

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

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RE: PMB RAPIST GETS LIFE

A 42 year old-man was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Pietermaritzburg Regional Court yesterday for the rape of a minor that took place in 2012.

The child, who was 9 years-old at the time, is intellectually disabled as well as deaf and mute. On the day of the incident she was left in the care of her neighbour as her mother had errands to run. The accused was known to the complainant and was also there, drinking alcohol with his friends. He took the child with him when he went to the toilet which was situated outside the house.

At some point the neighbour realised that the child was not within her sight and went to look for her. She found the girl on the ground crying with the accused on top of her. He then got off the child, pulled up his pants and ran away; but was later arrested.

Since the child was not in a position to testify even with sign language, regional court prosecutor Mariam Aboobaker relied on the evidence of the eye witness, another neighbour who the eye witness reported to, the J88 as well as the mother of the complainant.

Aboobaker argued that these words mentioned by the mother of the victim in her evidence: "He should have rather accosted me instead of my child because she is a disabled and cannot fend for herself," aptly described the impact of the incident and it simply explained her grief and her desire to take away the pain suffered by her child.

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,

Issued by:

Luvuyo Mfaku
NPA Spokesperson
0823786199
lmfaku@npa.gov.za

