Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 06 FEBRUARY 2019

RE: MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO COUNTS OF RAPE

The Mankweng Regional Court in Limpopo sentenced Louis Phineas Nonyana (39) to life imprisonment after his conviction on two counts of rape.

The rape incident occured in 2014 when the accused called five minor children who were playing next to his homestead to come and assist him in fixing his motor vehicle. He later sent the other kids away and remained with two complainants aged 8 and 9. The accused took the complainants to the sitting room where he proceeded to rape them on the sofa.

The accused was arrested after few days when the teacher noticed strange behaviour in the children. The parents were alerted and the minors were taken to hospital for examinations where it was confirmed that they were penetrated.

The accused pleaded not guilty to both counts and denied the allegations against him.

The state called both complainants and their parents to testify including Dr Mamorobela—Mayayise from Mankweng Hospital who testified as an expert to prove the case. The statement of the teacher who received first report was also admitted by the court.

In aggravation of sentence, State Prosecutor, Themba Mavundza submitted the victim impact report for both minors explaining how the incident had affected them. It further showed that the complainants were no longer attending school because of the stigma associated with the incident. Mavundza pointed out that the accused betrayed the trust that the children had in him and added that it is the court's duty to maintain law and order and to ensure that women and children are protected. He asked the court to impose the prescribed minimum sentence in that the accused was not remorseful for his deeds.

The DPP, Advocate Ivy Thenga applauds the excellent work of all stakeholders involved and hopes that the sentence will serve as a deterrent to those who think of committing similar offences.

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi-Dzhangi DPP Limpopo

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