

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: SERIAL RAPIST HANDED A HEFTY SENTENCE

The Western Cape High Court sitting at the George Circuit Court handed down another hefty sentence yesterday. A third in eight days where an accused is charged with violent and sexual crimes against children. The court sentenced Ivan Johannes, a 21- year old serial rapist, kidnapper and thief to three life terms and 210 years direct imprisonment.

This happens in just six working days after the state secured successful prosecutions and hefty sentences against Aviwe Hoya and Odwa Nkololo. On 28 August 2018, the Western Cape High Court sentenced Odwa Nkololo to three life terms. On 31 August 2018, the same court sentenced Hoya to five life terms and 58 years after he was convicted on five counts of kidnapping, three counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances and ten counts of rape.

Yesterday, Advocate Evadne Kortje read out the charges against Johannes which are eight counts of rape, five counts of abduction and three counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances. The court convicted him on the counts which were committed during the period of 8 January 2015 till 14 August 2016, at a play park near the Multi- Purpose Centre, Zone 1, Thembaletu, George.

"The victims were minors, raped not far from a play park during broad day light by the accused. They are predominantly boys with one girl and with ages ranging between seven and thirteen years.

"He approached them mostly while they were with friends and lured them under the false pretence of assisting him with his bicycle or looking for lost money. He grabbed others while they were playing on the swings, threatened them with a knife and violence and dragged them into the bush where he raped them. He even forced some of the children to sexually assault each other. "Some were robbed of their possessions including

earrings, school bag and sneakers. The accused was inevitably apprehended because of the forensic analysis of the Forensic Science Laboratory, the Biology Unit who identified the accused as the male person who preyed on the defenceless victims near the play park in Zone 1, Thembaletu," she read out the aggravating circumstances in the plea and sentencing agreement which the accused entered into with the state.

It also came out in court that the accused has three previous convictions of rape and assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm. The victims of the previous convictions were 6 and 7 years old.

The court ordered that the accused's name be entered into the National Register of Sex Offenders.

The NPA welcomes the sentence as the charges against this accused are very serious. This case also highlights the need to continuously teach children against speaking to strangers or accepting offers from strangers.

Kind Regards,

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