

# Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:  
[media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)

Victoria & Griffiths  
Mxenge Building  
123 Westlake Avenue  
Weavind Park  
Silverton  
Pretoria

[www.npa.gov.za](http://www.npa.gov.za)

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 06 DECEMBER 2019**

**RE: MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPING HIS NIECE**

A 22 year old man from Rietspruit has been sentenced to life imprisonment by the eMalahleni Regional Court on Tuesday, 03 December 2019, after he pleaded guilty of raping his eleven year old niece in 2018.

On the day of the incident, the victim was coming from school when his uncle called her to his room. He locked the door, undressed her and raped her. The victim reported the ordeal to her mother who alerted the authorities and the accused was arrested.

In aggravation of sentence, the Regional Court Prosecutor, Maureen Nkosi argued that the accused has destroyed the trust the family had on him. They are disappointed by what he has done to his niece who was expected to protect, love and care for the victim. Since the incident happened, the victim is suffering from low self-esteem and has to deal with the social stigma and trauma as a result of what he put her through.

The state further stated that the court should take into account the prevalence of this offence and the impact it has on society; the nation is calling for justice in such cases. Therefore, a prescribed minimum sentence must be imposed.

The court considered all the relevant factors and sentenced the accused to life imprisonment.

The NPA is satisfied with the sentence.

**Monica Nyuswa**

**DPP Mpumalanga Spokesperson**

[mnyuswa@npa.gov.za](mailto:mnyuswa@npa.gov.za)

**0764855446**