

# Social distinctions fade in the face of survival

A senior Zimbabwean police official has employed five young men to sell foreign currency on the streets of the capital, Harare, but while the police play cat and mouse with the illegal dealers, his "employees" conduct their business undisturbed because they cannot be arrested.

Harare - "We sell the foreign currency openly because we are untouchable. Some constables arrested me at one time, even though I had informed them that I was working for their boss. They have been transferred from Harare and after that no-one dares touch us," said one of the dealers, who identified himself as Peter.

He claimed that a number of police officers were selling foreign currency and using their positions to ensure that their agents were protected from arrest.

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