

# Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:  
[media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)

Victoria & Griffiths  
Mxenge Building  
123 Westlake Avenue  
Weavind Park  
Silverton  
Pretoria

[www.npa.gov.za](http://www.npa.gov.za)

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 28 AUGUST 2015**

**RE: LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPING 9 YEAR-OLD GIRL**

A 21 year-old man was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment by the Taung Regional Court on a rape charge. The incident took place at Magogong village after the accused grabbed a nine year-old girl whilst she was going to the shop and took her to the veld to rape her. The matter was reported to the police and he was arrested immediately through the assistance of community members who were infuriated by the conduct of the accused. The police were also helpful and handled the case diligently by following the correct process which resulted in positive DNA result.

The accused pleaded guilty as the evidence against him was overwhelming. The defence argued in the mitigation of sentence citing remorse and tender age as the reason why the accused acted out of immaturity. They requested the court to deviate from minimum sentence which is life imprisonment.

The state prosecutor argued that the accused committed the crime against an innocent and defenceless child. She said the child went through a terrible ordeal. She further argued that there is no room for excuses in condoning the behaviour of the accused and that he was brutal in raping a nine year-old and further that the accused did not succeed to present compelling and substantial reason which requires the court to deviate from imposing life imprisonment.

During sentencing, the court said offenders like the accused must be removed from the society and that the rights and dignity of women and children as enshrined in the constitution need to be protected by the courts otherwise the community will take law into their own hands. The court also stated that the acts of rape humiliate and degrade the dignity of human beings and the court is entitled to protect those rights.

The NPA welcomes the sentence and congratulates the control prosecutor, Joyce Maseko for the good job.

Kind Regards,

**Frank Lesenyego**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP North West**

**078 801 5756**

**[flesenyego@npa.gov.za](mailto:flesenyego@npa.gov.za)**