

## Southside

David Dallas

278, you already know  
It ain't really much to look at but it's home  
Used to bus from the old bar which was to go  
Into town rolling through Otahuhu depot  
Thinking how we ended up here  
Yeah no secret there's some people doing tough here  
Could be rough here, if your parents come here from an island  
In the hope of a better life for the child and an education  
But they ain't got time to keep an eye on 'em  
They workin' every day, they won't even see retirement  
School don't teach you to deal with this environment  
Another poly kid left to his own devices  
And you look at what they reinforce  
When they talk about us doing crime, playing sports  
Standing in the dole line, or in the court  
Think it don't affect us all?

Look at boys from the Southside  
If you looking from the outside  
Some scared to death when they see us  
Cos every 10/7 they featurin'  
Boys from the Southside  
But we represent it with pride  
When you feel you come from the bottom  
Til you reach the top, ain't no stopping 'em  
Boys from the Southside

It's about time, all the people talking shit now  
Figure out why, this town is so influential  
The real melting pot, immigration central  
Culture, our knives be so instrumental  
But still we never acting like we too damn special  
Don't ever let nobody say we all just criminals  
Round here it ain't all that simple

Raised there, struggle city a place where  
A population, whorey five slash amazing  
Most of 'em work 9 to 5 to pay rent  
Go to church and sing songs and pray for better days  
Better pay and a better location  
The kids choose sport over education  
And dream that one day the All Blacks take them  
Somewhere, exposed to the drugs and the gang life  
Think it's cool to get involved, end up in the can right  
Got a lot of teens pushing prams before they see life  
Cos their parents did the same thing so it seems right  
Seem right to say the same, a product of pride over law so  
When they got my back like the tat on my torso  
That's why I give back, ask where my awards go

To the schools in the Southside  
If you're looking for me outside  
Some scared of death when they see us  
Then they talk shit when they leave  
Like the boys from the Southside  
Are good for nothing so fuck 'em  
Give 'em no chance just cuff 'em

If it was up to the cops and the judges  
The boys from the Southside

Would be outlined  
Shot on sight  
Here we got crime in the area  
If you got shine then it's any up  
Only cos we broke tryna get our accounts right  
What's going in our minds, six words  
How we gonna get by  
I don't know exactly  
But we ain't gonna wait in the dole line

Yeah 267 landed a aeroplane  
Back when my parents came  
From the islands  
With a Bible and a pair of J's (yeah Jandals)  
Trying to set a better way to get our educa-  
Tions that we found street smarts and a free pass to the green pastures  
Around these parts we were blessed with the big heart  
That can see past all the eat asses  
Aw, what you thought I was gonna talk  
All about walking with gangs where the drugs be  
How about I touch on how  
David Lange ran the country, right where the thugs be  
John Walker might run at the tops, long distance  
Scott Dixon on the track now  
Rather a hand up than a hand down  
All my people stand down

When I'm back out the Southside  
Black white with the brown pride  
Even yellows part of the picture  
The boy all ups a perfect mixture  
Here up out the southside  
Everywhere this shit til the death  
Walk with my head held high to the sky  
My T-shirt say Southside til I die  
The boy from the Southside

The bodies outlined with an aura  
You can see it so clearly  
I mean it looks like a [?] dairy  
Or a Scorpions home crowd cheering  
Or a Otahuhu mums eyes tearing  
Not when the sons graduated from OC  
26 to the 27 to the 29 of the 09 that's where the home be