Voorsitter,

In ‘n samelewing waar daar werklik gelyke geleenthede en gelykheid heers, sal hierdie department nie nodig wees nie.

In a society where every department and private business have performed their duty and ensured true empowerment through training and development of women, youth and persons with disabilities, this department would be excessive.

This should be the dream.

This must be our goal.

But alas,

Ons is in 2020….

Geslagsgeweld vier hoogty, die Nasionale Jeugontwikkelingsagentskap (NYDA) maak steeds soos hy lus het sonder ware ondersteuning aan die jeug en ons persone met gestremdhede word steeds behandel asof hul melaats is.

This department’s budget has decreased whilst the pressure to perform its mandate during this pandemic has increased. I do not know how this department, even with adjusted targets and reprioritized funds will be able to scale this mountain before it.

Furthermore, if there is not the political will to do anything, nothing will happen once more.

Voorsitter,

Geslagsgeweld is baie genoem en word baie bespreek. Die president het dit selfs tot ‘n prioriteit geklassifiseer. Daar is miljarde rand daarvoor begroot en menige komitees saamgestel, maar 10 maande later en daar is steeds niks daarvoor te wys nie.

Met hierdie in ag genome, wil ek graag op ‘n ander prioriteitsarea van hierdie department fokus wat min tot geen aandag geniet tensy dit is om ‘n teiken aan te haal.

Daar word nog steeds gans te min gedoen om persone met gestremdhede as ware burgers van Suid-Afrika te betrek by die samelewing en my bekommernis is dat met ‘n verdere R 27 miljoen besnoeiing van die department se begroting persone met gestremdhede weereens aan die kortste toutjie gaan trek.

Alhoewel die department van basiese onderwys in 2015 reeds gebare taal as ‘n eerste taal-vak goedgekeur het en die eerste matrieks reeds in 2018 met gebare taal as ‘n vak matrikuleer het, is daar steeds nie genoeg wat gedoen word om ons dowe gemeenskap by te staan nie. The settlement in March of this year that compels government to publish all textbooks of all subjects for all learners in Braille, is a step in the right direction and should be commended.

A lot has also been said about sign language being acknowledged as South Africa’s 12th official language and many do regard it as that. But, since the official request by the South African National Deaf Association to parliament regarding the official inclusion of sign language as our 12th official language (in 2016 already) we have done nothing but virtue signaling to this request.

We are elected by the people.

To **not** heed the call of the estimated 4 million deaf people in South Africa would be an injustice.

I beg my fellow members of this 6th parliament to let us be the parliament that adds our 12th official language.

Voorsitter,

Die Minister van arbeid wil met die nuwe billike indiensnemingswetswysigings nuwe sektor spesifieke teikens, met ander woorde kwotas vir persone met gestremdhede en vroue afdwing.

These quotas are however only cosmetic of nature and do not promote an equal opportunity society.

En die minister moet vir my beantwoord:

In hoeveel staatsdepartement-kantore werk die hysbakke?

In hoeveel staatsdepartment-kantore is daar veiligheids en ander nodige maatreëls vir persone met gestremdhede?

Hoe gaan ons persone met gestremshede nie verder uitsluit en as tweede-rangse burgers laat voel, as ons nie eers aan hul basiese behoeftes kan voorsien nie?

Kwotas gaan dit nie aanspreek nie. Die basiese gaan.

The time has come that this department stops window dressing issues. Hulle moet ophou wegkruip agter die skynbeeld wat hul wil vertoon en ophou om sake soos geslagsgeweld te gebruik vir hul eie verryking hetsy polities of finansieël van aard.

Die department en selfs sy entiteite moet ophou teikens najaag, werklik begin doen en werklik begin bemagtig.

Minister my pleit is die:

Ons moet gelykheid bevorder nie geslag- en ander kwotas nie. Kwotas is slegs teenproduktief.

Ons moet nie net praat van die verandering wat julle teweeg wil bring nie, laat Suid-Afrika dit sien.

TAMMY BREEDT, MP

FF PLUS