

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 03 JUNE 2021**

**RE: MAN SENTENCED TO 22 YEARS FOR RAPING A BOY**

The Mothibistad Regional Court sentenced Lebogang Morone to 22 years of direct imprisonment for rape.

On 09 March 2017, the 39-year-old Lebogang from Batlharos near Kuruman, lured his 10-year-old victim to a nearby veld. Upon their arrival, the accused proceeded to rape the boy. When the child arrived home, he reported the matter to his grandmother in the presence of a neighbour who was with his grandmother. The police were called and the child was taken to a doctor for medical examination. The accused was immediately sought and arrested.

During the trial, the prosecutor, Thapelo Motseonageng, argued that the accused did not show any remorse for the crime he committed and needed to be sent to prison for the maximum sentence applicable to the crime.

The prosecutor put it to the court that, the accused had taken the innocence of his victim by raping him. He said, "The child trusted him, hence he went with him to the veld. As an adult, he should have been the one protecting the child, not victimise him". He further highlighted the need to send a strong message to would-be perpetrators and that justice system is effective in ensuring that women and children are protected by the courts.

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