

Description of "Communication", the Artwork by Carolyn S. Davis/ Divine Art Designs

"Communication" is a depiction of what verbal communication would look like, if you could see it. Non-verbal communications can be latent or overt and has a major impact on the way we communicate with others. The dictionary defines communication as expressing oneself in such a way that one is readily and clearly understood; the exchange of thoughts, messages, or information, as by speech, signals, or writing. Quite often in our lives we are not readily or clearly understood, hence poor communication that can lead to problems. The world map in the background of the print is representative of the idea that the part of the world you are from, Country, Region, Island, State, City, your roots, has an impact on communications. Communication can make or break personal and or business relationships.

The defeat of apartheid in South Africa was the main inspiration of the artwork. The artwork symbolizes the United States of America flag as it relates to sanctions, partnerships, the transition towards freedom and democracy. Apartheid includes oppression, being cut off from communication, society and education. It was poor communication that led to apartheid and extraordinary communication that led to the defeat of apartheid. Children attended schools, but the books teachers were required to use, twisted the truth, which in term twisted many minds. If you were caught reading a book that told the truth, you were either tortured or put to death (this included teachers and students). There was no such thing as a public library, only propaganda and mistruths designed to keep the people oppressed.

There were numerous crusades and protests aimed at ending apartheid. The result was the gradual repeal of apartheid laws starting in the late '70's continuing through the '80's and ending in the early '90's. Two Nobel Peace Prizes were awarded to Bishop Desmond Tu Tu and Nelson Mandela. In 1994, South Africa elected Nelson Mandela as President. It was the first election open to all races. The transition was solidified with a new flag. The colors represent the following: red=blood shed, Yellow=the precious metal gold and other abundant natural resources under the ground(that make Africa the richest continent in the world)), Blue=sky, Black=the people, Green=the land, White=peace.

The Egyptians used mathematics as a way of helping to explain life. Hieroglyphics are one of the ancient, non-verbal communication systems dating back as far as 196 B.C. and beyond. The great pyramid (also referred to as being the "sacred triangle"), symbolizes harmonious relationships in the African family system and represents the key to the empowerment of family values. It has been said the angle on the right represents a Father, the angle on left, the Mother, the base of the triangle represents God and children as a result of the Father and Mother union. Mathematical applications of the Pythagorean theorem (founded on the concept of a triangle), extended to ways of explaining life and human endeavors.

The three major religious symbols are depicted: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Religious upbringing and beliefs, or lack of, have a major influence on how we communicate. We are taught to honor and respect our elders. The legacy and widom passed on by our elders, helps to form the foundation of basic value systems that may be carried from generation to generation.

May this work of art help serve as a helpful reminder of: 1) some of the things that effect the way we communicate with others and 2) the power of one person 3) the power of your words.



ear/listen



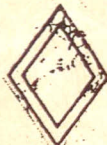
the living



the all-seeing eye/higher power



possessions



love



dance



life



sun



night



soul



eternity



strong/vigorous



the written teaching/join with



water