



# **Trust and Mistrust in the Relations Between Zimbabwean Security Guards and South African Residents of a Phepha Gated Complex in Johannesburg**



**A research report submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements of the degree  
Master of Arts in Anthropology**

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March 2017

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## **Declaration**

I, **Tsakani Nkombyane**, declare that this dissertation titled:

### **Trust and Mistrust in the Relations Between Zimbabwean Security Guards and South African Residents of a Phepha Gated Complex in Johannesburg**

is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references. Furthermore, I declare that this work has never been submitted for examination at the University of Witwatersrand for another qualification or at any other higher education institution.

**Signature:** -----

**Date:** -----

## Acknowledgements

I would, firstly, like to thank the Almighty God for through Him, all things are possible. I want to acknowledge my supervisor Dr Hylton White for his continuous encouragement, support and academic advice during the drafting of this research report. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Anne-Maria Makhulu and her husband extending a helping hand that led to completion of this thesis. Without them, I would have given up.

I am also deeply indebted to the Wits City Institute for the scholarship through which I was able to do my Master's Degree. I would also like to acknowledge my entire family (extended as well) especially my sister who became a mother since the passing of our parents. With her encouragement and faith in God that through this MA, of lives will change. A big 'thank you' to the Security Guards for tolerating my questions and welcoming gestures into their work and personal lives. I would also like to thank Prophet TB Joshua who taught me that Education is a way of life and that **"Better is not good enough, but the Best is yet to come."**

## **Abstract**

This research report explores how the notion of mistrust towards the migrant security workers in a Gated Complex is perceived by South African citizens. By drawing on interviews with the security guards during on ethnographic fieldwork within the specific residential complex, the findings suggest that the reasons for mistrust are fixed within the social contexts from which immigrants come from and where they are living. Therefore, even though the security guards are on a mission to secure the complex, without trust from the securitised, their work is fruitless. Thus, this investigation will question the expectation that leads to trust and mistrust on both the guards and the tenants.

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