

= Mzoli 's =

Mzoli 's (also known as Mzoli 's Place , Mzoli 's Meat , or Mzoli 's Butchery) is a butchery in Gugulethu , a township on the outskirts of Cape Town , South Africa . Since Mzoli 's opened in early 2003 , the restaurant has become a popular gathering spot for Cape Town residents and a tourist attraction . Amongst Gugulethu 's residents , Mzoli 's Place has a reputation for public drunkenness and disrespect for the local community . Mzoli 's is named after the founder and owner , Mzoli Ngcawuzele .

= = History = =

The establishment opened in early 2003 . Owner Mzoli Ngcawuzele obtained start @-@ up funding from the Development Bank of South Africa , which supports black @-@ owned businesses . In October 2006 , an economic study said that Mzoli had " moved , from selling meat informally from a garage , to owning one of the most popular hangouts in Cape Town " .

In November 2006 , more than 30 restaurant patrons , including a group of tourists and Democratic Alliance councillor Masizole Mngqasela , were arrested in a police raid for drinking in public . The restaurant did not sell alcohol , but Ngcawuzele explained that he could not stop people from bringing their own . The incident generated controversy in the local press . Tour operator Ryan Hunt claimed that police swore at the patrons and threatened people for asking questions . " The police created a dangerous situation . People are always encouraged to visit township attractions , but now they are turned away with that kind of situation , " he said . Mngqasela , a member of Cape Town 's economic development committee , added , " Mzoli 's is internationally acclaimed and is key to township tourism . What kind of message is the police sending ? " The African National Congress approved the police actions , citing a need to curtail public drunkenness .

= = Business = =

Located in the township of Gugulethu , a black neighbourhood 15 kilometres southeast of the centre of Cape Town , Mzoli 's is a " do @-@ it @-@ yourself " market and eatery , selling meat to patrons who in turn hire independent entrepreneurs running braai stalls on the grounds to grill the meat and prepare meals . Mzoli 's also provides live entertainment and has become noted as a venue for deep house and kwaito music .

As well as local people , Mzoli 's attracts television stars , DJs such as DJ Fresh , politicians such as Tony Yengeni , businesspeople , tourists , and college students . Mzoli 's is considered to be a " base camp " where " black diamonds " gather and network . In September 2006 , Sasha Planting of Financial Mail called it " the destination for everyone " .

= = Reception by locals = =

Some local residents near a long @-@ planned shopping mall that is being built by a business partly owned by Mzoli 's owner criticized his plans in 2008 . Some businesses were legally evicted or threatened with eviction from older buildings owned by Mzoli , which were then knocked down to make room for the new property development . Other nearby residents have complained that the property developer has not hired enough local residents . Critics threatened to vandalize or burn both Mzoli 's Place and Ngcawuzele 's home if he did not meet their demands for jobs and permanent , guaranteed space for informal traders at the new shopping mall .