

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 01 OCTOBER 2015**

**RE: CHILD RAPIST GETS 3 LIFE SENTENCES**

Three life sentences were handed down to a 27 year-old man in the Pietermaritzburg Regional Court yesterday after being convicted of three counts of rape.

The incidents took place in April last year in the Taylors Halt area in Pietermaritzburg. All three complaints in this matter were known to the accused; one was his niece, the other a neighbour and the third a relative of his girlfriend. Two of the children were 6 years-old whilst the eldest was 11 years-old.

The accused, who was unemployed lived with the family of the complainant and was tasked to take care of her when she came back from school. The second complainant was a friend and neighbour of the child and visited her after school. The accused raped the third complainant when he visited his girlfriend.

The parents of the children discovered the rapes after noticing that the girls were behaving unusually. One was reserved and would follow her mother around the house while the other started wetting her bed. The children were questioned and they revealed what the accused had done to them.

In aggravation of sentence, victim impact statements, facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Thobekile Dlamini were handed in to the court. All three children asked for the accused to be punished for what he had done to them.

The Regional Court Prosecutor, Mariam Aboobaker argued that the accused showed no remorse throughout the trial even after being convicted. It was further argued that he deserved no less a sentence than that which is prescribed due to the fact that he took

undue advantage and preyed on the vulnerability of the children even when he was placed in a position of trust to care for them.

The court ordered that all three life sentences run concurrently.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes this sentence. It is our mandate to protect the rights of the people of South Africa especially the most vulnerable – our children.

Kind Regards,

**Natasha Kara**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN**

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