

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 28 AUGUST 2018**

**RE: SERIAL RAPIST SENTENCED TO TWO LIFE TERMS PLUS 85 YEARS**

A 29-year old man from Botshabelo who went on a six year crime spree, was on Friday sentenced to two life sentences and additional 85 years imprisonment after he was convicted of seven counts of rape, two counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances and one count of housebreaking with the intent to rob and robbery with aggravating circumstances by the Free State High Court.

Judge Johan Daffue sentenced Napo Johannes Tlali for crimes he committed between July 2010 and December 2016. Tlali's first crime was committed on July 4, 2010 when he broke into the house of a 54-year old woman. The owner of the house had a stockvel the previous night and two of her friends slept over. Tlali broke into the house, assaulted and raped all three middle-aged women, one after the other.

He continued with his crime spree when he raped and robbed two more women before he was arrested in November 2016. He was, however, released on warning by the magistrate's court. A month later, on December 12, 2016 he raped two girls aged 12 and 14 years and was arrested. He raped the children in each other's presence.

Tlali pleaded not guilty for eight counts, admitting guilt for only the rape of the children, but later confessed guilt on all charges after he was confronted with the DNA results linking him directly to the rapes. Tlali initially informed the court he had consensual intercourse with the first three complainants aged between 54 and 61 years after breaking into the house. Two of the women had open wounds on their heads after they were attacked by the accused.

State Prosecutor, Advocate Nono Lesie-Shale informed the court that the accused did not show any remorse, but regret. "He accepted responsibility for his wrongful deeds. However, he tried to make a mockery of the justice system by denying the charges

apparently on the basis that he could not be identified. He even went as far as claiming consensual intercourse with three middle-aged women who are old enough to be his mother", said Lesie-Shale.

In aggravation of the sentence, Advocate Lesie-Shale handed the victim impact statement that detailed how the incident had affected the two children aged 12 and 14 years. It is said in the statement that both children were good learners and never failed a grade prior to the rapes but they both failed in 2017 and had to repeat their grades.

Lesie-Shale told the court that the rape of the two children should be penalised by imposition of the prescribed minimum sentence. Judge Daffeu concurred with the prosecutor and sentenced the accused to two life sentences for raping the two children, 15 years for housebreaking with the intent to rob and robbery with aggravating circumstances, 10 years for each of the other five counts of rape and another 10 years for each of the two counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances.

Kind Regards,

**Phaladi Shuping**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State**

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