



HUMAN & SOCIAL SCIENCE: HSSC4

LESSON 8

UNIT STANDARD: 115480 SO4

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to lesson 8 of HSSC4. I hope you are still following the content knowledge. You will find this lesson much easier and interesting because it is a direct continuation from lesson 7.

THEME: BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE AS AN ACTIVE CITIZEN.

TOPIC 2: WORKING FOR CHANGE. 115480 SO4 AC3

To make a big change in your community such as working on human rights issues (E.g., on women and child abuse) requires you to start with a campaign. A **campaign** is a big drive usually consisting of events where you awaken the interest of the people and to test their support. An **advocacy** initiative is when you plan an event such as a protest march to make the human issue public and to bring change.

STARTING AN ADVOCACY INITIATIVE

To start an advocacy initiative, you must be able to **decide on the human rights issue** that you want to address (E.g. you may want to organise a protest march to make awareness that women in the community must not be denied access to learn). Once you have decided on the issue, you need to ask yourself: What do I want to change? What do I want other people to find out? And what will the community benefit?

You also need to understand and plan the **role players** of your event. A role player is anybody who takes part in your event. You can then **make an action plan**. Before you stage your event, you need to apply at a metro or municipal Police station for permission. You will have to complete **A notice Under the Regulation of Gathering Act form**.

Now that your plan of action is clear, you need to **get your message out**. How will people know what you want to do? You need to make **placards, posters and pamphlets**. They must have clear one message, letters must be big and the message must catch the attention of people. All South African municipalities insist (make it serious) that they want to see the posters/placards that will be carried by people on the March/ protest. **They do this to make sure that the language or graphics (drawings) are not offensive** (not hurting other people).

You need to plan where you will be taking your pamphlets to different places (distribution). The posters that advertise your event are mostly allowed to be put up a week before and to be removed 3 days after.



If your event will be taking place in a venue, the municipality will check if there are: enough toilets, enough parking, medical facilities such as First Aid and enough rubbish bins.

There must be clear plans on how people will arrive and depart (leave/go back) from the venue. Marshalls are important here to control the large number of people.

Marshalls are volunteers who make sure that people stay where they are supposed to stay and do not cause trouble. Some of the duties of Marshalls include:

- To search participants for any dangerous weapons.
- To ensure that nobody carries a placard with hate speech/or offensive language.
- To stop participants who shout or sing words that incites (cause) hatred.
- To check if there is anyone who is drunk or has liquor.
- To make sure that people keep to the road.
- To make sure that traffic is not disturbed.
- To make sure that participants do not force bystanders (people who stand and watch what is happening) to join them.
- No bystander decides to join.

A **petition** is a formal request to an authority to take action on a certain matter. It is usually signed by many people. A petition goes to one specific person. Today Electronic petitions are used. They make it possible for thousands and thousands of signatures to be signed within a short period.



Activity 1



- 1.1 What do you think is the main reason for the march?
- 1.2 Mention the responsibilities that Marshalls must carry to control the march.
- 1.3 Do you think the message of the participants is clear? Give reasons.
- 1.4 Is the message on the placards offensive? Give a reason for your answer.

Activity 2



- 1.1 What is a petition?
- 1.2 Who should receive a petition?
- 1.3 Explain the statement on the petition above that says ' help make the difference'



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Department:
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GAUTENG
Community Education and Training
CET COLLEGE

COMPILED BY:

**RAKGATLHA M
CHAUKE J**