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.The death by parcel bomb of Jeanette Schoon and her six-year-old daughter. Katryn, t in Luhango, Angola last Thursday has shocked their many friends and former colleagues in Eotswana where they lived for six years.

I-frs Schoon and her daughter died instantly when they opened a parcel containing a bomb sent to them at their home in Lubango where Mrs Schoon and her husband. Marius, were working as teachers at. the university. It is thought the bomb was the work of South African agents. The Schoon family was actively opposed to apartheid and fled South Africa in 1977 and was given political asylum in Botswana.

In Botswana Marius and Jenny Schoon worked as English teachers at 'Kgosi I(nari Sechele II Secondary School in r-tolepolole until 1980. Former headmaster at the school, Hope Phillips, described the death of Jenny and Katryn Schoon as "most brutal and unforgiv- . eable."In a statement Mr Phillips said:

"I found the Schonns at Kgari Sechele Secondary School in Molepolole when I joined the school as headmaster in 1980. Marius and the late Jenny wage in the English department, teaching literature in English and Enniish language: both at junior and senior levels.

"Efarius and Jenny were teachers of a very high levagnd indeed an asset to Botswana. they were dedicated and ready to use their spare time to assist the students. I had personal contact with the family oh a pr;vate basis. I found Jenny a very pleasant person. humble aezi highly responsible. I had the Opportunity of getting, used to , ' their children. especially the late Katryn whon? we affectionately caiJed m_irl'.

The l Jenny and her daughter is a real blow to humanity. the way they met

the ena of their lives is the most brutal ant unforgiveable.H

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After leaving Molepolole the Schoons moved to Gaborone where Jenny and Marius shared the post of Field Director of IVS (International Voluntary Service -t a British volunteer agency.) In this capacity the Schoons helped develop new directions for IVS, particularly in the involvement of volunteers in the problems of Botswana's urban areas. Current IVS Field/Directqr, Jennifer Inger, praised Jenny S'choon's contribution to IVS' work. "As joint Field Director Jenny was devoted and hard-working. She made a very positive contribution to the IVS programme. particularly in the field of woman and development. As a result IVS is now placing volunteers in day-care centres in Botswana and this is a growing area of their involvement. In spite of IVS' tradition of placing most volunteers in rural areas, Jenny was very aware that the urban poor were at least as much in need, if not more so. as those living in rural areas. This led to the setting up of - research study in urban problems with the view of placing volunteers in urban-areas in the future," Ms Inger said.

Jenny Schoon took a particular interest in the issue of women in development in Botswana. She worked closely with WODPLAC (Women in Development Planning Committee). an inter-ministerial co-ordinating committee on women's affairs with representatives from national women's organisations and development agencies. She also played a pivotal role in the Inter-Agency Women's Steering Group;

Elsie Alexander, currently Co-ordinator of the Women's Affairs Unit of the Ministry of Home Affairs, was secretary of WODPLAC at the time of Jenny Schoon's involvement. She described Mrs Schoon as "a very hardworking woman". She said: "Jenny was very committed to the issues concerning women. Being a member of the committee she made quite a significant contribution. She was the type of person who was always keen. to do things, very willing to take on responsibility and to take action on things. It was a pleasure to work with her."

Jenny's daughter, Katryn, was born in 1978 in Molepolole and was a Botswana citizen. When the family moved to Gaborone she attended a Setswana-medium nursery school in Old Naledi where she was very popular with staff and children. Her mother was also an active member of the PTA at the school.

Jenny Schoon (nee Curtis) was born in South Africa and all her adult life was dedicated to the struggle against injustice in South Africa. During her student years she was a vice-President of NUSAS (the National Union of South African Students) and headed NUSAS' welfare section. She also worked on the students Wages Commission

Q which played an important role in exposing the atrocious wages and working conditions

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black workers in South Africa.

After leaving university Jenny Schoon played an active part in trade union affairs in South Africa. She was an executive member of the Industrial Aid Society in Johannesburg, a workers education centre.

In 1975, while working as an archivist for the Institute of Race Relations. Mrs Schoon was detained by South African security police and held for two months without being charged. The following year she was served with a banning order. In 1977 she was secretly married to Marius Schoon, a political activist who had completed a 12-year prison sentence in 1976 for his opposition to apartheid. The Schoons fled South Africa to Botswana the day after their wedding.

The Schoons were active members of the African National Congress of South Africa and she was also a member of SACTU (South African Congress of Trade Unions). In a statement issued from Lusaka the ANC strongly condemned the assassination. The statement said: "Inspired by her firmness of purpose, her hatred of oppression and injustice and her humanism, and moved by the sacrifice of one as young as Katryn, we shall continue the struggle to realise Jeanette's dream of a democratic, non-racial and happy South Africa."

According to the ANC statement the Schoons were forced to leave Botswana in 1983 owing to repeated threats to their lives from the South African regime. In 1984 they took up posts as lecturers in English at the University of Angola, having been seconded from the ANC's Department of Education.