



THE CITIZEN 2014/05/05

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## **LETTERS**

## Stop dumping of babies

here is certainly nothing so bizarre and cruel as newborn babies being thrown down pit latrines, flushed down toilets, thrown into trash cans, into rivers or abandoned in plastic bags in the veld, railroad tracks, flowerpots etc.

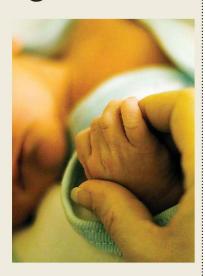
Absolutely inhumane, no matter the reason.

Baby abandonment is rising. In 2011 approximately 2 538 babies were abandoned – up by 36% from 2010.

This is due to poverty, the HIV pandemic, unplanned pregnancies by thousands of teenagers and prostitutes, and rape.

Loose morals, lack of discipline and consensual sex by teenagers all add to this misery. A shocking state of affairs. A life regarded as trash and just thrown away. Perpetrators must be brought to book, for this is murder.

In Johannesburg alone, more



than 200 babies are abandoned every month, if not more.

This, in spite of baby sanctuaries such as the Door of Hope, Baby Moses Baby Sanctuary and many others.

Something must be done to stop this merciless and extremely cruel killing of unwanted infants.

JR