

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: RAPIST GETS MORE THAN MINIMUM SENTENCE

A 29 year-old man was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment in the Pietermaritzburg Regional Court on Thursday last week after being convicted for the rape of a 16 year-old girl.

The accused was in a relationship with the girl's mother and they lived together in Imbali, Pietermaritzburg. She wrote a letter to her teacher where she mentioned that the accused looked at her in a way that made her uncomfortable and he would watch her while she bathed. The teacher reported this to the mother but nothing was done.

The incident occurred when the accused woke the girl early one morning, under the pretence that they would go out and buy food. Her mother did not object to this and the child was forced to go along. The accused drove around town and eventually went to a secluded spot where he raped her. He then washed her to get rid of the evidence. The girl reported the incident to her mother as soon as they got home and she was once again ignored. She went to school the next day and told her teacher and the police were called.

The accused initially denied the allegations but changed his version to consent when the DNA results were positive.

In aggravation of sentence, Regional Court Prosecutor Mariam Aboobaker presented a victim impact statement, facilitated by Court Preparation Officer Thobekile Dlamini where the complainant gave a heart-wrenching account of how the incident had affected her life. The state also presented a clinical psychologist report asking the court to deviate from the minimum sentence of 10 years and consider a higher sentence.

The court agreed with the state, given the gruesome details of the case and the accused was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes this sentence and the decision of the court to impose a higher sentence.

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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