

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 18 NOVEMBER 2015

RE: LIFE SENTENCE FOR CHILD RAPIST

Nhlanhla Sabelo Khumalo (26) was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Ntuzuma Regional Court yesterday after being convicted for the rape of a six year old girl.

The incident occurred late last year in the Inanda area. The child was playing at her friend's house when the accused called her. She went with him to his house, then he threatened her with a knife and raped her. She later managed to escape and went back home where her mother noticed blood stains on her. Upon being questioned, the child reported that she was raped.

Despite DNA results positively linking the accused to the offence, he pleaded not guilty and the child had to testify. With the use of the services of Court Preparation Officer, Xoli Mzobe, the child managed to endure the cross examination.

In aggravation of sentence, Regional Court Prosecutor, Anusha Govender handed in a victim impact statement compiled by the complainant's mother. The mother mentioned that the child was highly traumatised by the incident and had to repeat a grade at school because of this ordeal.

The presiding officer found that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances to sentence the accused to anything less than a term of life imprisonment.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes the sentence and hopes it has as a deterrent effect on would be offenders.

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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