

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 03 MARCH 2020**

**RE: PAROLEE SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR RAPE**

Last week Thursday, 27 February 2020, the Elliotdale Regional Court sentenced Mzuzile Ncazolo (39) to life imprisonment after convicting him for raping a 14 year-old girl, a month after he was released on parole.

The incident took place in Xhorha Mouth village in the district of Elliotdale, where both the victim and Ncazolo stayed. The court heard that in the early evening of 16 February 2018, the teenager had not returned home. Her father had gone around the village looking for her when he met Ncazolo walking with his friend, and asked them to be on the lookout for his daughter.

Later that evening, Ncazolo and his friend came across the young girl walking with her friend. He scolded the young girl for straying from home and dragged her to a nearby forest where he raped her. He then took her to his home and raped her for the second time. Ncazolo's friend, who had unsuccessfully tried to stop him from dragging the teenager, went to inform her father about what had just happened. After searching the forest, they found Ncazolo and the victim at his home.

During trial, Ncazolo denied ever raping the victim. Advocate Noluvo Msekelwa, led the evidence of the victim, her father and that of the rapist's friend proving beyond reasonable doubt that he was guilty as charged.

Arguing for an appropriate sentence, the state prayed for life imprisonment, stating that Ncazolo was a danger to society and could not be rehabilitated as he committed the offence while out on parole from a 30 year-sentence for murder and robbery with aggravating circumstances. The court concurred.

The NPA welcomes the sentences.

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