of thousands. Also, they had developed military wings: Umkhonto we Sizwe and Poqo respectively. These developments rose from other factors even before B.C.

Namely, the Sharpeville massacre (1960) where 69 people were killed. This led to for example, Nelson Mandela's decision to ~~not~~ fight violence with violence rather than continue unsuccessful <sup>peaceful</sup> defiance. Hence it can be seen that the governments' increasingly use of violent repression necessitated developments in resistance to apartheid, before BC.

Along similar lines, the resistance developed further after the BC movement. During the 1980s, a significant idea was that the resistance was defined by collaborations of students, labourers and religious figures. The United ~~Democratic~~ Democratic Front created in 1983 ~~also~~ was a leader in mass strikes, boycotts and general civil unrest. The integration of you small church groups and even trade unions was very important ~~in the~~ as a

force, leading to the end of apartheid. Although this was founded years after the death of Steve Biko, it can be argued that BL did have a lasting effect on the majority of all black South Africans. RW Johnson described the collaboration of various groups as the turning point in the resistance.

In conclusion, the Black consciousness movement was extremely significant in the development of the apartheid resistance in South Africa. It filled a vacuum when most of the leaders of the ANC and PAC had been imprisoned. It was almost revolutionary in liberating the minds of blacks and had lasting effects on the military endeavours of the resistance. However, it was not the sole force in developing the resistance — the

continuation of ANC activities and the  
calls from religious leaders like Bishop  
Tutu cannot be ignored.