

Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/womens-activism-in-the-british-anti-apartheid-movement-1986-1994/>

This video is an interview discussing the group "Leeds Women Against Apartheid," a small but dedicated activist group from Leeds that engaged in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. The interview features Kate Law, who conducted research on this group, emphasizing that their activism was practical and focused on tangible solidarity actions, rather than political processes.

She explains that the group originated in the 1980s when its members, frustrated with the focus on internal politics in the Leeds Anti-Apartheid Movement, sought to create a more action-oriented group. They organized fundraising events and raised material aid for anti-apartheid efforts, connecting local activism in Leeds with the international struggle against apartheid.

The group approached their activism in ways that accommodated women's domestic responsibilities, allowing for practical participation in fundraising and solidarity through community events. Law underscores the broader context of women's exclusion from leadership within progressive movements, illustrating that these dynamics persist even within anti-apartheid activism.

The interview also highlights her upcoming research project focusing on Dame Shirley Bassey and the Welsh anti-apartheid movement, examining how the singer was racialized within that context. Law's work aims to reveal the intersection of gender, race, and activism within these historical movements, advocating for a deeper understanding of women's roles in such contexts.