Answer my plagiarism charges, Mr Roberts

NOWHERE in his raucous response (" 'Most-misquoted man' misquotes me", December 2) to my letter does Ronald Suresh Roberts dispute my central charge that in his book *Fit to Govern* he plagiarised from Thabo Mbeki, too.

Roberts claims I misquoted him. In fact, I quoted him precisely; some quotation marks were changed in the letters editing room.

My original letter can be read at www.lyingandthieving.com.

Indeed, I spent a week carefully editing and proofreading *No Cold Kitchen*.

But it's true I wasn't thanked in the published credits. Now Roberts denies my help, just as he denies we were ever friends!

Although Susan Sontag explored the racist assumptions underlying Western thinking about the origin of Aids, she never conceived of Aids in Africa as a neocolonial ideological construct per se (and there's nothing in *No Cold Kitchen* about this).

This is because, like Roberts, Sontag never doubted the scientific integrity of HIV/Aids as a medical model.

It's idle of Roberts to persistently recycle a claim I never made in a clumsy newspaper report, which I corrected immediately, to avoid the detailed charges of plagiarism, fabrication and historical falsification I make in my book, *Lying and Thieving: The fraudulent scholarship of Ronald Suresh Roberts*.

I've never accused The Weekender of misquoting me. And I'm not backtracking.

Seventeen clear-cut instances of plagiarism have been found in an independent audit posted on Moneyweb on 23 November 2007: "A plagiarist defrocked? How Ronald Suresh Roberts plundered Anthony Brink's research".

Would Roberts now kindly answer my charges? — **Anthony Brink, Cape Town**