

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 17 JULY 2017

RE: MAN SENTENCED FOR RAPING OWN DAUGHTER

A 44 year-old man was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment by the Mthatha Regional Court on Thursday, 13 July 2017 after the court found him guilty of raping his biological eight year-old daughter two years ago.

Evidence presented in court is that the man lived alone with his daughter at Joe Slovo Park in the District of Mthatha after the victim's mother died. The perpetrator cannot be named to protect the identity of the victim. The unemployed welder shared a bed with his daughter. A neighbour noticed signs that the little girl was being abused as she would refuse to go home when her father was drunk and would sometimes wet herself while playing with other children. When the neighbour enquired from the victim, the girl confided to her that her father was raping her and would sometimes even force her to watch pornographic movies before raping her. The neighbour reported the matter to the police in August 2015 and the girl was taken to a doctor who confirmed that there were indeed signs the girl had been penetrated on numerous occasions.

During the trial, the rapist father pleaded not guilty, but, witnesses called by the Acting Regional Court Prosecutor, Nomfundiso Tuswa, including the victim, the neighbour and a social worker, convinced the court that he was guilty. The victim was assisted by Court Preparation Officer, Zanele Qunta.

The NPA welcomes the sentence with the hope that it will deter other would-be rapists from preying on vulnerable children.

Kind Regards,

Luxolo Tyali

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Mthatha

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