

# Press Release

## For immediate release

### 28 March 2017



South African Institute of Race Relations  
*The power of ideas*

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#### **EED IS FOR REAL EMPOWERMENT, whereas BEE has failed**

BEE helps only a small 'elite'. This has once again been confirmed by an IRR field survey which shows that almost 90% of people say they have drawn no benefit from BEE.

By contrast, the IRR's 'economic empowerment for the disadvantaged' or 'EED' proposal will significantly help the poor. It will promote investment, growth, and jobs, so generating a rising tide that will help to lift all boats. EED will also liberate South Africans from poor quality public schooling, health care, and housing by giving them tax-funded vouchers in these key spheres.

These vouchers will empower people to buy what they need from mainly private providers competing for their custom. The EED voucher system will hold down costs while increasing quality and efficiency. It will also boost the economy, reduce dependency on a state which is often ineffective and corrupt, and give everyone a real chance to get ahead.

Join the IRR at a media briefing on Tuesday, 4 April 2017, where Anthea Jeffery, Head of Policy Research, will talk about:

- the results of the IRR's 2016 field survey of public opinion on employment equity, BEE, and land reform;
- why tightening up BEE in all its aspects will never help the disadvantaged;
- why the EED voucher system is needed in education, housing and health care;
- how the EED voucher system would work;
- what an EED scorecard would look like in the important mining sector; and
- why South Africa should shift from BEE to EED to bring about real empowerment

**Venue:** The IRR's offices at 2 Clamart Road, Richmond, Johannesburg

**Date:** Tuesday, 4 April 2017

**Start:** 11.30am for 12 noon, for registration and finger lunch

**Briefing:** 12 noon to 1pm

**Entrance:** Free

**RSVP:** [kelebogile@irr.org.za](mailto:kelebogile@irr.org.za) (no need to reply if you are not attending)

Guests are welcome, but must please register individually

**The IRR's latest @Liberty, entitled 'EED IS FOR REAL EMPOWERMENT, whereas BEE has failed', will also be released on Tuesday, 4 April 2017.**

**ENDS.**

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