

"Invest In Wisconsin Not In South Africa."

We, the Madison Anti-Apartheid coalition, are a group of people working to contribute to positive social change in South Africa. We support the right to self-determination for all peoples, and we oppose the theft of resources and labor by multinational corporations.

There is a growing debate over whether U.S. investments in South Africa help or hinder efforts to abolish the system of white minority rule known as Apartheid. Corporations involved with the South African economy argue that investment provides job opportunities and helps promote positive change. But opponents of investment point out that U.S. involvement provides capital and technology needed by the white minority government to maintain its absolute domination over the black majority by increasing its repressive capabilities.

We, the coalition, are working to inform communities about the vast racial, economic, and political inequities in South Africa, and how Wisconsin supports the system by investing in companies that continue to do business there. The retirement pension funds, managed by the state investment board, hold \$ 2.2 billion of stock in corporations like IBM, which continues to provide computers that enforce "pass laws", coordinate information for the police, and oversee nuclear power and weapons systems.

It must be emphasized that rather than seeking substantive changes in apartheid, foreign based multinationals have benefitted from the extremely low wages and absence of unionization (which is illegal) among blacks and 'coloreds'. It was this very feature that attracted businesses in the first place. U.S. business involvement dates back to the birth of the apartheid laws.

International economic sanctions represent a potent peaceful force for change in South Africa and are supported by the majority of black South Africans (London Times poll). In Wisconsin, the divestiture bill AB 54 has been introduced which would compel the State Investment Board to divest from twenty-five "strategic" companies over the next five years.

IBM: One-third of all IBM business in South Africa is done with the government. IBM, along with Burroughs, Sperry Rand, Control Data and Honeywell supply computers used to implement pass laws, influx control of migrant laborers, coordinate information for police establishments, and oversee nuclear power systems and weapons of the Atomic Energy Board.

UNION CARBIDE: Already in trouble because of the Bhopal and West Virginia disasters, Union Carbide should also be known as producing 20% of all South African chrome, a critical export for apartheid.

MOBIL: The oil companies are particularly vital to the South African economy because the apartheid government has no petroleum reserves and imports 90% of its oil. Mobil, with Caltex, owns 42% of apartheid's oil refining capacity. It is also helping the government by prospecting for uranium.

Other well-known firms which are included in the Investment Board's portfolio and do business in South Africa include General Motors, Kimberly-Clark, Allis-Chalmers and Ingersoll Rand. Along with the rest of foreign corporations in South Africa, they buttress the apartheid system by supplying investment and infrastructure for the South African economy.