

To: All Media
For Immediate Release

ANC CONDEMNS DISRUPTION OF BOOK LAUNCH

The African National Congress (ANC) distances itself from the disruption of the launch of the book, *Gangster State*, on Tuesday evening in Sandton.

The ANC condemns the disruption and the call to burn books in the strongest possible terms. We wish to emphasize that those who disrupted the launch did not do so in the name of the ANC nor on behalf of the ANC Secretary General.

We view the actions of these individuals in a very serious light as it undermines freedom of speech.

Our constitutional democracy enjoins us to defend every citizen's right to freedom of speech irrespective of whether we agree with the contents or not.

The ANC appeals to all its structures to observe and adhere to the letter and spirit of our Constitution.

END

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