

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPING MINORS

The Germiston Magistrate's Court sentenced a 41 year -old man to life imprisonment for raping and kidnapping minors.

The accused was charged with seven counts, that is, four counts of rape and three counts of kidnapping and was convicted of three counts of rape and two counts of kidnapping on 11 January 2017.

There were 3 victims aged between 5 and 9 years. He lured two of the victims from school and one was found on the street playing. He took the two minor girls and raped them in an open veld. The other victim that he found on the street, he took to his house and raped her there. He kept this victim at his house overnight. He was arrested when the youngest of the three victims pointed his house out to the police. This victim also pointed him out on the identity parade. He was linked to the other two victims through a witness.

These crimes are viewed by the state as crimes of an extremely serious nature in that the accused was brave enough to perpetrate these crimes on minors and in broad daylight, totally disrespecting the rule of law.

State Prosecutor, Sibongile Nxumalo argued that a heinous crime was committed on innocent children who are dependent on adults for protection. "Your worship, it is in the interest of justice and that of society to impose harsher sentences to curb violent crimes against women and children. We cannot ignore the public outcry which is justified. Our courts are flooded with rapes and murders of children, seeking drastic and decisive measures in that regard" she said.

The state asked the court not to deviate from imposing the prescribed sentence of life imprisonment as it was convinced that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances present, justifying such departure.

The NPA is satisfied that the court arrived at a just sentence that is proportionate to the seriousness of the crime.

Director of Public Prosecutions in Gauteng Local Division, Advocate Andrew Chauke welcomed the sentence, "This sentence comes at a time when the South African nation is in shock due to the nature of attacks perpetrated against women and children and therefore serves to reassure communities out there that the NPA, together with other law enforcement agencies, remains committed in delivering a victim-centric service".

Kind Regards,

Hurbetin Phindi Louw

Regional Spokesperson: DPP South Gauteng

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