



THE ORGANIC HUMANITY MOVEMENT

2024 MANIFESTO

**POLITICALLY OVERHAULING
THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM**



KEEPING LEGISLATION ABOUT PEOPLE

*Join us in creating a democratic process that
allows **you** to choose your political
representatives and the future President!*

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Dear Voter

I am a wife and mother of 4, who started a political party to ensure that our children and grandchildren have a future in this country.

I was involved in politics for a few years when I became increasingly disturbed by how the political system works, internally. I saw that no political party out there - no matter how polished the website or how good the PR - was immune to this corruptible inner world of politics.



This is largely due to the fact that our current political system works off a single principle: that of self-preservation. And with self-preservation as the guiding principle, not just for elected representatives, but for political parties too, nothing positive can be achieved for the people of South Africa or the country itself.

It was when I learnt this lesson that I decided to start a brand new political party. One that is capable of building a nation for our children to live in, that empowers individuals and limits the authority of government, and that maintains the principles of civility in a world where morality is degenerating.

In the following pages, you will read about a practical way out of the mess we find ourselves in, and a path towards a hopeful future, that you and I can build together.

I look forward to the day when this country is liberated from the evil power that has a hold on the systems that govern our society. South Africa has great potential to be the ideal example of what a democracy could and should look like, and set a standard other nations can follow. Our children and grandchildren can either have a future of increasing difficulty, or a future of infinite hope founded upon pro-active citizenry. Where we end up is dependent on the choices we make today. I am therefore asking you to vote for The Organic Humanity Movement in the 2024 elections. It's time to move on from our broken political system, and vote for a new reality.

Sincerely

Lauren Evanthia Bernardo

WHAT PROBLEMS WE NEED TO FIX

SOUTH AFRICAN CONTEXT

Around 63% of the population live in poverty, a number that can be expected to grow. The education system is failing to empower school leavers to thrive in life; and due to bad governance, radical elements pose a threat to the stability of the country, preying on a volatile situation and appealing to the emotions of many.

Our metros are overpopulated, largely the result of urbanisation, and citizens are being taxed to breaking point. The economy is shrinking, and infrastructure is crumbling across municipalities countrywide.

Everyone's quality of life is deteriorating and there is no hope for improvement in this political system that empowers our current political leaders.

If things stay the same in the world, and in our country, we can expect nothing but civil unrest, disease, and tyranny.



GLOBAL CONTEXT

There is instability among nations, that results in supply issues, economic decline and the threat of war.

Artificial intelligence and other scientific and technological developments, whether beneficial or detrimental to humankind, are happening out of our control and outside of democratic processes.

Global governance, implemented through organisations like the UN, UN subsidiaries, the WEF and many more, robs nations, including South Africa, of their autonomy and strength.

OHM's Values

OUR VISION FOR EVERY SOUTH AFRICAN



We want people to be free of government and corporate interference, empowered with knowledge and skills required to succeed in their lives, enabled by private land ownership to grow their families and build wealth; and liberated from the shackles of the current systems to pursue a life worth living – all still within the boundaries of a civil society where people respect each others' lives and livelihoods. We envision a country free of racial classification and discrimination, where each citizen identifies as South African, united by a desire to remain free from global and governmental control while building a nation we can all be proud of.

To achieve this vision of individual liberty and national sovereignty, we need to confront one of South Africa's greatest obstacles to progress: the political system. The current political system is stalling all progress and weakening South Africa. In forming a new political system, our vision is to make South Africa a strong, independent nation, able to look after the needs of the people internally, and to withstand any international threat.

How is OHM Funded?

OHM works on a volunteer basis only, there are no staff and no one in the party gets a salary. This means that our operating expenses remain very low which enables us to direct the majority of our donations towards campaign costs. Our funds come solely from members and supporters giving small and regular donations either monthly or when asked to fill a specific need. This method of fundraising ensures that we stay true to our founding principles and vision.

WHAT WE BELIEVE CITIZENS SHOULD EXPECT FROM GOVERNMENT

1. Functional, well-maintained, and expanding infrastructure.
2. Protection of our natural resources.
3. Preservation of our environment.
4. Security of our country's borders.
5. Positive and beneficial international relations.
6. Creation of an environment for economic growth, especially in non-metro municipalities.
7. Service delivery that is administered almost entirely by local government, instead of by national government, for the greatest possible accessibility.
8. Fewer taxes, a smaller government overall, with more autonomy for local municipalities.
9. To encourage an end to social ills through individual and community initiatives, instead of through more ineffective legislation.



Founder & Leader of OHM

Lauren Evanthia Bernardo is the sole founder of The Organic Humanity Movement, which she began at the end of 2017, after three years of volunteering and working in politics and local government, and after completing a short course on Governance & Public Administration with UCT. After realizing the flaws in the current political system, she set out to change politics forever in the country by starting a movement that empowers people to liberate themselves, and thus liberate the country through implementing system change from the ground up.

OUR SOLUTION

Politically Overhauling the Electoral System

Changing the electoral system is not as simple as changing the Electoral Act. This is because it is stated in the constitution that South Africa is a “multi-party” democracy. We believe that the multi-party system is destroying this country, and that it is not an accurate expression of democracy. We propose a system of direct elections where the voters vote only for independent candidates at all levels of government.



What are some of the greatest flaws with the current system

1. We don't get to vote for the President of the country, Parliament does that on our behalf.
2. Hundreds of millions of rands from tax payers go to the funding of parties per year.
3. A single party can be the ruling party for more than two consecutive terms.
4. Parties focus their time fighting each other in Parliament, instead of making decisions for the benefit of the country and its citizens.
5. Elected representatives are not held accountable, they hide behind the protection of their party.
6. Elected representatives have to please their political leaders to keep their position instead of attending to their constituents needs and concerns.

IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON FROM TOXIC POLITICS

WE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM









1. Political parties lose their status and recognition in government.
2. We transition to a system where independent candidates apply with the IEC to run for public office at all levels of government.
3. To ensure direct accountability, all representatives, at all levels of government (excluding the President) will be geographically based – in other words, you will vote for candidates who reside in your general area.
4. The IEC will have the extra task of providing compulsory training to successfully elected representatives on their specific duties in office.
5. Potential candidates will have to apply to the IEC by paying a fee and also providing signatures of support – the amount of each differing according to the level of office.
6. You will vote directly for the President of the country, your geographically chosen Member of Parliament, your Mayor and your Ward Councillor.
7. We will implement a new voting system, using something similar to the Alternative Vote System that allows you to vote for a number of representatives in order of your preference.
8. Because political parties fall away, so will party funding, meaning the government has hundreds of millions of rands to use elsewhere every year.
9. There will be a process available to all voters to remove a representative at any level, except for the President, from public office if they are negligent in their duties. The IEC, with its new mandate, will administer this process.
10. Presidential runner-ups become part of the President's advisory council, ending the adversarial mindset.

OHM's 6 Guiding Principles

- ✓ Liberty
- ✓ Protection of Life
- ✓ Respect for the Earth
- ✓ Self-Reliance
- ✓ Continuous Progress
- ✓ National Unity

AN EXAMPLE OF A BALLOT PAPER IN A NEW ELECTORAL SYSTEM

We have a few proposals, this is just one. Each voter will get 4 ballot papers: one to vote for the President, one to vote for the regionally-based MP, one to vote for a Mayor, and one to vote for a Councillor. In this example, each voter numbers their candidates in order of preference, starting with 1 for their first choice, 2 for their second choice and so on. Voters can put numbers next to candidates for as many or as few as they wish. This system is specifically known for eliminating the weakest candidates.

	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	2
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	8
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	5
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	7
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	3
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	1
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	6
	FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE	4

LEAST FAVOURITE
CANDIDATE

FAVOURITE
CANDIDATE

KEEPING LEGISLATION ABOUT PEOPLE

Changes we are going to make to the structure of government:

How government is set up and operates is outlined in the current South African Constitution. We want to make important amendments to the Constitution that would bring the government closer to the people so that we can work towards minimizing government control and interference in people's lives. We believe that the order of governance should first be **self-governance** and then **family governance**, recognizing the value of individual responsibility and the role of a healthy family in society. The next level of government would be **community government**, where individuals voluntarily offer their time and available resources to improve and uplift their neighbourhoods. Community involvement is important for a robust democracy because it takes power away from government. The final two, formally administered levels of government, will be **Local** and **National Government**.

Some of these changes include:

1. No more provincial government as we know it.
2. Instead, the district municipalities, as well as the metros, as they currently are, will form fifty-two new local governments.
3. The separation of powers, being Executive, Legislature and Judiciary, will remain, with important amendments to enhance the integrity of our democracy.
4. Each of the fifty-two local governments will be individually responsible for administering services such as health, education, water and sanitation, and whatever else is required by the constituency.
5. It is completely possible that, with time, certain areas will require no physical services from their local government. The rate at which this happens is completely in relation to the collective initiative of citizens.
6. National government will take care of these three areas: Infrastructure and resources, the Justice System and National Defence. Local Government takes care of everything else.
7. We want to change the Constitution's Chapter 9 institutions to the following: Public Protector (with a broader role), The Independent Electoral Commission (who will deal with independent candidates instead of parties), The Commission for the Preservation of Liberty & Humanity (to replace and expand upon the Human Rights Commission) and the Watchdog for International Threats. The elected President will no longer have the authority to select the commissioners, as is currently the case.

HOW OHM'S SOLUTION WILL BENEFIT YOUR LIFE AND THE COUNTRY



Everyone's quality of life will improve

Local and National Government will have a very defined and limited scope in which to operate. It will be able to administer its duties more effectively. Politicians will be working directly for the people, with no parties to hide behind. Running for public office will be more accessible to the average voter, changing the dynamic in the political landscape forever. The spheres of government will enable more accountability and more accessibility. Citizens can easily and physically, approach their local government with whatever concerns they may have. With more local government accountability and less government interference, space and opportunity is made for people, communities and business to progress.

Our appeal to you as a voter

OHM is the party to end all parties

In order to put these changes into practice, OHM needs to be represented in Parliament. For the first time in South Africa's democracy there is a party whose mission is to change the multi-party system. Policy change is not going to fix South Africa's problems. Only system change can ensure a future where government works for the people. We are a political party to end the political party system, ushering in direct elections, so that we can live in a thriving society and build a strong nation, where we can live in freedom from government and corporate control for generations to come.



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www.ohm.org.za