

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS IMPRISONMENT

A 29 year-old man from Paballo Village in Tseki, Phuthaditjhaba was last week sentenced to 18 years imprisonment for raping a 12 year-old boy by the Phuthaditjhaba Regional Court. Magistrate Patrick Msimanga sentenced Pekenene Doctor Masoeu (29) to 18 years for rape and two years for robbery.

According to evidence presented before court, a 12 year-old boy was sent to the shop by his mother when he met the accused who robbed him of the R50 by snatching it from his hand. The victim followed the accused who walked away after snatching the money from him, shouting at him to return the money.

The victim followed the accused until they reached a secluded place, where the accused took out a knife and raped him. After the rape, the victim still pursued the accused, shouting that he must return the money. A passer-by saw the victim running after the accused and intervened. The accused was caught with the R50 note and a knife he used to threaten the victim.

In court, the accused denied rape and admitted robbery. However, State Prosecutor, Tebogo Maponya led evidence of a recovered lotion the accused used to rape the boy as well as medical examination report that proved that the victim was raped. Maponya further presented a victim impact statement (VIS) facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Ntebo Tsatsanyane which detailed how the incident has affected the victim. The accused was convicted on both charges.

In the VIS it was stated that the victim's performance at school has dropped and even the teachers are complaining of his behaviour which is negative towards the teachers and other learners. The VIS further stated that the victim has constant nightmares and he is now reserved as he no longer plays with other children.

In aggravation of sentence, Maponya argued that the accused does not have respect for dignity of other human beings because robbing the victim was not enough for him, he resorted to raping him when he wanted him to return the money he snatched from him.

“The accused does not have respect for fellow human beings. He violated a defenceless boy who just wanted him to return his mother’s money. He has now made it the responsibility of the court to protect the community from him and the only way the court can do that is by sending him to prison for a lengthy jail term”, said Maponya.

Magistrate Msimanga then sentenced Masoeu to 18 years for rape and two years for robbery. Masoeu will effectively serve 18 years after the court ordered the sentences to run concurrently.

Kind Regards,

Phaladi Shuping

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State

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