

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 07 JULY 2017**

**RE: RAPIST OF A MINOR GETS LIFE IMPRISONMENT**

Tshidi Phillimon Motseta (25) of Nobody Ga Mothiba was on 30 June 2017 sentenced to life imprisonment for rape and 5 years for house breaking with the intent to commit an unknown offence.

During the trial, the court heard that on 27 October 2015 at around 14h00 at Nobody Ga Mothiba, the minor complainant arrived home from school while still wearing her uniform and she was alone. Motseta arrived and asked for water and she gave him. The complainant knew Motseta as a local person. He asked about her brother and mother and she told him they were not around.

He then pushed the door when the complainant turned his back against the door while inside the house. He overpowered the complainant and pushed her to the bedroom. He ordered her to undress but she refused. He dragged her to the kitchen where he grabbed a knife and dragged her back to the bedroom. He threatened her with the same knife to undress. He forcefully undressed her skirt and panty. He pushed her on to the bed and struck her with a hard object on the head. She lost consciousness. She was awoken by her brother who took her to a nearby clinic and later to hospital.

The doctor who examined the complainant testified about the serious injuries on the complainant's genital organs as well as on the head which required that she be admitted at the hospital.

The officer from Forensic Science Laboratory was called to testify about the DNA analysis and the results linked the accused to the offence.

The accused pleaded not guilty to the charges, however, the court found him guilty as charged.

The State Prosecutor, Mokgomothei Johannes Masehela during sentencing, handed in the pre-sentence report by the Probation Officer who emphasised that the life imprisonment suits the offence. He called the complainant's mother to testify on the impact that the offence had on the complainant. He further argued that the aggravating circumstances were that the accused inflicted grievous bodily injuries on the complainant during the commission of the offence and that the complainant was 15 years old during the commission of the offence. Therefore the accused deserved to be given a life sentence in terms of Section 51(1) of Act 105/1997.

The court subsequently sentenced the accused to life imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

**Mashudu Malabi-Dzhang**  
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