

*Pg: 28, The Star, 27 February 2013*  
**A key point about that act**

PAM NHLAPO'S letter "Nkandla is South Africa's Berghof" (The Star, February 25) offers such a neat contradiction. To paraphrase the irony in her opening sentence: "I support and vote for the ANC, but I can give you 20 reasons why no one else should."

Those who don't vote for the ANC suffer the consequences of this kind of dusty logic. Those who keep the ANC in power mustn't complain. They mustn't say they didn't know. They mustn't tell us they had nothing to do with Nkandla.

In terms of the National Key Points Act, the defence

minister can declare any property a national key point "if it appears... that any place or area is so important that its loss, damage, disruption... may prejudice the Republic..."

I fail to see what calamity would befall the country if Nkandla is destroyed by, say, lightning or a herd of buffalo. Nkandla is the private residence of an elected official who does not even own the land on which it is built. Can we repossess the clinic when Zuma leaves public office to take up cattle farming?

According to constitutional law expert Pierre de Vos,

sections of the key points act are "almost certainly unconstitutional and hence invalid".

This does not bother Public Works Minister "Thula" Thulas Nxesi. His deputy, Jeremy Cronin, however, admits the "Nkandla Act" is problematic.

The real issue is much larger than stealing obscene amounts of money from poor South Africans.

This is how the ANC conducts the business of governing. As usual, that's all the honourable Jacob "Hlekisa" Zuma has to say about that.

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