Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: RAPIST GETS LIFE AND 11 YEARS

A 34-year-old man was sentenced to life and 11 years' imprisonment in the uMzimkhulu Regional Court last week for the rape of a 16-year-old girl in the Ngwagwane area in March 2016. He was also convicted of assault, kidnapping and sexual assault.

The man was in a relationship with the victim's friend. At some point, his house was broken into and he suspected his girlfriend of the break-in. He went to her house to confront her, but discovered that she was not there; the victim was there instead.

He confronted the victim about the housebreaking, and her denials angered him as he believed that she and his girlfriend were responsible. He then forcibly took the victim to his house where he assaulted her with a stick, hoping she would confess to the break-in.

He kept the victim against her will for the entire weekend, raping her throughout. He eventually released her on the Monday. The victim reported the incident to the police.

After evading authorities, he was eventually apprehended on a warrant of arrest.

In court, the victim testified via an intermediary and through the CCTV camera system. In her testimony, led by the Regional Court Prosecutor, Sipho Nkonzo she indicated that she is afraid of men and that there is a trust issue that she has developed towards them. Even though she was the only witness, the court found her testimony to be consistent, thus securing the conviction.

He was given a life sentence for rape, five years' imprisonment for kidnapping, a fine of R5 000 or 3 years' imprisonment for sexual assault and a fine of R3 000 or 3 years' imprisonment for assault. The court also ordered that his name must be entered into the national register for sexual offenders.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes the successful prosecution.

Natasha Kara

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