BIZCOMMUNITY

Nando's and M&C Saatchi Abel are on a mission to put autocorrect in its place as they invite South Africans to #rightmyname

Issued by M&C Saatchi Abel

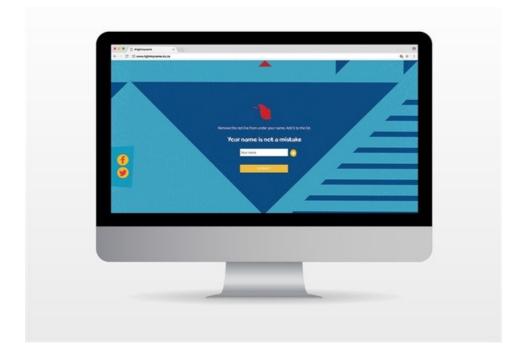
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In their quest to highlight typically South African challenges, Nando's, together with its advertising agency M&C Saatchi Abel, has launched #rightmyname in continued effort to contribute to the broader dialogue of South Africa.

"At Nando's, we've always loved celebrating South Africa's diversity. So when we noticed that after more than 30 years, spellcheck still highlights Nando's as a mistake, it got us thinking. What about other names in South Africa? Names like Nokuthula, Elodie, Darawees and Tebatso. Why are their names highlighted as mistakes too? Not cool," says Doug Place, Chief Marketing Officer.

Jake Johnstone, Advertising and Media Manager at Nando's Southern Africa, agrees. "We started the campaign to address a challenge within the organisation, where South African names - including Nando's and PERi-PERi were highlighted as errors by spellcheck," he explains.

He adds that the campaign has now been taken to the public by inviting all South Africans to sign onto rightmyname.co.za, a website where people can add their names to a database that will be made available for download on Human Rights Day, 21 March 2018. The list of names can then be used to update users' computer dictionaries, so that nobody is made to feel like a mistake again.



The campaign has already attracted the nation's attention, precisely because it touches on a highly topical issue, says M&C Saatchi Abel's Tshegofatso Phetle, the Art Director whose frustration at having her name constantly underlined in red sparked the concept. "It's something so many people complain about and, finally, someone has taken action," she enthuses. "This campaign is a great example of the fact that we don't have to accept things simply because 'it's the way it's always been done'. We need to realise that we have the power to create our own change. And who better to do this than Nando's, a brand which not only brings fire to everything it does but which, incidentally, is also underlined in red." Phetle adds that, as our names are linked to our dignity, the red line has implications for national pride.



Gordon Ray, M&C Saatchi Abel Founding Partner and Executive Creative Director, agrees. He notes that the campaign is typical of the work M&C Saatchi Abel strives to create: "We believe in making beautifully simple solutions for an increasingly complex world. #Rightmyname is a case in point: a platform that's easily accessible for all South Africans, with the ability to make a huge impact."

Visit rightmyname.co.za, add your name to the list, and let's get rid of the red line today.

"Bill" of Rights? How about Bongani? Or Lesedi? Thinus, Nawaal or Boikanyo?

No South African's name is a mistake. So isn't it absurd that spellcheck, and its red line, highlight them as one?

At Nando's, it got us fired up and that's why we've decided to fix it. We're building a list of SA names so no one has to deal with their name being called a mistake – ever again.

> Visit rightmyname.co.za and together we'll fix our sh*t this Human Rights Day 2018.

Nando's #rightmynam@

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M&C Saatchi Abel

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