

THE EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

2023 June Convening

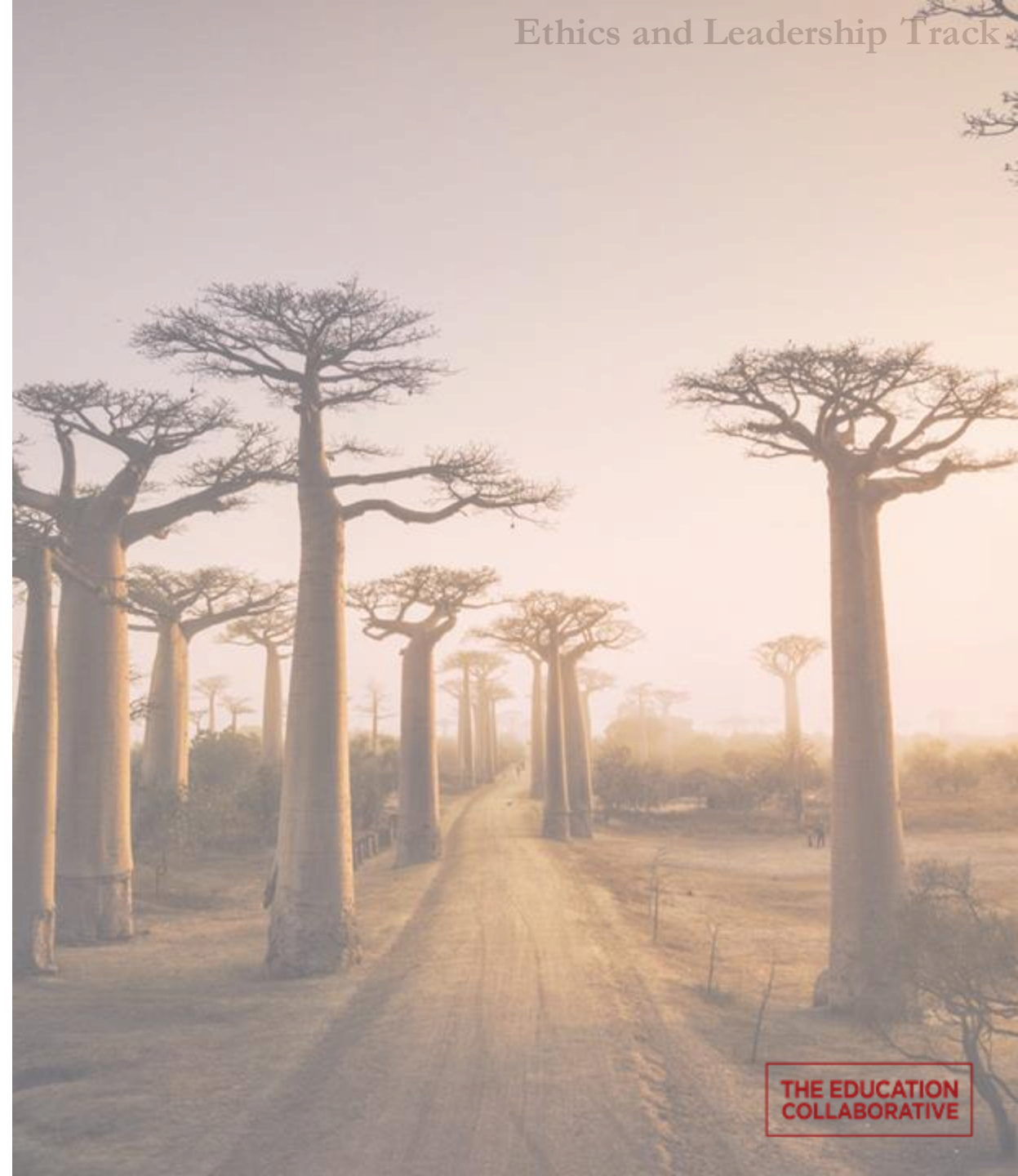
**Pedagogy and Instructional Design on
Values and Ethics Education**

IiNthetho zoBomi: Conversation about Life

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Who is the Programme for?

Service-learning student-led programme at Rhodes University (any student can register)

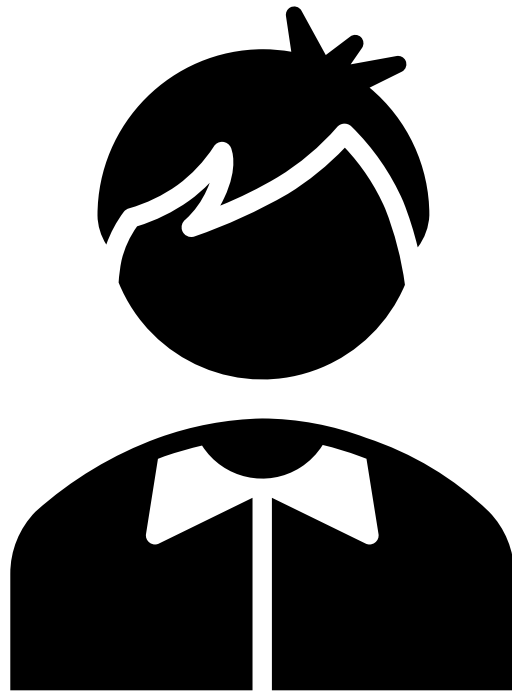
We run versions of our programme for:

- Learners in private and public schools
- School teachers
- Young entrepreneurs
- Municipal managers

Some impromptu comments from students

“When choosing where I wanted to spend my semester abroad, it was incredibly important to me that I not be comfortable. I didn’t want to be the typical U.S. student drinking my way across Europe, but rather I wanted a more authentic and rich experience, which South Africa is granting me. While preparing for this 6 month “academic experience” 8,000 miles from home, a friend of mine who studied at Rhodes last year insisted that I take IiNtetho zoBomi. She claimed that because of the course, she became a more conscious individual and still, nearly one year later, was seeing changes in how she perceived the world.”

Some impromptu comments from students



“Looking back at when I started this course at the beginning of term one, it is amazing to see how much I have grown mentally. This course has made me think deeper about topics I thought I already knew about and aspects of my life that I was certain about but am no longer. The topic that stood out to me the most was the one on Authority. I never thought something like this would have such a big impact on my life, but it has. I think about it way more these days and am sure to question most things. It scared me shitless when I realised that maybe I am not so perfect and that even though I think that I would not go too far when it comes to having authority, the fact that I could and possibly will throw me off completely. For about a week after the authority topic, I was freaking out quite a bit and was unsure trust. However, I managed to overcome this by realising that it’s okay and that who I am today is okay, I am just more aware now about who or what I listen to and why.”

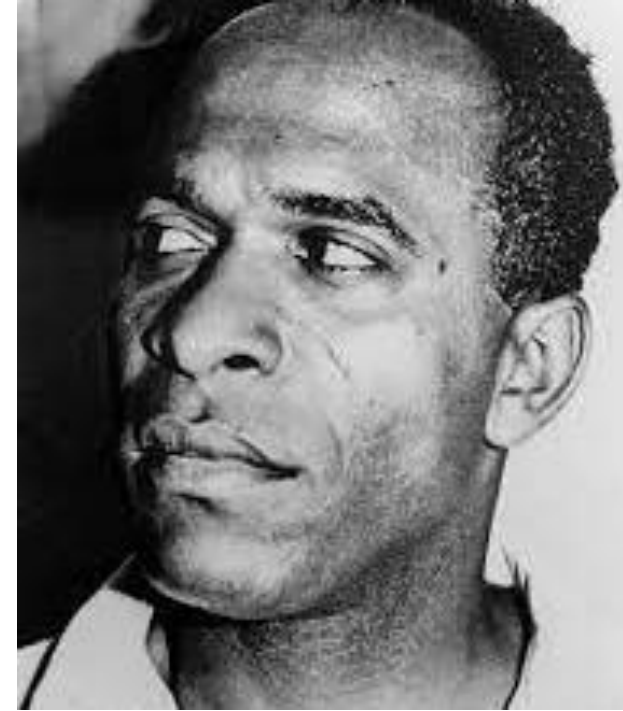
Some impromptu comments from students

“I have really learned so much from taking this course and I am so excited to continue learning and being challenged in the second semester. Since my first lecture in first term I have been able to take something I have learned from the course material and apply and use it in real, everyday life. I have had so many conversations with my friends about what I have learned and hopefully in the process made them learn something about themselves too. This is the beginning of a long journey of awareness raising that I am keen to be a part of.

Schwitzgbel and Rust: “Are professional ethicists good people?”

- <https://aeon.co/essays/how-often-do-ethics-professors-call-their-mothers>

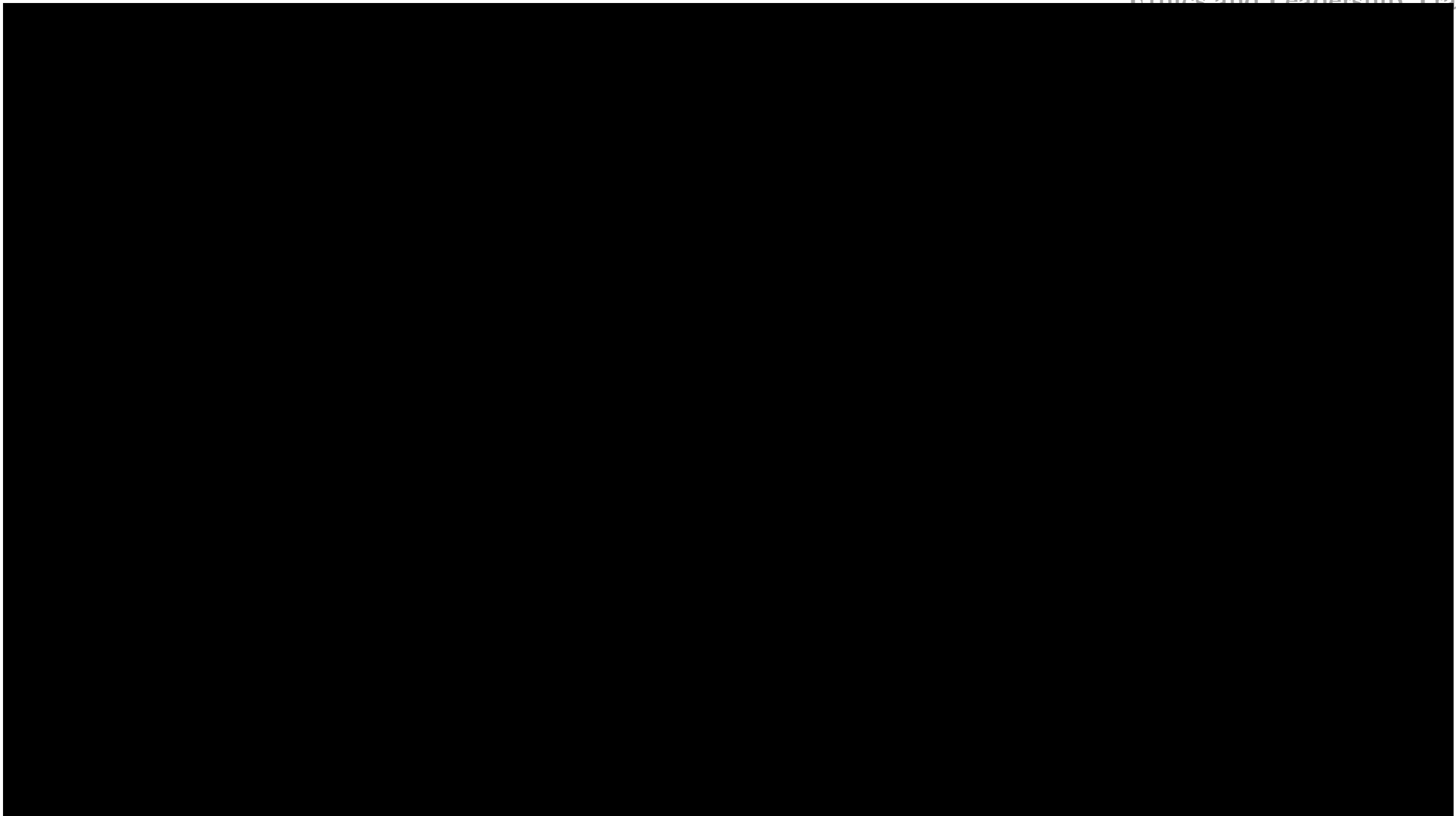
What’s stopping them from being better than average? Shouldn’t they know better?



Maybe not

- Martin Heidegger joined the Nazi party.
- Ludwig Wittgenstein, of Jewish descent, was an antisemite.
- Immanuel Kant was a racist.
- Louis Althusser murdered his wife.
- There are some reports that Frantz Fanon beat his wife.
- Sorry men: I can't find female philosophers who behaved as madly or had as aberrant views as the men listed above.

Key Lesson: To be ethical is to see what is right in front of you





“THE MOST POTENT WEAPON IN THE HANDS OF THE OPPRESSOR IS THE MIND OF THE OPPRESSED.”

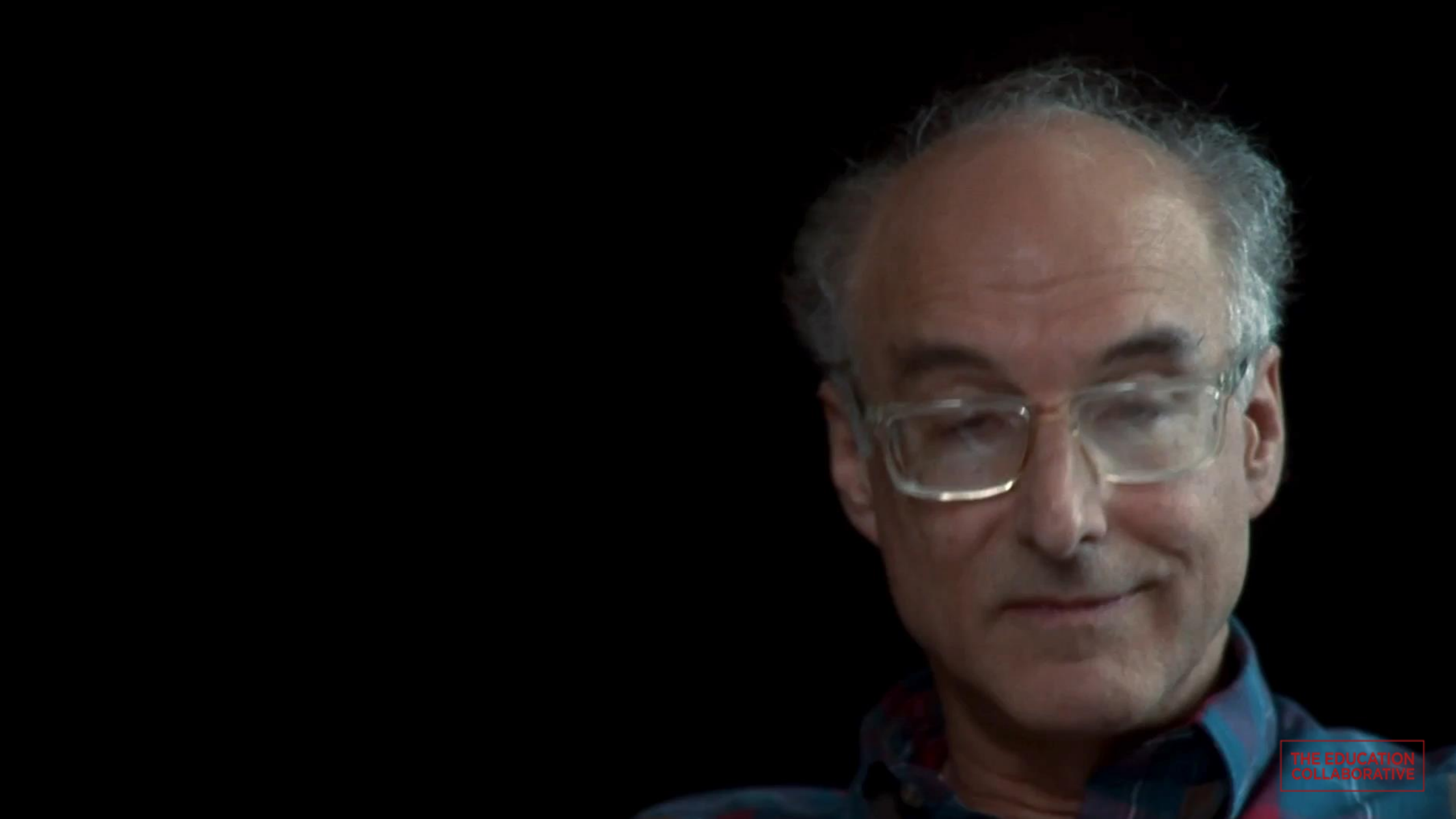
STEVE BIKO (1946 – 1977)

**“Killing a person is a crime [today], but at that time
[during the genocide] killing was not a crime ...
So you understand why I would blame the one who told
me to kill a Tutsi.”**

Jean ... Released after 10 years in prison.
Excerpt from the Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre

“Except for an extraordinary diligence in looking out for his personal advancement, he had no motives at all. And this diligence in itself was in no way criminal; he certainly would never have murdered his superior in order to inherit his post. He merely, to put the matter colloquially, **never realized what he was doing**. It was precisely this **lack of imagination** which enabled him to sit for months on end facing a German Jew who was conducting the police interrogation, pouring out his heart to the man and explaining again and again how it was that he reached only the rank of lieutenant colonel in the S.S. and that it had not been his fault that he was not promoted. In principle he knew quite well what it was all about, and in his final statement to the court he spoke of the ‘revaluation of values prescribed by the [Nazi] government.’ **He was not stupid**. It was sheer **thoughtlessness** – something by no means identical with stupidity – that predisposed him to become one of the greatest criminals of that period.”

Arendt, Hannah. *Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report on the Banality of Evil* (Penguin Classics) (pp. 286-287). Penguin Books Ltd. Kindle Edition.



What is ethics if not the ability to see what is right in front of us and to act in accordance with a proper understanding of what is the case, to dispel illusion and avoid falsity? Ethical living must then be a condition for the desirable life insofar as none of us explicitly wishes to live as deluded fools, that is, as slaves of illusions. We want to be in the driver's seat of our lives, acting in accordance with our best understandings of what is the case. In other words, we want to be free agents, active in the fullest sense. This is the task of a lifetime, continuous with personal growth. – Pedro Tabensky

Impulses and desires that are not ordered by intelligence are under the control of accidental circumstances. It may be a loss rather than a gain to escape from the control of another person only to find one's conduct dictated by immediate whim and caprice; that is, at the mercy of impulses into whose formation intelligent judgment has not entered. A person whose conduct is controlled in this way has at most only the illusion of freedom. Actually, he is directed by forces over which he has no command. – John Dewey

Thank You



Love is the perception of individuals.
Love is the extremely difficult
realisation that something other
than oneself is real.

— *Iris Murdoch* —

AZ QUOTES