

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: RAPIST GETS LIFE

Siyabonga Dlamini (30) was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Pietermaritzburg Regional Court on Friday for the rape of a thirteen year old girl in May 2013.

On the day of the incident, the girl had attended an evening church service with a few ladies from her area. She was approached by the accused when she accompanied another female to the outside toilet. He wanted to speak to the girl and she refused since she did not know him. The woman tried to intervene but the accused hit her with a bottle on her head and forcefully dragged the girl to his house where he raped her.

The girl managed to escape from the house and the matter was reported to the local counsellor. The police were contacted and the accused was arrested.

In a victim impact statement which was facilitated by court preparation officer Thobekile Dlamini, the girl said: "I constantly think about the pain I am feeling and I am unable to sleep at night because I have bad dreams. I end up not being able to sleep properly because I am scared. I ended up losing my friends because I was always arguing with them."

Regional court prosecutor, Mariam Aboobaker argued that it was clear from the victim impact statement that this offence had an immense effect on the child. Aboobaker also told the court that even though the accused had a right to plead not guilty; his doing so, in light of the overwhelming evidence against him thus subjecting the child to the trauma of testifying in court, was an aggravating factor.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes this sentence. It is our mandate to protect the rights of the people of South Africa especially the vulnerable such as children and women.

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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