

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPIST UNCLE

A 42 year-old man was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Maluti Regional Court this week for the rape of his 12 year-old niece.

The complainant lived with the accused and he had raped her on two different occasions. In both instances, he raped the girl while she slept in the same bed as his daughter. The complainant initially told her granny (the accused's mother) about the rape but the granny told her not to tell anyone as the accused would go to jail. The girl then informed a neighbour who raised the alarm.

During trial, Regional Court Prosecutor, Mbongeleni Mngadi had to rely on the credibility of the witness as her cousin (the accused's daughter) who had witnessed one of the incidents could not be traced. Also, there was no DNA evidence to present in court.

Nevertheless, the court found the complainant to be an honest and consistent witness and the accused was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Welcoming the sentence, the Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko said, "This sentence is appropriate and I hope that it will serve as a warning to would-be offenders. It is distressing to note that the uncle abused his position of trust."

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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