

Race pamphlets anger residents

Staff Reporter

RESIDENTS in Hillbrow and Berea have reacted angrily to the "Keep Hillbrow White" pamphlets distributed by the Rightwing National Front organisation this week.

About 10 000 pamphlets, urging residents to report blacks living in the area to authorities, were left in postboxes.

Several residents interviewed by the Rand Daily Mail last night were shocked and disgusted by the National Front's latest campaign.

"These people are trying to destroy this country. I was so angry when I received that pamphlet in my postbox. I tried to phone the organisation to tell them what I thought of them," said one.

Mrs Dalene Botha, of Trentbridge flats, Berea said: "It is disgusting. We are trying to improve race relations in this country."

Many people said they had not even bothered to read the pamphlets.

Mr Don Rethman, of Berea, read it and commented: "It's a screwball idea!"

Mr Simon Chilckik, MPC for Hillbrow, was furious.

"The National Front are well known for their Nazi views throughout the world. In South Africa we are striving for racial harmony. Pamphlets like this incite disunity," he said.

Mr Max Neppe, councillor for Berea, said: "I have had no complaints from people in the area about blacks causing trouble. They must therefore be law-abiding citizens."

Mr Jack Noble, secretary of the National Front and organiser of the "Keep Hillbrow White" campaign, said the organisation had received a mixed reaction to the pamphlets.

"Of course we have received threats and obscene phone calls, but others have congratulated us on our move. Unless something is done now Hillbrow will be a black ghetto in five years," he said.

Mr Noble added that the National Front was compiling a letter to the Minister of Community Development and was planning to hold a meeting in two weeks, as well as planning more campaigns.

"This is just the beginning," he said.