

1988 Power and Beliefs in South Africa: Economic potency structures in South Africa and their interaction with patterns of conviction in the light of a Christian ethic. For detail see List of Publications below.

[Key terms: South African economy – apartheid - collective consciousness – ideology]

This study is an empirical analysis of the South African economy and its relation to the ideological landscape under apartheid. Commissioned by the South African Human Sciences Research Council, it presented the author with the opportunity to substantiate his multi-dimensional model of economic discrepancies with concrete evidence. The book analyses the relation between economic power structures and patterns of conviction found in the South African society at the time. The first part shows that the South African economy constituted an extreme example of centre-periphery dynamics. The situation was not caused, but vastly acerbated by the racial policies of the regime. The second part analyses prevalent patterns of collective consciousness in South African society at the time and correlates them with the respective locations of groups in the social system. Liberal leanings changed to socialist leanings, for instance, once a certain income threshold was reached. The book closes with a theological-ethical critique of the syndrome and a theological-ethical approach towards its resolution.