

ABSTRACT

Panel 2: Strategic Adaptation of Charities to the Local Environment

**Civil Society in South Africa: Beginnings, Transitions, Control and Disobedience**

*Justin Pierce*  
*Exeter University*

This paper considers the relationship between state and civil society in South Africa. The first part offers a descriptive overview of the notion 'civil society' and its position in relation to the state. This is followed by an overview of the evolution of civil society in South Africa following the political change brought about by the fall of apartheid. Part three explores the relationship between state and civil society and the use of law to control and reign in disobedient civil society organisations.