

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 19 AUGUST 2020**

**RE: MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR RAPING HIS WIFE'S COUSIN**

Mongameli Mapuma (49) was sentenced by the Port Elizabeth Regional Court to life imprisonment for raping his wife's 52 year-old cousin.

On 10 August 2019, the victim had slept over at the Mapuma's home in Booyens Park, Port Elizabeth. She slept on the same bed with Mapuma's wife while he slept on the couch.

During the night, he came into the room to have sex with his wife but she refused. He then left the room with his wife. The wife went to sleep alone in the children's room while he stayed at the lounge area.

Mapuma returned alone and raped the victim while she was asleep. She woke up while he was busy raping her. She immediately reported him to his wife and the two women went to the police the next morning. Mapuma raped his in-law without protection even though he knew that he was HIV positive.

During sentence proceedings, Advocate Kenny Van Biljon, argued that there was no substantial and compelling circumstances to deviate from the prescribed minimum sentence of life as the accused showed no remorse, raped her without a condom, knowing well that he was HIV positive and it was even worse for the complainant as she was raped by her in-law.

The Acting Chief Prosecutor for the Port Elizabeth cluster, Advocate Philisile Kakangu, congratulated the prosecutor and the investigating team. "We welcome the sentence and we will keep on fighting gender based violence in line with government's resolve," he said.

**Anelisa Ngcakani**

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