

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 04 SEPTEMBER 2017

RE: FIVE ACCUSED SENTENCED TO LENGTHY TERMS FOR THE RAPE OF MINOR

The Mahikeng High Court sentenced Koketso Dolson Noko, Pako Mpembe, Karabo Ramakgolo, Ompolokile Motshegare and Itumeleng Matia to lengthy terms for raping a minor. The accused were between ages of 16 and 19 years at the commission of crime and were all charged with one count of rape and the victim was 16 years-old at the commission of crime.

This horrible incident happened during the night when the victim and his boyfriend were coming from a local pub in Mahikeng. As they were on their way home, they met five people, one of them produced a panga and scratched the tar road with it to intimidate the couple. As a result, the boyfriend managed to run away leaving the accused persons with the victim. They took the victim to the graveyard and raped her. They then took her to a certain house and continued to rape her. After the incident, she reported the case to a local police station and she could only remember the house where the rape took place.

The police went to the said house to investigate. The investigation led the police to a swift arrest of all five accused. During the trial, the state represented by Advocate Nkhetheni Mudau submitted to the court that gang rape is very rife and the court must not deviate from minimum prescribed sentence and impose life imprisonment. He stated that, the accused did not have mercy at the time of the crime as they raped a defenceless and vulnerable young girl. He added that the accused pleaded not guilty and were not remorseful.

The Magistrate, Boitumelo Chulu emphasised on the brutal manner in which they violated the victim's constitutional rights, such as the right to privacy and dignity. He said, the accused left a permanent scar in the victim's life and sentenced them as

follows; Koketso Dolson Noko and Pako Mpembe 30 years imprisonment, Karabo Ramakgolo, Ompolokile Motshegare and Itumeleng Matia 25 years imprisonment.

In welcoming the sentence, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Johan Smit SC applauded the good work done by Advocate Nkhetheni Mudau.

Kind Regards,

Frank Lesenyego

Regional Spokesperson: DPP North West

078 801 5756