



Try, The Beloved Country

A talk by Mandy Wiener about why the future can be better than now.

Mandy Wiener has had a front row seat to current affairs in South Africa for over two decades and has often written the first draft of our country's history.

In this post-election keynote, she reflects on where we have come from and what the future could look like post June 2024.

As we have witnessed, this election has the potential to fundamentally change the political landscape in South Africa. There are numerous scenarios that could play out. But what needs to happen to ensure our future is better than our reality is now?

Better policy choices. Action. Active citizenship. Public private partnerships. Nurturing entrepreneurship. A meritocracy. A professional civil service. A positive attitude. Changing the narrative.

South Africans need to hear that there is a way out and we deserve better.

Mandy's focus is on the 'Hope Dealers'. She tells the stories of the good people who do their jobs, the civil servants who hold the line, the members of the judiciary who maintain the rule of law, the whistleblowers who feel compelled to speak truth to power, the civil society activists who step into the breach and the journalists who dig up the dirt to hold authorities to account. She considers the importance of changing the narrative of the country.

There are lessons in these stories for corporates and for individuals on what needs to be done to improve governance, to change legislation, to create a speak up culture in order to root out corruption and to play a role as responsible citizens.

Most importantly these stories will inspire the audience not to be apathetic or complacent, but to fight for a better South Africa.