

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 08 JUNE 2016**

**RE: RAPIST GETS 30 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

A 27-year old man from Mojeteng, Maake village in Tzaneen was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment after he was found guilty of four counts of rape in the Limpopo High Court yesterday. Judge Joseph Raulinga sentenced Mpho Gift Malesa for raping four minor victims during the period of 03 July 2011 to 02 October 2012 in Seshego.

A six year old girl was the first victim who was lured by the accused to an unknown place and later she was raped. The court heard that the accused used to lure boys between the ages of ten to thirteen years by offering them a ride and to accompany him to an unspecified destination in order to help him to fix another bicycle. In one of the incidents, he made the child smoke dagga with him. The accused was unknown to all the victims.

The accused was arrested after one of the victims identified him while the accused was busy playing dice two years after the incidents. The child went home and informed the grandmother and the matter was reported to the police. He pleaded guilty on 18 April 2016.

In sentencing the accused, Judge Raulinga stated that the fact that the accused pleaded guilty, showed remorse, and is a candidate for rehabilitation. It is also a substantial factor for the court to deviate from the minimum prescribed sentence and he subsequently sentenced Malesa to 30 years imprisonment. The accused's name was also recorded on the Sexual Offender Register.

The NPA welcomes the sentence and the DPP in Limpopo, Advocate Ivy Thenga has applauded the good work that was done by Advocate Nozizwe Molepo in ensuring that justice was done for our society.

Kind Regards,

**Mashudu Malabi- Dzhangi**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Limpopo**

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