

BEYOND THE SPARKLE	
<i>Savoirs, création, innovation / Représentation:</i> Diamonds are often associated with love, beauty and luxury, but behind their sparkle lies a much more complex story linked to colonialism, exploitation, apartheid, conflict and environmental damage. However public awareness has encouraged the industry to develop new technologies	
	has the diamond industry evolved in response to a changing world?
At the end of the Unit, I will	Produce a podcast
What documents will be used ?	1- the making of Diamonds 1a- How are diamonds mined? 1b- Uses for diamonds 1c- The many Facets of Diamonds 1d- Impact of Diamond Mining 1e- Exercice 2- Empirialism and Diamonds 2a- South African Diamond History, capetowndiamondmuseum.org, 2026 2b- South Africa and its Diamond Resources, Council South Africa 2c- Introducing the main South African Mining industrials 2d- Apartheid Basics, Anoka High School Social Studies, Frosh and Beckman 3- Fighting Injustice 3a- I am ready to die Abridged from Nelson Mandela's statement from the dock at the opening of his defense in the 1964 trial. 3b- Pioneer, Bridge Builder and Statesman—A Conversation with Ambassador Edward J. Perkins The Foreign Service Journal, <i>Dec 2020</i>, https://afsa.org/ 4 -Advocating against blood dimands 4a – Hollywood film threatens to take the shine off Africa's gem trade Jeevan Vasagar, The Guardian, Wed 20 Sep 2006 4b – lThe media has played a big role in the movement against Blood Diamonds Angelina Ravelli, <i>bcitnews.com</i>, November 23rd 2021 4c- Prince Harry banned 'blood diamonds' in Meghan Markle's engagement ring Gillian Crawley, <i>express.co.uk</i>, Wed, Dec 27, 2017 4d -All You Need To Know About Ethical Diamond Mining, Cape Town Diamond Museum, 2026 5- The Future of Diamond 5a- Leonardo DiCaprio’s Carbon-Neutral Lab-Grown Diamond Brand Opens Flagship LA Store - Jill Ettinger, <i>the-ethos.co</i> September 10, 2021 5b- Get Inspired by these Recycled Diamond Jewelry Designs Jill Newman,<i>www.naturaldiamonds.com</i>, April 21,

	2022
What will I learn about ?	How complex the industry of Diamond is
Final Project	You are a journalist and will introduce us to your book about the diamond industry. "Shine bright like a Diamond"

Instruction for your Final Project :

- 1- You will have a limited time to record yourself in CLASS. Sending your audio work will be mandatory at the end of the class.
- 2- You will need to introduce yourself : have you infiltrated a diamond company ? Interviewed miners ? Worked with famous designers ?
- 3- Your audio work will need to revolve around a question that you will figure out and use at least 3 examples from the lesson and at least one idea of your own.
- 4- Come to a conclusion and answer your question in the end.
- 5- the audio must last at least 4 minutes and not exceed 6 minutes.

1- the making of Diamonds

- 1a- How are diamonds made?
- 1b- the use for diamonds
- 1c- The many Facets of Diamonds
- 1c- Environmental issues of mining
- 1d- Exercise

appropriation des différents documents en groupe puis échange autour des différents procédés questions autour de l'utilisation des diamants et exercices

2- Empiricism and Diamonds

2a- South African Diamond History *capetowndiamondmuseum.org*, 2026

travail sur l'origine des diamants: repérage technique

tonalité de l'article: plutôt positif, élogieux => pourquoi?

// avec image

2b- South Africa and its Diamond Resources, Council South Africa

2c- Introducing the main South African Mining industrials

mise en parallèle: que images et appropriation des différentes compagnies

d'exploitation en group work puis mélange (avec textes) des groupes et remise à plat:

constat: beaucoup de compagnies blanches, exploitées par des blancs, mis en valeur de l'industrie du diamant

mais place des sud af?

Apartheid: explication:

2c- Apartheid Basics, Anoka High School Social Studies, Frosh and Beckman

rappel historique

conclusion: pourquoi apartheid? Pour maintenir une main d'oeuvre peu cher

3- Fighting injustice

3a- **I am ready to die** Abridged from Nelson Mandela's statement from the dock at the opening of his defense in the 1964 trial.

3b- Pioneer, Bridge Builder and Statesman—A Conversation with Ambassador Edward J. Perkins The Foreign Service Journal, *Dec 2020*, <https://afsa.org/>

travail sur le texte : question How can diplomacy help people fight against injustice ?

Trouver 3 arguments

4 -Advocating against blood diamonds

4a – Hollywood film threatens to take the shine off Africa's gem trade Jeevan Vasagar, The Guardian, Wed 20 Sep 2006

4b – The media has played a big role in the movement against Blood Diamonds Angelina Ravelli, *bcitnews.com*, November 23rd 2021

4c- Prince Harry banned 'blood diamonds' in Meghan Markle's engagement ring Gillian Crawley, *express.co.uk*, Wed, Dec 27, 2017

4d -All You Need To Know About Ethical Diamond Mining, Cape Town Diamond Museum, 2026

travail sur les 4 textes en parallèle par groupe : proposer un plan autour de 3 documents à partir des infos que l'on souhaite voir et chercher une illustration pour aller avec

échange du choix des documents (faire envoyer l'illustration - doit être sourcée et authentique),

recherche d'une problématique

échange puis travail sur un plan.

Possibilité de faire rédiger le devoir

5- The future of Diamond

5a- Leonardo DiCaprio's Carbon-Neutral Lab-Grown Diamond Brand Opens Flagship LA Store - Jill Ettinger, *the-ethos.co* September 10, 2021

travail sur le texte : récap en 3 mots => explication choix des mots.

Échange en troupe : choisir 6 mots qui ne se sont pas tous ceux qu'on a trouvé, classé les mots en expliquant son choix

recap sur éléments essentiels du texte : critique fait aux stars, obligation de continuer le combat, impact sur la réputation.

travail de compréhension autour du texte à partir de l'exercice (10 questions multiple choice – en gras = la réponse attendue)

recap écrit question réponse à la question 10, avec exemple pris dans le texte

1. What is the main purpose of the article?

a. To explain how natural diamonds are formed.

b. To present Vrai and its lab-grown diamonds as a more sustainable alternative to traditional diamonds.

c. To tell the story of Leonardo DiCaprio's acting career.

d. To promote tourism and luxury shopping in Los Angeles.

2. What problems associated with traditional diamond mining are mentioned in the article?

a. High prices, poor-quality diamonds and low consumer demand.

b. Environmental damage, child labour, human trafficking and the displacement of communities.

- c. A lack of technology and renewable energy.
- d. Competition from the fashion industry.

3. Why is Leonardo DiCaprio involved with Vrai?

- a. He created the company and designs its jewellery.
- b. He owns diamond mines in South Africa.
- c. He is an investor and advisor and is also known for supporting environmental and human rights causes.**
- d. He wants to promote his film *Blood Diamond*.

4. What solutions does Vrai offer as an alternative to traditional diamond mining?

- a. It uses conflict-free mines and employs more miners.
- b. It produces lab-grown diamonds and uses renewable energy, recycled gold and compostable packaging.**
- c. It imports diamonds from regions with fewer environmental regulations.
- d. It sells cheaper natural diamonds.

5. Why has Diamond Foundry chosen Extremadura in Spain for its factory?

- a. Because the region has a long tradition of diamond mining.
- b. Because labour is cheaper there than in other European countries.
- c. Because the region has strong potential for solar energy and renewable power.**
- d. Because it is close to the world's largest diamond mines.

6. What does Vrai mean by being “vertically integrated”?

- a. The company sells diamonds through several different distributors.
- b. The company controls the process from growing the diamond to putting it into jewellery.**
- c. The company owns traditional diamond mines around the world.
- d. The company only works with environmental organizations.

7. Why does the article mention that a traditional diamond can pass through 15 different hands?

- a. To show how difficult diamonds are to transport.
- b. To explain why diamonds are physically difficult to produce.
- c. To highlight the complexity of the traditional supply chain and the additional costs involved.**
- d. To prove that traditional diamonds are always more expensive than lab-grown diamonds.

8. How does the article make Vrai appear as a credible and trustworthy company?

- a. By focusing mainly on its celebrity investors.
- b. By mentioning its certification, transparency, renewable energy, recycled materials and control of the supply chain.**
- c. By comparing its jewellery with other luxury brands.
- d. By avoiding information about its production process.

9. The article repeatedly uses words such as “sustainable”, “ethical”, “transparent” and “without compromise”. What is the effect of this language?

- a. It presents Vrai as a company whose main priority is sustainability and ethics.**
- b. It suggests that Vrai is against all forms of luxury.

- c. It shows that the journalist does not trust Vrai.
- d. It proves scientifically that Vrai's diamonds have no environmental impact.

10. What is the most important question a critical reader should ask after reading this article?

- a. Why are diamonds traditionally associated with love?
- b. How many diamonds can Diamond Foundry produce each year?
- c. To what extent are Vrai's claims about sustainability supported by independent evidence?**
- d. Why did Leonardo DiCaprio star in *Blood Diamond*?

5b- Get Inspired by these Recycled Diamond Jewelry Designs Jill

Newman, www.naturaldiamonds.com, April 21, 2022

distribution du texte en partie, travail d'appropriation et partage des idées afin d'avoir l'ensemble des idées

conclusion sur le futur des diamants

réfléchir aux impacts sur l'environnement

richesse // mise en danger

valeur des pierres de la couronne ?

- South Africa :
understanding apartheid : vidéo // powerpoint
- plan / réaction par rapport à répartition par race
- mise en // mine diamants
- <https://www.worlddiamondcouncil.org/from-legacy-to-liberation/>
- <https://www.adst.org/OH%20TOCs/End.of.Apartheid.lesson.plan.grades.9-12.pdf>

interview : <https://afsa.org/pioneer-bridge-builder-and-statesman-conversation-ambassador-edward-j-perkins>

1st black ambassador

diamonds https://mpa.ub.uni-muenchen.de/15575/1/MPRA_paper_15575.pdf

idée dsT ; et maintenant : <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ckg91wlken3o>

- British colonialism
- mining companies
- labor exploitation

Introduce:

- Cecil Rhodes
- De Beers
- the Koh-i-Noor Debate

4 -the future of diamonds

harry

made men diamond

environmental issues today

Petra mining issues

<https://www.cnbc.com/2026/petra-diamonds-to-cut-jobs-places-s-african-finch-mine-on-business-rescue>

2a-

South African Diamond History

The 1867 discovery of diamonds in the Cape Colony, South Africa, radically modified not only the world's supply of diamonds but also the conception of them. As annual world diamond production increased more than tenfold in the following 10 years, a once extremely rare material became accessible to Western society with its growing wealth. Today South Africa maintains its position as a major diamond producer.



The story of diamonds in South Africa begins between December 1866 and February 1867 when 15-year-old Erasmus Jacobs found a transparent rock on his father's farm, on the south bank of the Orange River. Over the next few years, South Africa yielded more diamonds than India had in over 2,000 years.

The first diamond discoveries in South Africa were alluvial. By 1869, diamonds were found far from any stream or river. First in yellow earth and below in hard rock called blue ground, later

called kimberlite, after the mining town of Kimberley.

In the 1870's and 1880's Kimberley, encompassing the mines that produced 95% of the world's diamonds, was home to great wealth and fierce rivalries, most notably that between Cecil John Rhodes and Barney Barnato, English immigrants who consolidated early 31 ft prospects into ever larger holdings and mining companies. In 1888, Rhodes prev Unlike the proverbial cat, one may expect the Premier Mine to enjoy only four lives. The first lasted from the discovery of the diamond pipe just before 1902 – and the formation of the Premier (Transvaal) Diamond Mining Company – until the outbreak of World War I when the mine was shut down and operated on a caretaker basis. By January of 1916 it was working again and production continued up to 1932 when diamond mining operations ceased due to the depressed state of the diamond industry. Working resumed in 1945, but its fourth life really began in 1979 with the opening up of the mine below the Gabbro sill, a 70-meter geologic intrusion of barren rock which cuts right through the pipe some 400 meters below the surface. Production from this new source has not only given the mine its longest life, but one that should enable production to continue for another fifteen years. In the early years of its existence, the Premier Mine produced many large diamonds, including, of course the Cullinan in 1905, and since working was restarted in 1945 the mine has continued to yield some exceptional stones.

One of the most exciting moments was early on Sunday, May 22nd, 1954, when a diamond measuring just under 51 mm long, just over 25 mm wide and 19 mm thick unexpectedly appeared on the grease tables at the recovery plant. It was immediately apparent to the officials present that this, later known as the Niarchos diamond (426.5ct), was an exceptional find.

capetowndiamondmuseum.org, 2026

2b- where a diamon found

SOUTH AFRICA AND ITS DIAMOND RESOURCES



SOURCE: Minerals Council South Africa

De Beers S.A

De Beers S.A., South African company that is the world's largest producer and distributor of diamonds. Through its many subsidiaries and brands, De Beers participates in most facets of the [diamond](#) industry, including [mining](#), trading, and retail. In the early 21st century the company marketed 40 percent of the global [supply](#) of diamonds, including those used for industrial applications. De Beers also has interests in explosives manufacturing and chemical manufacturing; in gold, coal, and copper mines; and in [synthetic diamonds](#). Headquarters are in Johannesburg,

S.Af.

Diamonds were first discovered in southern Africa in the mid-1860s on the farm of Nicolaas and Diederick de Beer, near what is now the city of Kimberley. Two diamond mines dug on the farm, the Kimberley and the De Beers, were at one time the world's most productive; they are no longer in operation.

In 1871 the English entrepreneur [Cecil Rhodes](#) bought a claim to the De Beers mine and, with this as a financial base, eventually bought up most of the diamond mines in southern Africa. In 1888 he incorporated De Beers Consolidated Mines, Ltd. To keep prices high and demand steady, Rhodes also moved to take control of world diamond distribution. By the middle of the 1890s he had formed the Diamond Syndicate, which was the forerunner of the Central Selling Organization (CSO), a more modern group of financial and marketing organizations that came to control much of the world diamond trade. It is now known as the Diamond Trading Company (DTC).

The discovery of large diamond mines near [Pretoria](#) and along the coast of [German South West Africa](#) (now Namibia) in 1902 and 1908, respectively, severely weakened De Beers's control of the diamond market. [Ernest Oppenheimer](#), who had founded the Anglo-American Corporation in 1917, moved aggressively into the diamond industry in the 1920s, gaining control of the [South West Africa](#) mines and in 1925 creating a new diamond syndicate. He bought a seat on De Beers's board in 1926 and became chairman three years later. From this position Oppenheimer strengthened the diamond marketing monopoly begun by Rhodes.

In the 1930s, during the [Great Depression](#), the worldwide demand for diamonds significantly declined, forcing De Beers to close several mines. To increase sales the company hired the advertising agency N.W. Ayer and Son, which soon succeeded in getting the American public to associate diamonds with [social status](#) and romance. The hugely successful slogan "A diamond is forever" was coined by N.W. Ayer in 1947. Later advertising campaigns successfully linked diamonds with the affluent, comfortable, and safe suburban lifestyle that many Americans aspired to in the 1950s.

Starting in the 1960s, De Beers attempted to increase consumer demand for diamonds by introducing jewelry tailored to special occasions, such as wedding anniversaries (the "eternity ring") and rites of passage (the "sweet 16 pin"). The diamond "tennis bracelet," introduced in the 1980s, capitalized on a fad that had begun after tennis star [Chris Evert](#) accidentally dropped her bracelet on the court during a tennis match. In 2001 De Beers began marketing the "right-hand ring" for single women, designed as a symbol of independence and self-sufficiency.

In 2005 De Beers Consolidated Mines announced that it would turn over more than 15 percent of the company to Ponahalo Investment Holdings, a black-owned investment group, in compliance with [South Africa's Black Economic Empowerment](#) (BEE) mining charter. In 2007 De Beers began operations in [Canada](#) at Snap Lake Mine in the Northwest Territories—the company's first mine outside Africa. The company opened the Victor Mine in [Ontario](#), Can., in 2008.

Since the late 20th century De Beers has been publicly criticized and sometimes indicted for various alleged criminal acts. During the 1990s the company came under scrutiny for dealing in [conflict \(or "blood"\) diamonds](#)—i.e., diamonds mined in areas controlled by forces opposed to the legitimate government of a country and illegally sold to fund military action against that government. In 1999 De Beers stopped purchasing diamonds from producers outside the CSO to ensure that it no longer traded in conflict diamonds.

In 2004 De Beers entered an agreement with the [U.S. Department of Justice](#) in which it pleaded guilty to price fixing and agreed to pay a \$10 million fine. Four years later the company paid \$295 million to settle several class-action lawsuits charging it with misleading advertising, [human rights](#) violations, conspiracy to fix and raise diamond prices, and unlawfully monopolizing the

supply of diamonds.

This article was most recently revised and updated by [Jeannette L. Nolen](#). Britannica.org

What is the history of Petra Diamonds Ltd.?

Petra Diamonds Ltd. has established itself as a key player in the global diamond sector. Founded in 1997, the company's trajectory has been marked by strategic acquisitions and a focus on high-quality mining assets.

The company's history is punctuated by significant milestones, including the acquisition of the Cullinan Mine in 2008, a site famous for yielding some of the world's most significant diamonds. This strategic move underscored the company's ambition to secure and develop premier diamond-producing operations.

Founded by Adonis Pouroulis, Petra Diamonds began its journey as a junior explorer with a vision to bring natural resources into production across Africa. Initially listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) in 1997, the company has since grown substantially. By FY 2024, Petra Diamonds reported revenues of US\$367 million and produced 2.7 million carats, solidifying its position as a major independent diamond mining group. This growth reflects a deliberate strategy of acquiring and optimizing long-life, high-value assets, contributing to its status as a leading supplier of gem-quality rough diamonds. For a deeper understanding of the external factors influencing its operations, consider a Petra Diamonds Ltd. PESTEL Analysis.

What is the Petra Diamonds Ltd. Founding Story?

The founding story of Petra Diamonds Ltd. begins in 1997, established by mining entrepreneur Adonis Pouroulis. Pouroulis, with a background in discovering and developing natural resources across Africa, aimed to bring these assets into production. The company's debut on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) later that year marked a significant moment, being the first diamond company to do so.

The Founding of Petra Diamonds Ltd.

Petra Diamonds Ltd. was established in 1997 by Adonis Pouroulis, a mining entrepreneur with extensive experience in African resource exploration. The company's primary objective was to develop and bring into production various natural resource assets, particularly diamonds.

- Founded in 1997 by Adonis Pouroulis.
- Focus on bringing African natural resource assets into production.
- First diamond company to list on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) in 1997.
- Headquartered in Jersey with a corporate office in London, United Kingdom.

Adonis Pouroulis's vision for Petra Diamonds was deeply rooted in his experience with natural resource discovery and exploration across the African continent. His expertise spanned diamonds, precious and base metals, coal, and oil and gas, with a clear strategy to transition these discovered assets into operational production. This foundational approach set the stage for the company's future growth and strategic direction within the global diamond industry. The company's listing on AIM in 1997 was a pivotal event, positioning it as a publicly traded entity from its early stages and providing a platform for capital raising to fuel its expansion plans. This early public offering underscored an initial intent to leverage capital markets for the development of its diamond mining interests, contributing to the Revenue Streams & Business Model of Petra Diamonds Ltd.

Trans Hex Group

Trans Hex Group was established in 1965 by a number of entrepreneurial investors who wanted to explore a diamond-mining concession in the Namaqualand region of the Northern Cape. The Company was subsequently appointed as a contractor to the then Small Business Development Corporation of South Africa to prospect for diamonds on the State-owned Komaggas farm, which it went on to mine profitably for more than 20 years.

In the ensuing decades, Trans Hex's assets and expertise grew rapidly through the acquisition of numerous diamond-mining companies in Southern Africa and further afield.

The Company was listed on the JSE Limited in 1981 and was delisted in December 2019.

In 2010, the Company acquired a 33% stake in the Luana project (Somilwana Mine) in Angola.

In 2022, the Company acquired 100% of International Mining and Dredging Holdings and rebranded it Trans Hex Marine.

Trans Hex has been engaged in the exploration, mining and marketing of diamonds for more than 50 years.

Company Profile.

Mining operations are presently focused in South Africa and Angola. The Company is renowned for consistently producing the highest quality diamonds available in the South African market. Rough production is sold into the open market, to the South African State Diamond Trader and to Sodiam, the Angolan state-run marketing company.

Trans Hex seeks to identify and acquire diamond assets, either as a full or partial shareholder. The Company's business model is to locate, mine and process diamond deposits and to sell diamonds at an acceptable margin, in the process bringing its considerable in-house expertise to bear.

The Group is actively evaluating potential new diamond properties and pursuing opportunities to expand its diamond-marketing activities.

Vision, Mission & Values

Vision

We aspire to enhance our position as a world-class player in the exploration, mining and marketing of diamonds of the highest quality

Mission

- Attract investors by maintaining a track record of positive growth and acceptable returns
- Grow our diamond reserves to more than 20 years through aggressive exploration and the pursuit of new business opportunities
- Upgrade productivity through ongoing research and development and the continual implementation of new technologies
- Manage all activities professionally and to the highest possible standards
- Enhance the quality of life in those communities in which we operate
- Play an active role in the personal growth of each employee so as to attract and retain only the best

- Empower those who work for us with the knowledge and resources to act responsibly in accordance with the shared values of all stakeholders
- Foster close relationships with regulators and all levels of government and statutory bodies, for the benefit of all stakeholders

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Values

- Honesty and integrity
- Teamwork
- Respect
- Humanity
- Communication
- Trust
- High performance

<https://transhex.co.za/>

Ekapa Mining

We innovate.

We provide.

We care.

This is our Ekapa way of life.

Who We Are

With the motto "Proud to Provide", the leadership team has a passion to care for our employees, our company and the communities in which we operate.

We Innovate.

Situated in the diamond-rich heart of South Africa, we are a diamond mining company that is building a sustainable future – for our people, for our communities, for our environment. We use cutting-edge technology at operations in Kimberley, Northern Cape, to execute a comprehensive rehabilitation programme. We mine the tailings dumps that resulted from previous mining activities, carefully backfilling the old mine pits, thus rehabilitating the environmental damage caused to the pits and the areas surrounding them over the past 140 years of mining in Kimberley. We mine some of the finest quality Kimberley SA diamonds that have the unique characteristic of being sustainably environmentally friendly.

We Provide.

Our people are our African heartbeat. Therefore we provide a journey of lifelong personal development and growth so that each employee can live to their full potential. We provide a work environment where our employees are safe and healthy. So that our employees can prosper and provide for their families.

We Care.

We believe in giving back. We believe in investing in the communities where we operate to improve the quality of life through our Corporate Social Investment programmes. We believe in caring for our environment and leading environmental initiatives to leave a legacy for generations to come.

Pioneer, Bridge Builder and Statesman—A Conversation with Ambassador Edward J. Perkins

Edward J. Perkins was born in Sterlington, Louisiana, on June 8, 1928, and grew up in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and Portland, Oregon. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and master's and Doctor of Public Administration degrees from the University of Southern California.

He served in the U.S. Army for three years and later spent four years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He worked for the State Department after the Marine Corps and joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1972.



Foreign Service Journal: President Ronald Reagan tapped you as the first Black U.S. ambassador to apartheid South Africa in 1986. What was your mission there, and how did you manage it?

EJP: When President Reagan interviewed me for the job, he asked me what I would want to accomplish in South Africa, and I told him that I would try to change the system using the power of his office. He asked me how I would do it. I told him that I would get to know the Black South Africans, as well as other South Africans. I told him that we didn't know Black South Africans well, that they were suspicious of the United States, and we needed to gain their trust. I added that we needed to work toward a peaceful transition in South Africa, and we needed to convince the Afrikaner government that their time was up. Finally, I told him that I would expect to speak on his authority, and that everything I would say would be on his behalf.

It was difficult and challenging because the Afrikaners were a small group of people who had come from Flanders to South Africa to start a new life; they felt people were trying to take away the lives they had built over hundreds of years. I told President Reagan that the denial of rights to the other racial groups in South Africa was untenable and could not continue, but that it would be my job to understand all the actors in the country, by meeting them.

FSJ: I read that when you found a totally segregated society in South Africa, you said: "Our embassy must be a giant change agent." Can you tell us about the significance of attending the Delmas Treason Trial and about your attempts to visit Nelson Mandela in jail?

EJP: The Delmas Treason Trial was the trial of 22 anti-apartheid activists, including three senior United Democratic Front leaders: Moses Chikane, Mosiuoa Lekota and Popo Molefe. The men used peaceful protest to let the country know that apartheid was wrong; the Afrikaner government accused them of terrorism and wanted to use their trial and resulting sentences as a lesson to others. The trial took place in the small village of Delmas, in northwest South Africa. I decided to attend

but did not make my decision public.

At the last minute, the political officer and I got in the car and told the driver to take us to Delmas. The driver, who we knew was a government operative, tried to stall by telling me that he needed to change the oil. I told him to stay in the car, that he would not get the opportunity to tell the government of our movements. He was frightened but drove us to Delmas. When I walked into the courtroom, everyone went silent; by the time the court recessed, the three senior UDF members had made the decision to meet with me and had already outlined their requests related to their prison conditions on paper. For example, they wanted all of the Time magazines going back six months plus issues of The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. Delmas became well known throughout the world.

I let it be known to the government that I was trying to get inside the prison to meet Nelson Mandela. I sent letters to the Minister of Justice after attending the Delmas Treason Trial. I also called on him to ask permission to visit his most famous prisoner, and his response was always “it isn’t time.” I always replied: “Your time will never equal my time, so I will save my request till next week.” Every week I sent a letter, and he sent the same response. During my last week as ambassador, I told him to talk to his president to give the U.S. permission to visit, noting that the minister did not want to be known as the person who barred me. He never vocalized the reasons for the decision, but his expression told me that it was out of his hands.

FSJ: Do you think that U.S. embassies and diplomats can still be change agents in the world? What advice do you have for today’s FSOs?

EJP: Yes, I do believe that U.S. embassies and diplomats can still be change agents. When serving overseas, diplomats should strive to get access to all parts of host-country communities to make a difference. This means representing the United States at its best. American diplomats should also be a reflection of the various communities that we come from and make the effort to represent the best parts of our society. I would advise them to do what I did—learn to represent not just the State Department, but the heart and soul of the United States. To do this, you need to understand the Constitution and the various constituencies of our country.

FSJ: A 1987 Time magazine article, “Quiet Sting: A Diplomat Makes His Mark,” described you as “cultivating a low profile, then discarding it at strategic intervals to issue carefully chosen shots.” That sounds like an excellent strategy. Can you tell us about a time it worked well?

EJP: As part of my strategy in South Africa, I needed to get to know Afrikaners and visit the communities where they lived. I traveled to a couple of towns, but the one that affected me most was an Afrikaner village three miles from Pretoria whose population ranged from the very poor to the well off. We parked the car on the outskirts of town, and I walked up and down the streets and observed people of various ages; they also looked at me carefully, wondering what I was doing there. Finally, someone came up and asked who I was; they couldn’t believe I was the U.S. ambassador. I talked to three Afrikaner women; it was my way of letting them know that I represented the United States in South Africa, and I was not going to become a myth by keeping myself apart from the people.

The Foreign Service Journal, Dec 2020, <https://afsa.org/>

I am ready to die

South Africa is the richest country in Africa, and could be one of the richest countries in the world. But it is a land of extremes and remarkable contrasts. The whites enjoy what may well be the highest standard of living in the world, whilst Africans live in poverty and misery. Forty per cent of the Africans live in hopelessly overcrowded and, in some cases, drought-stricken Reserves, where soil erosion and the overworking of the soil makes it impossible for them to live properly off the land. Thirty per cent are laborers, labor tenants, and squatters on white farms and work and live under conditions similar to those of the serfs of the Middle Ages. The other 30 per cent live in towns where they have developed economic and social habits which bring them closer in many respects to white standards. Yet most Africans, even in this group, are impoverished by low incomes and high cost of living.

The complaint of Africans, however, is not only that they are poor and the whites are rich, but that the laws which are made by the whites are designed to preserve this situation. There are two ways to break out of poverty. The first is by formal education, and the second is by the worker acquiring a greater skill at his work and thus higher wages. As far as Africans are concerned, both these avenues of advancement are deliberately curtailed by legislation.

The present Government has always sought to hamper Africans in their search for education. One of their early acts, after coming into power, was to stop subsidies for African school feeding. Many African children who attended schools depended on this supplement to their diet. This was a cruel act.

The other main obstacle to the economic advancement of the African is the industrial color-bar under which all the better jobs of industry are reserved for Whites only. The discrimination in the policy of successive South African Governments towards African workers is demonstrated by the so-called 'civilized labor policy' under which sheltered, unskilled Government jobs are found for those white workers who cannot make the grade in industry, at wages which far exceed the earnings of the average African employee in industry.

The Government often answers its critics by saying that Africans in South Africa are economically better off than the inhabitants of the other countries in Africa. I do not know whether this statement is true and doubt whether any comparison can be made without having regard to the cost-of-living index in such countries. But even if it is true, as far as the African people are concerned it is irrelevant. Our complaint is not that we are poor by comparison with people in other countries, but that we are poor by comparison with the white people in our own country, and that we are prevented by legislation from altering this imbalance.

The lack of human dignity experienced by Africans is the direct result of the policy of white supremacy. White supremacy implies black inferiority. Legislation designed to preserve white supremacy entrenches this notion. Menial tasks in South Africa are invariably performed by Africans. When anything has to be carried or cleaned the white man will look around for an African to do it for him, whether the African is employed by him or not. Because of this sort of attitude, whites tend to regard Africans as a separate breed..

Africans want to be paid a living wage. Africans want to perform work which they are capable of doing, and not work which the Government declares them to be capable of. Africans want to be part of the general population, and not confined to living in their own ghettos. African men want to have their wives and children to live with them where they work, and not be forced into an unnatural existence in men's hostels. Africans want a just share in the whole of South Africa; they want security and a stake in society.

Above all, we want equal political rights, because without them our disabilities will be permanent. I know this sounds revolutionary to the whites in this country, because the majority of voters will be Africans. This makes the white man fear democracy.

Anne Charlotte Legrand, Lycée Alain – Académie de Versailles

This then is what the ANC is fighting. Their struggle is a truly national one. It is a struggle of the African people, inspired by their own suffering and their own experience. It is a struggle for the right to live.

During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.

Abridged from Nelson Mandela's statement from the dock at the opening of his defense in the 1964 trial.

Prince Harry banned 'blood diamonds' in Meghan Markle's engagement ring

PRINCE Harry was insistent that a “blood diamond” should not adorn Meghan Markle’s engagement ring. He chose the band’s “centre diamond” from Botswana, with two surrounding diamonds from Princess Diana’s personal jewellery collection. Blood diamonds are gems mined in a war zone or used to finance conflicts

A royal source said the Prince had demanded that the jewel from Botswana was ethically-sourced as his bride-to-be is involved with UN humanitarian work.

“Harry was very involved with the design of the ring,” the source said. “One of his questions during its making was about the origin of the centre stone. He did not want it to be from a country with a history of so-called blood diamonds – this was one of his direct stipulations about the ring. “Meghan is deeply involved in humanitarian causes around the world and he wanted to make sure it was all ethically produced.”

The controversial trade was highlighted by the 2006 film *Blood Diamond* starring Leonardo DiCaprio set in war-torn Sierra Leone.

Countries including Botswana have signed up to a UN agreement to guard against “conflict diamonds” entering the jewellery supply chain.

Botswana has a good history in terms of diamond production, with profits from the industry often reinvested in the country’s infrastructure, schools and hospitals.

Gillian Crawley, *express.co.uk*, Wed, Dec 27, 2017

All You Need To Know About Ethical Diamond Mining

In 2006 a film called, *Blood Diamond*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, took the entire world by storm. Not only did the movie bring unethical diamond mining to everyone’s attention, but it gave a very powerful message regarding conflict diamonds. With that in mind, Southern African diamond-producing regions made sure to put a system in place to prevent unethical diamonds from reaching the consumer. But what exactly does the system entail?

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme

In 2000 the United Nations General Assembly supported the idea to put an international certification scheme in place when you purchase a rough diamond from the mines. The certificate scheme was designed to make sure that a manufacturer purchases a diamond from legitimate

diamond mines committed to ethical diamond mining and upholding the rights of miners.

In 2002 multiple organisations in the international diamond industry, civil society organisations and even the government got involved in putting together the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). These documents ensured that mines follow a procedure to control the trade and production of rough diamonds.

What is the Kimberley Process?

In order for you to mine or sell a rough diamond, you need to follow the extensive requirements from the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme before it enters the trade. This process was put in place to ensure that no conflict diamonds or spurious diamonds make their way to the consumer. Before any country can trade with rough diamonds they need to follow the strict rules and regulations set out by the Kimberley Process.

The minimum requirements are to ensure that mining facilities have control over exports, imports and internal processes while being able to prove statistical data and methods of sourcing. In order to continue to follow the legal procedure participants are only allowed to trade with other institutions, who follow the minimum requirements of the Kimberley Process.

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can also give a record of over 99.8% rough diamonds worldwide, assisting consumers to not support unethical diamond mining.

What Exactly are Conflict Diamonds?

Conflict diamonds, also known as blood diamonds, are used to financially support the devastating war in Africa and fund armed conflicts. The profits they received from rough diamonds were used by rebels and warlords to purchase weapons during a civil war. But with the Kimberley Process in place, the flow of conflict diamonds has declined dramatically. While all efforts are made to ensure that the trade in conflict diamonds ends, it's still up to the consumer to make sure that they're purchasing diamonds from a manufacturer who follows the correct procedures of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme.

How can you make sure your diamond is conflict-free?

When buying a loose diamond or a diamond set in a beautiful jewellery creation, make sure you purchase from a reputable jeweller who is able to answer a few simple questions on the matter. Before you purchase a diamond make sure you ask the following questions:

- Can you confirm that the diamond is conflict-free? Reputable diamond jewellers will state on their invoices that the diamonds contained in the jewellery item abide by the Kimberley Process.
- Do you know if your diamond supplier is part of the Kimberley Process?
- Would you be able to provide me with your company's policy towards conflict diamonds or an Ethical Compliance Certificate confirming that the diamonds were sourced from diamond mines that abide by ethical human rights policies as set out by the United Nations?

If the jewellery store is unable to answer these questions rather do your own research before buying a diamond. But, with the strict regulations of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme most suppliers would be able to confirm in writing that their diamonds are conflict-free.

In conclusion, it's just as important for the consumer to make sure that they buy a conflict-free diamond as it is for a retail jeweller and manufacturer to follow the Kimberley Process regulations. Luckily, with the implementation and willing adoption of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme by participating countries, the amount of conflict diamonds in the market has reduced substantially. Today, consumers can purchase a beautiful diamond with the knowledge that it's, in fact, conflict-free.

Hollywood film threatens to take the shine off Africa's gem trade

The diamond industry has begun a campaign to safeguard its lucrative Christmas trade from what it fears will be a blitz of negative publicity resulting from a forthcoming Hollywood film about the trade in African "conflict diamonds".

De Beers, the world's biggest diamond company, plans to spend £8m on publicity this autumn, in advance of the release in December of *Blood Diamond*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, which threatens to make diamonds as unfashionable as fur.

In the film DiCaprio plays a South African mercenary who goes on a quest in pursuit of a rare pink diamond through rebel-held territory in Sierra Leone, a west African country whose civil war was fuelled by diamond smuggling, and resulted in 75,000 deaths

In real life, DiCaprio has become the poster boy for those who believe the diamond industry is wrecking lives.

The film has inspired a band of Kalahari Bushmen to advertise in the Hollywood magazine *Variety*, attacking the diamond business. The Bushmen, who claim they have been expelled from ancestral land in Botswana to make way for diamond mining, appealed for DiCaprio's support.

In an open letter to the star, they said: "After diamonds were found on our land we were evicted ... Those diamonds are a curse for us. We hope you will use your film to let people know that we too are victims of diamonds and we just want to go home."

In turn, Hollywood has been accused of trivialising the truth about African diamonds by some in the gemstone trade. Eli Izhakoff, chairman of industry body the World Diamond Council, said: "This movie, drawing attention to this subject, is something that happened years ago, something that was remedied."

The industry has set up a website aimed at countering a backlash from the film. Diamondfacts.org tells of the benefits the industry has brought to its workers and enlists the unimpeachable sainthood of Nelson Mandela, who describes the diamond industry as "vital" to southern Africa's economy. In Botswana, 25% of jobs are directly or indirectly linked to diamonds, while in Namibia the diamond trade is the second biggest employer after the government, the industry says.

The Bushmen are not the only African voices drawn into the debate. Patrick Mazimhaka, a Rwandan diplomat who is now deputy chairman of the African Union, wrote in a US newspaper recently that blaming diamonds for fuelling conflict "misses the fact that plenty of good can be accomplished with earnings from natural resources. With the right ingredients ... good governance and careful leadership ... commodities have been a tremendous force for continental good."

The industry claims conflict diamonds now make up less than 1% of those sold, compared with 4% in the late 1990s, the period in which the film is set. Conflict diamonds have been virtually eliminated by the Kimberley Process, a scheme which requires governments to track rough diamonds from mines to the polished stage, the industry says.

"This system that we've put together is not perfect, but we are making every effort to make it so," Mr Izhakoff told the *Guardian*. "We don't want one stone out there that's a conflict stone."

But not everyone agrees the problem has been solved. Jewellers in London's Hatton Garden diamond district said they had been approached directly by smugglers offering west African

diamonds. Malcolm Park-Carpenter, manager of Channings jewellers, said: "The only thing we can do is make sure they're non-conflict through our sources. We don't buy from Angola or anywhere that it can be turned into arms.

There is a fear that controversy around the film will provoke a backlash against all African diamonds, an outcome both the industry and the campaigners want to avoid. "It would be terrible if the film led to Sierra Leone being seen as a pariah," said Ms Sanders of Global Witness. "Quite a few African countries with artisanal mining have weak control systems. What we really hope doesn't happen is that people say 'I'm not going to buy African diamonds'. What we want to do is protect the legitimate trade from Africa."

Jeevan Vasagar, The Guardian, Wed 20 Sep 2006

Leonardo DiCaprio's Carbon-Neutral Lab-Grown Diamond Brand Opens Flagship LA Store

Vrai, the sustainable, conflict-free lab-grown diamond company backed by Academy Award-winning actor and environmentalist Leonardo DiCaprio, has its first U.S. Location. The Diamond Foundry-owned brand opened its flagship store on the iconic Melrose Place in the West Hollywood neighborhood of Los Angeles.

The shop is designed to feel like an art gallery, according to Vrai's chief executive officer Mona Akhavi.

"It's for customers to take it all in, understand the meaning, origins, how it's made," Akhavi said. "I want this to be a place where people can learn about the brand, learn about our diamonds, our certification. We're the first producer to be certified neutral, and how and why that matters."

DiCaprio became an investor in the company and serves as an advisor after starring in the 2006 Edward Zwick thriller, *Blood Diamond*. The film takes place in diamond-rich Sierra Leone where child labor and human trafficking are common byproducts of the environmentally destructive industry.

DiCaprio has been an outspoken advocate for environmental, human, and animal rights issues. A growing number of diamond sellers are moving toward lab-grown diamonds and working with suppliers in conflict-free regions in order to guarantee ethical mining practices.

Vrai only sells the lab-made diamonds from its parent company. It also uses recycled gold and compostable packaging.

The name VRAI means 'true' in French, and we believe in true sustainability and transparency on where our diamonds and metals come from, and with our entire supply chain process," Akhavi told Barron's last month.

"We are breaking boundaries in sustainable luxury and impacting the standards in the jewelry industry by providing an option without compromise for consumers," Akhavi says.

"Within tradition jewelry, the diamond can exchange 15 hands, from the miner to the distributor, to the buyer, to the wholesaler until it gets to the designer," Akhavi said. "And unfortunately, every time it's marked up. And that markup is not going to go back to the community or environment it came from. It's actually passed on to the consumer."

Diamond Foundry is located in the Extremadura province of Cáceres in Spain, a region chosen for its solar power potential. "The availability of solar energy is very high in Extremadura and we want our smelting to be powered by renewable energies," Roscheisen told El Pais.

The company says the lab diamonds are made with no conflicts funded, no land displaced, no wildlife displaced, no animals harmed, no ground water polluted, and no local communities

displaced.

“This is the first time that this quality of diamond is produced at mining scale,” Martin Roscheisen, chief executive, told the Financial Times last spring.

The new factory is part of the company’s efforts to ramp up production—it’s aiming to produce five million carats a year before the end of 2022—by comparison, diamond giant De Beers produces about four times that. Diamond Foundry has doubled its production every year since 2016.

“Innovating and iterating quickly is what enables us to push boundaries in sustainable luxury and impact the standards in the jewellery industry,” Akhavi told Harper’s last month. “We are vertically integrated which means from the moment the diamond starts growing in our zero emission foundry to when it is set in a piece of jewellery and in the hands of a consumer, we control the entire process. This allows us to operate like an agile tech company and respond to changes in the market.”

The brand has also partnered with British sustainable fashion brand BOTTLETOP on a bracelet made with a cord that’s made from Parley for the Ocean Plastic. It recycles plastic from marine environments 10% of sales from the bracelet go toward two UN sustainability goals: Good Health and Wellbeing and Life Below Water.

Jill Ettinger, the-ethos.co September 10, 2021

Leonardo DiCaprio’s Carbon-Neutral Lab-Grown Diamond Brand Opens Flagship LA Store

Choose the best answer to the following questions and justify your choice.

1. What is the main purpose of the article?

- a. To explain how natural diamonds are formed.
- b. To present Vrai and its lab-grown diamonds as a more sustainable alternative to traditional diamonds.
- c. To tell the story of Leonardo DiCaprio's acting career.
- d. To promote tourism and luxury shopping in Los Angeles.

2. What problems associated with traditional diamond mining are mentioned in the article?

- a. High prices, poor-quality diamonds and low consumer demand.
- b. Environmental damage, child labour, human trafficking and the displacement of communities.
- c. A lack of technology and renewable energy.
- d. Competition from the fashion industry.

3. Why is Leonardo DiCaprio involved with Vrai?

- a. He created the company and designs its jewellery.
- b. He owns diamond mines in South Africa.
- c. He is an investor and advisor and is also known for supporting environmental and human rights causes.
- d. He wants to promote his film *Blood Diamond*.

4. What solutions does Vrai offer as an alternative to traditional diamond mining?

- a. It uses conflict-free mines and employs more miners.
- b. It produces lab-grown diamonds and uses renewable energy, recycled gold and compostable packaging.
- c. It imports diamonds from regions with fewer environmental regulations.
- d. It sells cheaper natural diamonds.

5. Why has Diamond Foundry chosen Extremadura in Spain for its factory?

- a. Because the region has a long tradition of diamond mining.
- b. Because labour is cheaper there than in other European countries.
- c. Because the region has strong potential for solar energy and renewable power.

d. Because it is close to the world's largest diamond mines.

6. What does Vrai mean by being “vertically integrated”?

- a. The company sells diamonds through several different distributors.
- b. The company controls the process from growing the diamond to putting it into jewellery.
- c. The company owns traditional diamond mines around the world.
- d. The company only works with environmental organizations.

7. Why does the article mention that a traditional diamond can pass through 15 different hands?

- a. To show how difficult diamonds are to transport.
- b. To explain why diamonds are physically difficult to produce.
- c. To highlight the complexity of the traditional supply chain and the additional costs involved.
- d. To prove that traditional diamonds are always more expensive than lab-grown diamonds.

8. How does the article make Vrai appear as a credible and trustworthy company?

- a. By focusing mainly on its celebrity investors.
- b. By mentioning its certification, transparency, renewable energy, recycled materials and control of the supply chain.
- c. By comparing its jewellery with other luxury brands.
- d. By avoiding information about its production process.

9. The article repeatedly uses words such as “sustainable”, “ethical”, “transparent” and “without compromise”. What is the effect of this language?

- a. It presents Vrai as a company whose main priority is sustainability and ethics.
- b. It suggests that Vrai is against all forms of luxury.
- c. It shows that the journalist does not trust Vrai.
- d. It proves scientifically that Vrai's diamonds have no environmental impact.

10. What is the most important question a critical reader should ask after reading this article?

- a. Why are diamonds traditionally associated with love?
- b. How many diamonds can Diamond Foundry produce each year?
- c. To what extent are Vrai's claims about sustainability supported by independent evidence?
- d. Why did Leonardo DiCaprio star in *Blood Diamond*?

The media has played a big role in the movement against Blood Diamonds

The movie *Blood Diamond*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, hit theatres in 2006, stimulating a global reaction.

The movie is set during the Sierra Leone civil war in the 1990's. It stars two men, a white South African (Leonardo DiCaprio) and a black fisherman (Djimon Hounsou) who join together in a quest to recover a diamond that has the power to transform their lives. The movie shows the dirty work that went on to mine diamonds in the midst of a civil war.

The movie was released in December of 2006. The World Diamond Council were concerned that the movie would negatively impact diamond sales. Therefore they spent \$15 million on a public relations and educational campaign, which began a few months before the movie's release.

Leonardo DiCaprio has publicly said:

“The message of the film is not that one ought not to buy diamonds; it's about our approving of the business strategy and methods of a given particular company every time we draw a check.”



Recently, Beyoncé was publicly criticized for wearing a Blood Diamond. Beyoncé, along with her husband Jay Z, are the new faces of Tiffany and Co. In August of 2021, Beyoncé posted an advertisement for Tiffany and Co. showing off a heavy diamond around her neck. The estimated price of the diamond is \$30 million.

Beyoncé claims she didn't know it was a Blood Diamond. She is the fourth woman, and first Black woman, to wear the Blood Diamond necklace, along with Lady Gaga and Audrey Hepburn, who wore the stone in publicity photos for her 1961 movie, "Breakfast at Tiffany's."

Angelina Ravelli, *bcitnews.com*, November 23rd 2021

Get Inspired by these Recycled Diamond Jewelry Designs

Top designers share why they use recycled natural diamonds in their jewelry.

In the hands of the creative designers, old and reused diamonds are being transformed into stylish new jewelry and engagement rings for the next generation, the generation that calls for eco-friendly, ethically sourced natural diamonds.

Reimagining old diamonds in contemporary jewelry isn't a new trend. Jewelers like Jessica McCormack and Single Stone have been doing it for years because they prefer the charisma of old-cut diamonds over modern stones. Just ask Russell Zelenetz of Stephen Russell, the Madison Avenue jeweler which offers a curated mix of vintage and contemporary designs. "Old diamonds have a character and charm that can't be reproduced," he explains. "They were cut by hand over a century ago, and each cutter had their own style, like a painter. So, each stone is like a work of art."

Recycled Diamonds are Sustainable

Aside from the romance of old diamonds, we are in the age of the circular economy, where people want to recycle, reuse, and reimagine everything from designer handbags to furniture. It's motivated more jewelers to start sourcing old diamonds and secondhand or used modern diamonds.

That is also what inspired Thelma West, the Lagos-born London-based jewelry designer, to focus on recycled diamonds. When creating a bespoke ring or jewelry design, West says her first choice is a recycled diamond, and when that's not available in the size and shape she wants, she purchases an ethically sourced diamond from a certified, responsible mine.

The demand for recycled stones is relatively new, says West. Twenty years ago, when she began her career in the diamond trade in Antwerp, she said nobody wanted a recycled diamond. "They only wanted newly mined diamonds because they didn't want a stone with a past," she says. Now, the spin has changed.

"The diamond industry is more transparent, and it has pushed people to demand more, and they want more options," says West. "But they still want natural diamonds."

For the Love of Old Diamonds

Beyond the feel-good factor of recycled diamonds, designers simply fall in love with the beauty of old diamonds. "We love old diamonds for their uniqueness," says Corina Madilian, who established Single Stone, the Los Angeles-based jeweler that has specializes in vintage diamonds. "We love the fact that no two stones are alike, much like the clients that wear our jewelry."

"It is also of great importance to us that we're giving these precious stones a new life," explains Madilian. "Using vintage stones is not only responsible, but also preserving a bit of history."

Dana Bronfman was drawn to the idea of recycled diamonds, but she also quickly became captivated with the beauty of old diamonds, and now she's chasing them down for her new pieces.

"I became hooked on the sentimentality of the stories and histories behind these cuts and stones in particular, and the forever-lasting heritage quality of these diamonds and jewelry in general is so beautiful to me."

The Hunt for Old Diamonds

Now that more people want old diamonds, it's increasingly hard to find them, says Zelenetz. He points out that some older jewels are simply too beautiful to take apart for the diamond. He relies on his network of dealers, clients, and estate sales to uncover vintage diamonds. But adds that prices have risen over the past several years. That's also motivating designers to look at reusing contemporary diamonds in new settings.

Vintage Diamonds Imbue a Sense of Style

Just because a diamond is vintage doesn't mean the design is old-fashioned. Styles range from modern minimalist to bold, and sometimes with a vintage flair. Madilian says the soft, romantic faceting of vintage stones provide a subtle beauty to even bold designs. Her favorite cuts are elongated cushion cuts from the late 1800s and old European cuts.

The best part of recycled diamonds is that if your style changes, it's easy to recast your stone in a new design. That's the life of a diamond, it never ends

Jill Newman, www.naturaldiamonds.com, April 21, 2022

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A responsible choice

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Beauty, uniqueness and craftsmanship

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Stories, memories and heritage

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