

CPS SPEAKERS BUREAU

## **Nontombi Naomi Tutu**

### **Racial and Gender Justice, Spirituality**

Nontombi Naomi Tutu speaks eloquently about her own life and her passion for helping to build a partnership world of human dignity and peace. In apartheid South Africa, she faced the challenge of growing up black and female. Later she faced the additional challenge of being the daughter of Nobel Peace Laureate Desmond Tutu and having to find her own place in the world.



Her professional experience ranges from being a development consultant in West Africa, to being program coordinator for programs on Race and Gender and Gender-based Violence in Education at the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town. In addition she has taught at the Universities of Hartford and Connecticut and Brevard College in North Carolina.

Ms. Tutu started her public speaking as a college student at Berea College in Kentucky in the 1970's when she was invited to speak at churches, community groups and colleges and universities about her experiences growing up in apartheid South Africa. Since that time, she has become a much sought after speaker to groups as varied as business associations, professional conferences, elected officials and church and civic organizations. She has also led Truth and Reconciliation Workshops for groups dealing with different types of conflict. Together with Rose Bator she presents a workshop titled Building Bridges dealing with issues of race and racism. The two also lead women's retreats through their organization Sister Sojourner. They are also writing a book provisionally titled *I Don't Think of You as Black: Honest Conversations on Race and Racism*.

In addition to speaking, Naomi Tutu is a consultant to two organizations that reflect the breadth of her involvement in issues of human rights. The

organizations are CPS' Spiritual Alliance to Stop Intimate Violence (SAIV), founded by renowned author Riane Eisler and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Betty Williams, and the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa (FHSSA).

Ms. Tutu is a single mother of two children and currently lives in Nashville, TN.