

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 19 AUGUST 2015

RE: HUSBAND SENTENCED FOR RAPING HIS WIFE

A 42 year-old man from Bergman Square in Bloemfontein was yesterday sentenced to seven years in prison after he was found guilty of raping his wife by the Bloemfontein Regional Court.

Magistrate Levit Mkansi sentenced the husband, who cannot be named to protect the identity of his wife, for raping his 35 year-old wife on 24 February 2015.

According to the evidence that was presented in court, the husband forced his wife to accompany him to his place of work and on the way an argument started between the couple when the husband accused her of being impregnated by another man. The wife was pregnant at the time. He demanded sex from her and she refused. The husband then beat her up, dragged her to a dilapidated building, forcefully undressed her and proceeded to rape her.

People who were passing by heard a woman scream and went to see what was happening and they intervened when they found a man raping a woman. They called the cops and the husband was arrested.

In court the husband stated that the sex was consensual and they agreed to use the building because they have not had sex in three months. State prosecutor, Thumeka Jama refuted these claims and informed the court that if the sex was consensual the victim would have not sustained serious injuries stated on the medical report. According to the medical report the victim had sustained injuries internally and at her back. She put to the accused that the injuries at back are as a result of him dragging her to the building.

The accused later changed his statement when he said the victim hit her back against the building hence the injuries.

In passing sentence, Mkansi described the accused as a person who has no respect for women because he behaved in the most despicable manner as he not only degraded his wife by raping her but he dragged her to a dilapidated structure to satisfy himself. He also informed the accused that the courts could not turn a blind eye to these criminal acts because the society is looking at the courts to deal decisively with these criminal acts. He stated that the fact that the community members intervened when they found

him raping his wife shows that the society is against these crimes and the society will have no confidence in the courts if such matters are treated leniently. The magistrate then sentenced the accused to seven years direct imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentence as it sends a resounding message that such senseless acts of crime will not be tolerated.

Kind Regards,

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