

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: MULTIPLE SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 36 LIFE TERMS

The Free State High Court has today sentenced a 42 year-old man from Sasolburg to 36 life sentences after he was convicted of 36 counts of rape, 16 counts of sexual assault, 540 counts of possession of child pornography, 108 counts of distribution of child pornography and 228 counts of creation of child pornography.

Judge Jake Moloi sentenced the accused, who cannot be named to protect the identity of the victims, to 36 life sentences for each count of rape, 10 years for having sexual intercourse with a minor, 5 years for each count of sexual assault, 15 years for 542 counts of possession of child pornography, 15 years for 108 counts of distribution of child pornography and 20 years for 228 counts of creation of child pornography. The accused was found in possession of 200 000 photos of children and videos of several children being raped.

The court heard that the accused started raping his 7 year-old daughter in July 2009 until March 2012. He raped her 13 times. In August 2011, he started raping his other daughter who was 6 years-old at the time. He raped her nine times until May 2014. He also raped her daughters' friends, who would be allowed to sleep over at his place by their parents. The children were aged five to eight years.

State Prosecutor, Adv Ena Liebenberg requested the court to impose a hefty sentence on the accused because he violated his own children when he was supposed to protect them. She further stated that the accused was a danger to the society because he preyed on vulnerable children because all his victims are underage. "The public is outraged by this rampant scourge and it is the duty of the court to impose harsher sentences in to deter further criminal conduct", said Liebenberg.

In sentencing the accused, Judge Moloi stated that what makes rape even more serious in this case is that the accused raped his own children and their friends who came over to visit and these are all the people he was supposed to protect. He subsequently sentenced the accused to 36 life terms after he ordered all the other sentences to run concurrently with the 36 life sentences.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in the province, Advocate Xolisile Khanyile has welcomed the sentence. "We hope that the sentence will have a deterrent effect on would-be offenders and the NPA is very pleased with the sentence. Justice has really been served. It's just unfortunate that young children were violated like this by someone they trusted", said Khanyile.

Kind Regards,

Phaladi Shuping

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State

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