

## **Objectives of TRCs:**

Margaret Popkin and Naomi Roht-Arriaza describe four main goals for truth commissions.

1. Truth commissions seek to contribute to transitional peace by "creating an authoritative record of what happened;
2. providing a platform for the victims to tell their stories and obtain some form of redress;
3. recommending legislative, structural or other changes to avoid a repetition of past abuses; and
4. establishing who was responsible and providing a measure of accountability for the perpetrators."

## **The Structure of South Africa's TRC:**

The work of the TRC was accomplished through three committees:

- **Human Rights Violations (HRV) Committee** – investigated human rights abuses that took place between 1960 and 1994.
- **Reparation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Committee** – charged with restoring victims dignity and formulating proposals to assist with rehabilitation.
- **Amnesty Committee (AC)** – considered applications for amnesty that were requested in accordance with the provisions of the Act.