

A proposal to Bishops Diocesan College to
establish a Beautiful Gate Partnership

Bishops Charity Proposal

Botha Luke K; Couves Jonty B; Alessio
Dundulachis; Handley Robert C

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
Individual Introductions	5
Jonty Couves	5
Alessio Dundulachis	6
Luke Botha	7
Robbie Handley	8
Body	9
We read this and found it interesting...	9
World inequality report	9
Inequality in South Africa	9
Economic inequality	9
Income Inequality	9
Education inequality	10
Effects of Education Inequality	10
Solution	10
Land Inequality	11
Our Idea and Journey	11
So we planned to do this...	11
And we did this...	12
And here is the evidence of how it went...	14
About Beautiful Gate	14
And this is how well it worked...	18
Conclusion	20
Going forward	21
Bibliography	23

INTRODUCTION

We are a group of boys at Bishops College who are doing a course called 'Big Ideas' in our Grade 9 year. There is an amazing opportunity where we choose to look at one specific SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) for 6 months, in place of studying Biology, History, EMS, Geography and LO with the aim of trying to solve part of a bigger problem in South Africa. Together as a group we have chosen to try and help solve Goal 10 which is Inequality.

There are many areas of Inequality in South Africa which range from inequality between genders, races, socio-economic status, education and much more. We have decided to tackle the issue of inequality between the rich and the poor, between the people living in the suburbs and people living in the post-apartheid townships of South Africa.

Some of the specific problems which are linked to the Inequality between rich and poor in South Africa include economic and income inequality; inequality in education, and land inequality and living conditions.

We are very passionate about this issue and have tried our best to try and solve as much of it as we can. We started tackling this task in the beginning of the third term and have worked and improved our idea since then.

We looked at the task of trying to tackle as much of this as possible, but how on earth were we going to do that? However, we realized that is an impossible task as we started to understand the size of the Inequality gap, between those that have and those that don't have. As much as we want to, we cannot begin to solve all these problems within this time frame.

After much debate and discussion, we decided that the best thing that we would be able to do, would not be to come up with a whole new way to try to solve the massive problem of inequality. Rather, we want to raise awareness at our school and help our school, which finds itself in a position of privilege and access to resources, to come alongside an organization that is already working hard to address the massive inequalities that we are facing as a society today.

So, in summary, our Big Idea was to create a partnership between Bishops and an NGO called "Beautiful Gate". Beautiful gate is an organisation that is situated in Lower

Crossroads and its main purpose is to serve the families and children in the Lower Crossroads which is in the Philippi area. It is situated in an area which has an extremely crime rates in South Africa, with many people living in poverty. Beautiful Gate is passionate about empowering and uplifting children and families, through after-school programmes, feeding kids, tutoring, providing children with fun activities and hobbies, coding, health clinics, and much more. It will be a long-lasting sustainable partnership where we will get the school involved, and not just a once off charity fundraiser. If we do this then the boys at Bishops will be able to see what they are doing and contributing to.

Reflection Box:

Alessio

I'm glad that we chose beautiful gate as our NPO to work with. They are really well established and they are doing what our project is about, solving inequality.



Kids at Beautiful Gate playing the Drums

We found that the areas we were passionate about, were the areas that Beautiful Gate was focusing on.... some of these problems are:

Families are falling apart, children don't have anywhere to go after school, they can't afford enough food, they need help with school, they go to school where there are 60 students in a class with unqualified teachers, and they don't want to get involved in drugs and gangs.

All these problems effect people who are poor, and a lot of post-apartheid victims. They have been affected by inequality and these are the people who we want to help.

The SDG's that are related are:

10, 1, 2, 3, 4, 11,



We wanted to address these because we think that these are some of the key issues relevant to South Africa at this time.

We care because we can't imagine what it must be to live like these people have to, we care, and we want to make a difference.

In the rest of the document we will introduce ourselves, show you our journey in this course: where we have come from; what we did; and why we decided to do what we did.

Our project took place mostly at Bishops and partly at Beautiful gate.

Reflection Box:

Robbie Handley

I feel like this is very important to only try and do this kind of work if you care, because then what you are doing will really matter, because you will be passionate about it, and we all care about this so that's why I think our project can make a big difference.

Individual Introductions

Jonty Couves

My name is Jonty Couves, I am one of the members of this Big Ideas group that has decided to tackle the issue of inequality in South Africa and around the globe. I really don't like how there are such huge inequities between people in South Africa. And how people have been separated because of post-apartheid problems and on one side of the highway there are rich, privileged people who can afford to live comfortably, with nice houses. Not that there's anything wrong with that. But on the other side of the highway are poor people, who can barely afford the necessities of life. They live in shacks, eat the same non-nutritious meals almost every day. So, I have decided to make a difference and have chosen SDG 10 as my goal and project this year.



Alessio Dundulachis

My name is Alessio Dundulachis and I'm part of the Big Ideas SDG 10 group. I chose this SDG, because it is the only SDG that I really felt I am passionate about compared to all the other SDGs and I felt like I had some good ideas to start with this SDG. This SDG is also closer to home as the inequality problem linked to this SDG is huge in South Africa and if we started to look more into this as a nation then a lot of our current problem could be resolved.



Luke Botha

Hello, my name is Luke Botha, and this year I was one of the boys selected to take part in the Big Idea's course of 2019. I joined the other boys in my group, and we came together to do a project on SDG 10 'Reduce Inequality'. I felt very drawn towards this SDG because inequality effects all people in a country, regardless of one's privilege of social standing. So, therefore I wanted to do a project on SDG 10.



Robbie Handley

My name is Robbie Handley, I am part of the Grade 9 SDG 10 group, and I have chosen to embark on the immensely difficult task of trying to solve inequality in South Africa. Although this will probably not be done with our project, I think that we will make a difference and contribute to the cause. SDG 10 is reduced inequality which is what I've chosen. The reason I chose this SDG, is because every time I drive past a township in South Africa, I see how unfair it is for those people and I've always wanted to do something about it, and now I can. I think that our idea could help a lot of people and impact their lives for the better.



Body

We read this and found it interesting...

These are some of the issues regarding inequality in South Africa. We read up about these issues and have compiled some information about these issues...

World inequality report

The world inequality report shows that inequality has increased in nearly all world regions in decades, but at different speeds. (Alvaredo, 2018)

Inequality in South Africa

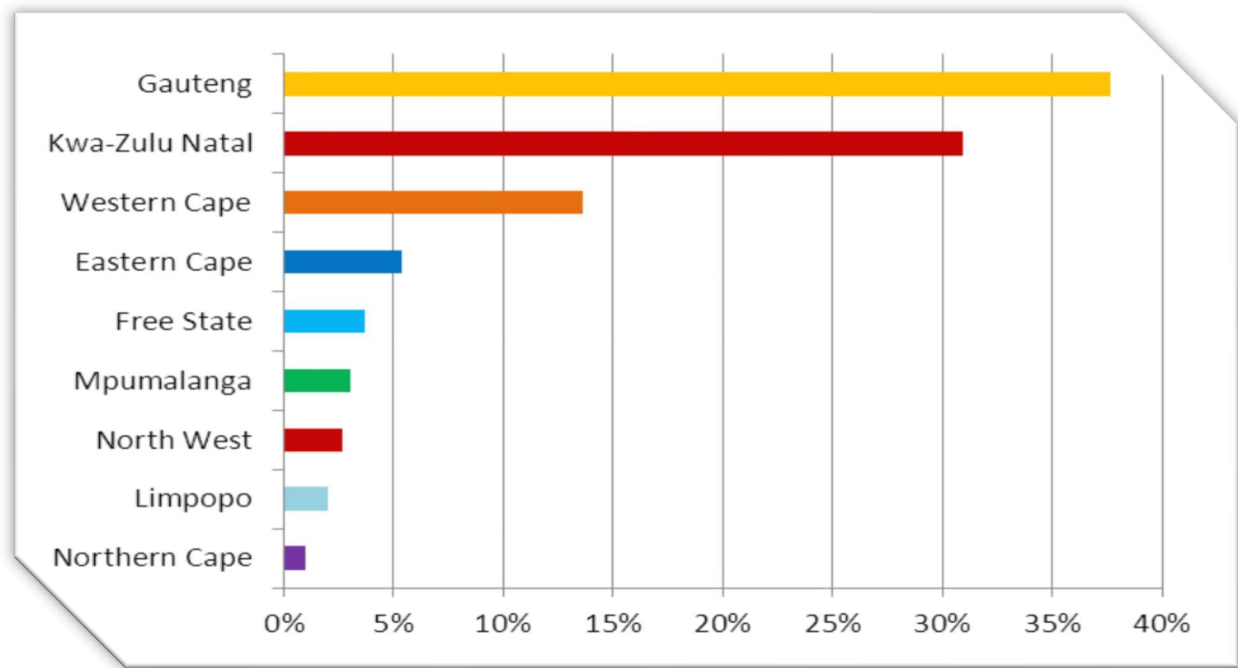
Post-Apartheid South Africa was rated by CNN (CNN, 2019) as the most unequal county in the world using the Gini Index which uses a score to rate countries most equal (Ukraine, 25) to least equal (South Africa, 63) by using income distribution. The richest 10% own 71% of the wealth and the poorest 60% own 7% (World Bank, 2018), With most of the past inequalities that affect non-white communities till this day being Apartheid, while new equalities are happening against white communities by new government bills to undo the injustices of apartheid.

Economic inequality

Income inequality has worsened since the end of apartheid and between 1991-1996, the White middle class grew by 15% whilst the Black middle class grew by 78%. (Durrheim, 2011)

Income Inequality

South Africa being the most unequal country in the world has the most unequal distribution of income. As 55.5% of the population earn R1,227 per month while the top 10% earn R7,313 while the lowest 25.2% live below the poverty line (Buisness Tech, 2019). Income equality was not limited to class but also province, as Gauteng had more income per household by themselves than the 5 minor provinces together.



Income per household graph per province 1

(Stats SA, 2013)

Education inequality

Effects of Education Inequality

The lower one's income, the higher the likelihood of one being unemployed. (Online Universities, 2012) This then contributes to the levels of poverty in countries and then in turn negatively affects crime rates, financial stability of individuals and economic growth in a country. Education inequality also affects a country in ways such as: lowering the tax base (Less educated citizens create a smaller group of people capable of paying tax); decreases global competitiveness (uneducated people don't learn to use their natural abilities in the global market so their potential is wasted); and weakening a democracy (a lack of education means people don't fully understand their roles required in a democracy, which is taught in schools), meaning people cannot be functioning members of a system they are a part of.

Solution

The solution to the issue of education inequality is to break the cycle of poverty. This is difficult because one of the steps of breaking income inequality is to increase

education. These challenges are so connected and highlights the reality of their dependence on each other.

Land Inequality

The department of land and rural development did an in-depth examination (audit) of the current land situation and land statistics and published the report in 2013. This report showed that out of the 79% of the private land in SA, that 79% percent had white ownership, while only 4% was owned by the black population (Africa Check, 2019).

This report was flawed in ways with the department giving 2 different numbers on private land and missing out 769703 hectares of land.

Our Idea and Journey

When we were sitting in the cloud, we started thinking about the Idea of reducing inequality, we thought that what we could do was to have a fundraiser and give that money away to people that have been affected by inequality in South Africa.

Reflection Box:

Alessio

We are thinking of an idea. We think that maybe we could do a fundraiser. We are thinking of a movie night or something like that.

So we planned to do this...

We planned to do a movie night on the field or in the theatre, as a fund-raising event. But then we thought about this and it didn't really seem like a big idea as it is what many people do and was unsustainable. It also didn't seem like a very good idea as it is very detached from the people who we would be raising funds for. For example, there is a drive that is going on in Kidd house where the boys bring sandwiches on certain days to give to people in the townships and people who don't have enough good quality food. As good as this is, it is very detached from the community and the boys and parents don't know who they are helping and how much they are helping.

They have no idea if the person they are giving the sandwich to doesn't like peanut butter and would rather prefer honey. People are completely detached and separated from their good works and it is not as helpful as it could be, for the people getting the sandwiches and the people giving the sandwiches.

What would be better is for people to build relationships and interact with the people that they give to and receive from because it raises awareness, develops relationships and cultivates community between both those who give, and those who receive. We have so much to learn from each other, most of us coming from privileged and educated backgrounds, have so much to learn from those who we are wanting to partner with.

So, here is what we did end up doing...



Reflection Box:

Luke

We don't want to do a detached fundraiser anymore, instead we are looking at forming a relationship which is personal and is interactive on both sides, the Bishops side and the other side.

Dancers at Beautiful Gate

And we did this...

We contacted an organisation called Beautiful Gate as we thought we could assist them with some fundraising events. We went to visit them, and they said that they would love money and it would help, but the best and most important thing that we could give them would be an interaction with Bishops boys.

Minah, the new head of Beautiful Gate, said that she would love a music afternoon or a day when Bishops boys go to Beautiful Gate or when the children at Beautiful Gate could come to Bishops. Minah will be a Bishops mother next year as well, so she will be a great contact to work with in rolling out our Big Idea.

We thought that we could possibly use all the school's charities and spend it on growing and developing Beautiful Gate, but we chatted to the Head of Charity at

Bishops, and he said that won't work well because a lot of organisations would then lose a source of income.

We then thought about involving civics with beautiful gate. We gave the idea to the head of Civics and she said that she would investigate it further.

Reflection Box:

Jonty

It could be really awesome if we could involve civics with Beautiful Gate, that could be a very sustainable option and would make the relationship.



Vaughan and Minah from Beautiful Gate

The best thing that we would be able to do was not to come up with a new way to solve inequality, it was to come alongside and help others who are already doing it. So, our Big Idea was to make a partnership between Bishops and the NGO Beautiful Gate, which is already doing so much to help people who have been disadvantaged due to inequality.



Beautiful Gate from the street

And here is the evidence of how it went...

We had two meetings with the Head of Civics, we had a meeting with the Head of Charity and we had a meeting with the head of Beautiful Gate where we interviewed Minah and learned a lot about Beautiful Gate. One of our group members, Jonty Couves, also went to the 25-year annual celebration of Beautiful Gate.

Reflection Box:

Alessio

The meeting was awesome, we learnt so much more about Beautiful Gate. We made these notes from the interview as you can see.



Another picture from the Annual Celebration

About Beautiful Gate

(Interview Notes with Minah)

Beautiful gate started in 1994 in Muizenberg to help children living on the streets. From the late 90s they felt led to help with the escalating HIV AIDS crisis. The organisation opened a centre in Lower Crossroads. They started to help children with AIDS and to help with reducing the aids stigma, malnutrition and to give them some dignity, love and medical care. In 2014, Beautiful Gate had been considering a process of reunifying the children at Beautiful Gate with their families or relatives. The children's courts, Department of Social Development and other care organisations were advising Beautiful Gate in this regard. After much careful consideration they decided it was best to close the child care centre at beautiful gate because they realized that it would be better for the children to be at their own homes than to be living at an institution without being part of a family. So, Beautiful Gate started the process of family reunification, strengthening and preservation. They tried to give the rest of the foster children back to their relatives but then decided it was best to give them to adoptive families of the same culture. Beautiful Gates main focus therefore changed to family strengthening and educating vulnerable children. The focus of Beautiful Gate has broadened since 2014. One of the areas of help to the community, they decided to employ tutors as a form of encouragement to help with English and Maths because a lot of children in the area could not speak English. Beautiful Gate currently work with 4 primary schools and a few high schools in Lower Crossroads. The Beautiful Gate

facility is also a bit like a community centre. They also help run a health clinic which operates a peer to peer system so HIV positive children have support and helps to educate HIV positive children on why they must take medicine. With regards to family strengthening, Beautiful Gate train parents how best to care for their children and 25 staff members also do visitations to families in the community to strengthen the family unit. They also help with paperwork and stationary for kids, food parcels and help walk vulnerable children to school. As part of their afterschool program, on Friday afternoons they operate choir club, art, drama, chess and marimba to help with the cultural side of things and to help the kids find a passion. One of the extra activities is coding which is compulsory for afterschool programme at Beautiful Gate. Beautiful gate also tries to keep the kids busy, off the streets and with positive activities while some of the parents are at work, while also trying to help them with their problems.

Beautiful gate has a Christian ethos and tries to discourage apartheid victim mentalities. They also rent out the old cottages from the children's home to various community and government organisations. These organisations help the community to apply for grants, birth certificates and pensions. They operate a TB research program, a café and prayer program. The second-hand shop raises funds for family strengthening. A recent example of funds raised were used for a family when their house burnt down. The second-hand shop takes items such as clothes, crockery, furniture, sports equipment and any other items that could be given to the kids. Beautiful Gates main form of funding is from companies, trust funds, charities and the biggest funder is Takealot. This form of funding is very unsustainable as if Takealot gets bought out by another company they may choose to stop giving money to Beautiful gets bought out by another company they may choose to stop giving money to Beautiful Gate.

Reflection Box

Jonty:

Going to Beautiful gate was super fun and very interesting. We were shown around and saw the sports field, the cottages where the children used to live, the second hand clothing shop, the cross roads café, the resource centre and the educational facilities.

The idea of Bishops partnering with Beautiful Gate is exciting. It will be challenging for us, and we will learn a lot. It was so fun getting to know the people in the community, they were really funny and made lots of jokes with us.

Evidence

Reflection box

Alessio:

Beautiful Gate was a very different experience to other outings I've been on. I still think a place like Beautiful Gate which is doing so much for the community there deserves so much more support.

Reflection Box

Luke:

I feel that this was a very important step for our project. We were able to meet the people who run Beautiful gate and we saw the facilities and people. During our interview with Minah we were able to learn some very valuable information.



Gloria Bassett

Couves Jonathan B

RE: Big ideas Project

Sure.

From: Couves Jonathan B <Jonathan.Couves@bishops.org.za>

Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 2:45 PM

To: Gloria Bassett <gbassett@bishops.org.za>

Subject: Big ideas Project

Hi Ma'am

Would it be possible for me and my Big Ideas group to interview you about civics sometimes

Kind regards

Jonty

(Our first meeting with the head of Civics)

Reflection Box:

Robbie Handley

It sounds like working with Civics could be a really good idea. It was hard to convince Mrs. Basset but she seemed interested after she knew more about Beautiful Gate.



Couves Jonathan B

Gloria Bassett

Mon 04

RE: Big Ideas discussion

Ok no problem

What I just wanted to say was, would you want to start doing civics with beautiful gate next year?

We can take you to beautiful gate, maybe this Friday afternoon (If you are free), so you can get to know the place and what they do etc.

Let me know if that sounds like something you would consider.

Kind regards

Jonty

(email to the head of civics)

We spoke a day later (Our second meeting) and she decided that she would think about involving Beautiful Gate in civics next year.

Reflection Box:

Luke Botha:

It was really encouraging to see the interest from civics towards our project.



Dean Sudding

Couves Jonathan B; Olga Peel; Luke Botha; Dundulachis Alessio; Robert Handley

RE: Big Ideas Interview

From: Couves Jonathan B <Jonathan.Couves@bishops.org.za>

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2019 9:02 AM

To: Dean Sudding <dsudding@bishops.org.za>

Cc: Olga Peel <opeel@bishops.org.za>; Luke Botha <bothal@bishops.org.za>; Dundulachis Alessio <Alessio.Dundulachis@bishops.org.za>; Robert Handley <robert.handley@bishops.org.za>

Subject: Big Ideas Interview

Hi sir

Not sure if you got my previous email,

I am one of the members of a big ideas group in grade 9

We have a project coming up soon and would really appreciate it if we could come and talk to you about the charities Bishops is involved with.

If we could meet on Monday period 2, 3 or 7 OR Tuesday Period 2 or 7, that would be perfect.

If you are busy during these times, We ask if we can meet on Monday or Tuesday during open period.

We look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

Jonty Couves

(Email to the head of charities at Bishops)



Dean Sudding

Couves Jonathan B; Olga Peel; Luke Botha; Dundulachis Alessio; Robert Handley ▾

RE: Big Ideas Interview

Hi Jonty

I am so sorry – I must have missed it. Pop in to see me in N6 to set up the interview.

Groete

Mnr S

(His reply)

We then decided after this interview that we shouldn't do our second idea of possibly giving all bishops charities to 1 organisation.

After our interview with Minah, she was extremely happy with the idea of doing a partnership with Bishops and said that they would love to arrange events and interactions with us in the future.

Reflection Box:

Luke Botha:

The interview with Mr. Sudding was great, he told us that we shouldn't propose that all the charity's go to Beautiful Gate, and we let him know that it is fine.



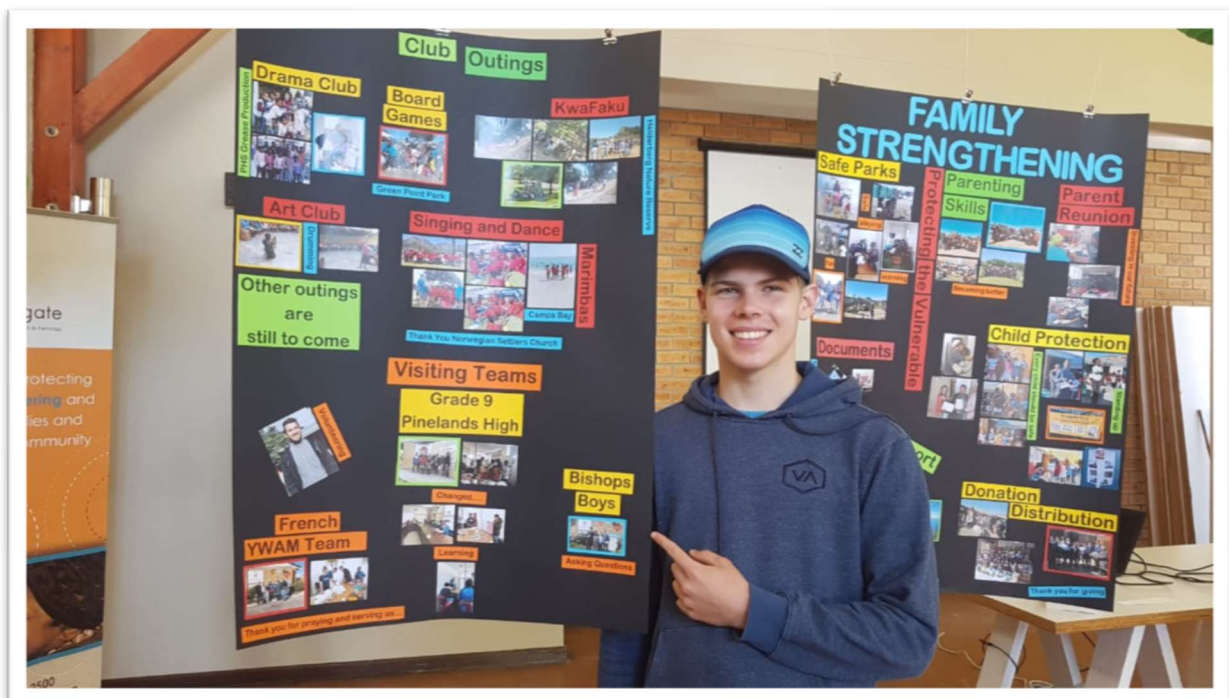
Kids at Beautiful Gate playing the Marimbas

And this is how well it worked...

Although we haven't had definite feedback from Civics to permanently decide to work with Beautiful Gate or for any events to be planned and organised. However, what we have done is that we have gotten to know Beautiful Gate, learnt a lot about them, how they work, what the possibilities are and have established a solid relationship for the future... We have told the Head of Charity about them and given them contacts to Beautiful Gate if Bishops ever wants to pursue this Big Idea. As previously mentioned, we have also told Civics about Beautiful Gate and they will look into adding Beautiful Gate to their charities. Minah Koela is the head of Beautiful Gate, and she will be a Bishops mother to a Grade 8 son next year, which will help to strengthen good relationships between Beautiful Gate and Bishops next year.



Us eating vetkoeks outside Beautiful Gate



Jonty at the BG annual celebration

Conclusion

The problem that was addressed by the group is Social Development Goal 10, reducing inequality.

Reflection Box:

Jonty

The annual celebration was so cool, It was an amazing experience for me, everyone was singing, dancing and enjoying the afternoon. I learned so much about the peoples culture there.



The problem was examined and it went quite well. We got some great ideas together and we feel like we have done a really great job.

The problems:

Families are falling apart, kids don't have enough food, they don't have anywhere to go after school, they can't afford enough food, they need help with school, they are bored and don't want to get involved in drugs and gangs.

The SDGS:

SDG 10, 1, 2, 3, 4, 11,

The general complexity of the project:

Our project ties in with the huge problem of inequality in South Africa. This is a huge issue and will take years to fully eliminate. So, by getting involved with Beautiful gate we are playing our part and helping as best we can, eliminate inequalities that are still present today.

Reflection Box:

Robbie Handley

It's very hard for me to see these sorts of problems and then see how little power I have as an individual, but then I see what we can do with 'Beautiful Gate', and how many people we can help and that really makes me happy and I can see the potential for this project.

Going forward

Beautiful Gate is an amazing, Christian organisation that aligns perfectly in with value and ethos as a Christian school, which we could potentially do so much with. The problem with a lot of the Big Ideas that are thought up is that in reality they aren't very sustainable and often end up with no lasting action. These Big Ideas are unable to continue after the boys finish Grade 9. We do not want this to happen to our Big Idea. Since this idea is based on a relationship between Bishops and the organisation 'Beautiful Gate', there is an extremely high chance of it being sustainable, after we complete Grade 9. We have established a good and potential working relationship with the Head of Beautiful Gate. Being a mother at Bishops next year, she is in the unique position of having one foot established in the township community, and her other foot in our privileged Bishops Community. We will continue to work on this relationship with Beautiful Gate.

We have talked to the Head of Civics and there is a possibility of the relationship with Beautiful Gate involving Civics. Beautiful Gate is extremely keen to partnership with Bishops, so if we don't take the Civics route, Bishops could initiate some inspirational and fun events, as well as educational or other activities. For example, Beautiful Gate would love to have a Jazz evening or a combined musical afternoon festival with Bishops.

We are excited and committed to sustaining and pursuing this relationship. We feel that we have a lot to give but even more so, we have a lot to learn through this relationship. We have been very impacted by our dealings with Beautiful Gate and our

commitment is to continue with this relationship into Grade 10 next year, where we hope to choose to work with Beautiful Gate in Civics.

This relationship has the potential to have a lasting and life-long impact on the children at Beautiful Gate and the boys at Bishops.

Person	Luke	Jonty	Alessio	Robbie
Strengths	Writing, layout and special effects.	Writing Narrative, Link to Beautiful Gate.	Scribe, (writes notes on our interviews) and researching.	Gets work done quickly.



Beautiful Gate annual celebration

Bibliography

Africa Check, 2019. *Frequently asked questions about land ownership and demand in South Africa*. [Online]
Available at: <https://africacheck.org/factsheets/frequently-asked-questions-about-land-ownership-and-demand-in-south-africa/>
[Accessed 9 September 2019].

AFRIFORUM, 2019. <https://www.afriforum.co.za/>. [Online]
Available at: afriforum.co.za/en/statistics-show-farm-murders-not-socioeconomically-motivated/
[Accessed 6 November 2019].

Alvaredo, F., 2018. *World Inequality Report 2018*. [Online]
Available at: <https://wir2018.wid.world/>
[Accessed 9 September 2019].

Buisness Tech, 2019. *How much you need to earn each month to be in the richest 1% in South Africa*. [Online]
Available at: <https://businesstech.co.za/news/wealth/336309/how-much-you-need-to-earn-each-month-to-be-in-the-richest-1-in-south-africa/>
[Accessed 9 September 2019].

CNN, 2019. *South Africa is the world's most unequal country. 25 years of freedom have failed to bridge the divide*. [Online]
Available at: <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/05/07/africa/south-africa-elections-inequality-intl/index.html>
[Accessed 9 September 2019].

Durrheim, K., 2011. In: *Race Trouble: Race, Identity and Inequality in Post- Apartheid South Africa*. Durban: Lexington Books, p. 244.

Nations, U., 2019. [Online]
Available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg10>
[Accessed 10 11 2019].

Nations, U., 2019. *United Nations*. [Online]
Available at: https://www.za.undp.org/content/south_africa/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-10-reduced-inequalities.html
[Accessed 10 11 2019].

Online Universities, 2012. *How Educational Inequality Affects Us All: OnlineUniversities.com*. [Online]
Available at: <https://www.onlineuniversities.com/blog/2012/01/how-educational-inequality-affects-us-all/>
[Accessed 12 September 2019].

Stats SA, 2013. *Gauteng municipalities lead the way in income generation from households*. [Online]
Available at: <http://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=1643>
[Accessed 11 September 2019].

The Telegraph, 2015. *Farm work is South Africa's 'most dangerous occupation'*. [Online]
Available at:
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/southafrica/11351055/Farm-work-is-South-Africas-most-dangerous-occupation.html>
[Accessed 9 September 2019].