

## **Four seasons of (the) law**

Authors:

Precious Khutso

Pricilla MulaloNengudza

ThobileRandima

NozibusisoMthethwa

(The play is about four individuals who each represent a season of what the law is to them, depending on their circumstances in life. The women voice their opinion in a poetic manner.)

Precious (homeless citizen representing winter):

Who are you?

The only thing I heard about you is that you are made by the people for the people. That you exist because you intend on making people's lives easier but why are you so cold? Why am I still eating out of rubbish bins, begging to every person passing by for money to buy bread? Or is it that you are made for certain people only? If really you are made by the people for the people why is there not a law that says "no man shall live on the streets" You are a big fat nothing.

Pricilla (rural woman representing autumn):

"Where are you?

Where are you when I need you the most? You claim equality, freedom and justice but do you really live up to your claim? I mean, my husband was killed, I opened a case and a few weeks later the docket was missing. Where is the justice in that?

My votes gave power to your representatives but when I cry out for water, housing and a health facility I am merely disregarded. Where is the equality then?

The rich have everything and you listen to their pleas even though they are futile and you still have the audacity to claim equality? You hypocrite! You are something I can never relate to even though you were made by us, for us and with us. It is you and your enforcers making our problems worse by promising how you intend to "fix" everything but end up doing nothing.

You are just a set of rules created to the convenience of the rich but an illusion to the poor"

Nozibusiso (rich representing spring):

"They say you do not take care of them, you do not offer them jobs, food, houses...but is it your fault they are eating out of rubbish bins, sleeping on the streets and jobless? Is it you who said they should not go to school to make better people of themselves?

They are letting your flaws overshadow your good.

Is it because of you criminals get apprehended, justice takes its toll, free education is given so that we can get a head start to our bright futures.

I am not afraid with you by my side; you always protect me, putting me under your shadow.

You are the blue print of our country.

### Thobile (modern representing summer)

"I know of your existence

And have heard of your inequality

But understand like a far stretched blanket, you simply cannot cover us all evenly.

A strict parent you are

Punish the guilty and hope for their redemption.

While you watch over us no one watches over you

A Mona Lisa afar

Though armed with knowledge I have seen the imperfections

Yet somehow found a common ground and comfort in you

You

Who has been reduced to nothing greater than though handbook for the elite

Written from someone else's principles filled with foreign rules and regulations

Because at the end of the day they are not my own.

A mere faceless majestic being has made it possible for me

To get an education and let my words take flight with freedom of expression

I stand tall...okay maybe not that tall but confidently to ask for a manager because it is my right

And with enough status you even throw in a get out of jail free card.

But even through the gaps I see future"

The use of the seasons to highlight how 'we' feel (the) law is:

Winter: most homeless people blame how the law is no law which account for them entirely and they feel as if law is cold and lacks compassion towards them.

Autumn: in the rural areas, due to lack of education, people do not know their rights and where they stand when it comes to the law, even though it is because of them modern and rich people have their needs realised.

Spring: most rich people have no problem at all with the law and to them it is perfect the way it is because they get everything they want, they get recognised and do not have to put up with long queues when wanting public law enforced services. To them everything is easy.

Summer: even though modern people also are likely treated like rich people, they can see the flaws of the law and they are hoping that other people can see past them and appreciate the good.