

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: MAN TO SPEND TWENTY YEARS IN JAIL FOR KILLING THE MOTHER OF HIS CHILD

Today, 12 February 2020, the Mpumalanga Division of the High Court sentenced a 29 year- old man of KaBokweni in the District of Nsikazi to 20 years direct imprisonment after he pleaded guilty of murdering the mother of his four year- old child in June 2018.

In his plea statement, Jabulane Vusi Mhaule told the court that he and the deceased were in a love relationship and staying together with their child for seven years. After experiencing problems in their relationship, the deceased took a decision to end a relationship and moved out of the home they were sharing with the accused.

Two months after the break up, the deceased went to fetch the shoes she left in their apartment and a heated argument ensued over the break up. The accused took a panga, struck the deceased several times on the head and she succumbed to the injuries. After committing the offence, Mhaule handed himself to the police and was eventually arrested.

In aggravation of sentence, the state led by Advocate Derrick Mashego submitted that Mhaule committed a serious offence, an offence that is prevalent in the country and the scourge of gender based violence where women are killed by their partners. The accused killed the deceased because of his infidelity. Therefore a prescribed minimum sentence must be imposed.

Handing down the sentence, the presiding officer, Acting Judge Ratshibvumo, told the court that this is clearly a gender based violence. The community deserves to live in a better world than this. A world in which a woman is able to move out of a relationship without fear of losing her life .But the world remains far-fetched and in our dreams, as long as cruel and heartless murderers like Mhaule are still free to roam the streets

mingling with other humans .He then sentenced Mhaule to 20 years direct imprisonment for the murder of his girlfriend and a mother of his child. The court further declared him unfit to possess a firearm.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

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