

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 03 JUNE 2021

RE: TWO LIFE SENTENCES FOR MAN WHO RAPED MINORS

The Empangeni Regional Court sentenced a 26-year-old man from Nseleni to a double life sentence for the rape of two minor girls, aged 10 and 11 years old, between 2016 and 2018. One of the victims was his niece while the other was a neighbour's child who often came over to play with his niece.

The man lived on the same homestead as his niece and he raped her once when he called her to his room. He raped the other girl on different occasions. Neither of them reported the rapes as he had threatened to harm them and their families if they did so.

However, during a virginity testing ceremony in the area, the incidents came to light and on questioning, the victims revealed that the accused had raped them.

The man was traced by police and arrested.

In the state's case, Regional Court Prosecutor Sharon Bux led the testimonies of both the victims, the first report as well as the lady who had conducted the virginity testing. A medical doctor also testified for the state.

Further, the prosecutor handed in Victim Impact Statements compiled by the victims and facilitated by the Court Preparation Officer, Seneliso Sibanda. One victim said that she is still traumatised by the incident and struggles to sleep at night. She is always scared to be alone. She said that she struggles to concentrate at school and this has affected her studies. The other victim said that she felt dirty and ashamed. She wishes she could start life afresh, without having this experience. She is afraid of men and doesn't trust them.

The NPA welcomes the successful prosecution.

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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