

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: FATHER SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPE OF HIS DAUGHTER

A 62 year-old man from Tshimbupfe in Limpopo was convicted for raping his biological daughter and sentenced to life imprisonment by the Malamulele Regional Court. The complainant became pregnant at 17 years. It would appear that she wanted to conceal the identity of the man responsible for her pregnancy.

The victim gave birth to a baby boy in 2009 and subsequently paternity results proved that her father is the newly born's father. The daughter could not bear the ordeal, she then developed a heart condition and succumbed to death in 2012 while the case was still at the court. Due to backlog, the case was moved from Sibasa Regional Court to Malamulele Regional Court in 2015, with a recommendation that it be tried for incest.

The complainant statement stated that the complainant started being molested by her father when she was 12 years in the absence of her stepmother. Few years later, she decided to flee and stay with her mother who had separated with her father. It's clear in her statement that even when she was staying with her biological mother the accused would phone violently demanding visit during weekends and school holidays. Upon her return, he would continue to molest her. This was further corroborated by the deceased's mother that the accused had a tendency of having sexual intercourse with both of them. This apparently would take place when the mother accompanied the daughter to his work place even though they separated with the mother of the deceased and was married to another man.

The State Prosecutor, Kgatle Andrew decided to go for the count of rape. The evidence of the state composed mainly of the statement of the deceased, paternity results, DNA and evidence of the deceased's mother.

The deceased's mother also testified on sentence and indicated that the child born of this rape is under her care and the child is always asking who his father is.

The prosecutor drew the attention of the court to the age of the deceased and submitted that the accused did not show any remorse despite the overwhelming evidence against him. He further submitted that the deceased had suffered a lot in the hands of his biological father. Kgatle mentioned that the rape is a gruesome violation of the deceased's right to dignity, privacy and security. He reminded the court that the deceased even lost her life after developing heart condition because of the rape ordeal. In conclusion, he pleaded with court to impose the prescribed minimum sentence.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in the Limpopo, Advocate Ivy Thenga commended the good work done by the investigating officer and prosecutor Andrew Kgatle in ensuring that the deceased and the victims get justice.

Kind Regards,

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