



## PRESS RELEASE

**3<sup>rd</sup> Degree: Zimbabwean government bans 3rd Degree from covering the country's election  
TX: Tuesday 1 April at 8pm**

The Zimbabwean government has banned 3rd Degree from covering the country's election, but that is not going to stop us telling their story. Against the backdrop of a shattered economy, Zimbabweans vote for a better future.

For 28 years, President Robert Mugabe has ruled Zimbabwe with an iron fist, his crackdown on dissent bloating Zimbabwe's abysmal human rights record. Over the past eight years, the country has seen an unprecedented meltdown of the economy.

At 100 000%, Zimbabwe has the highest inflation rate in the world. A shortage of basic commodities like bread, maize meal and fuel is evidence of how Mugabe's policies have ruined the economy of a country that was once the breadbasket of Africa.

Yet he is seeking another term in office. This time around, he faces a stiff challenge from his former finance minister, independent candidate Simba Makoni and Morgan Tsvangirai, the resurgent leader of the main opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change.

With most international news agencies and western observers banned, will the election monitors approve the poll as free and fair and rubber stamp the outcome?

The major campaign issue is economic revival. Third Degree looks at the dynamics at play in Zimbabwe's politics and the aftermath of a poll, which is critical to the country's very survival.