

# Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:  
[media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)

Victoria & Griffiths  
Mxenge Building  
123 Westlake Avenue  
Weavind Park  
Silverton  
Pretoria

[www.npa.gov.za](http://www.npa.gov.za)

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 27 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**RE: TWO LIFE TERMS & FIFTY FOUR YEARS FOR SEXUAL OFFENDER**

The Western Cape High Court sentenced Masixole Mpeve to two life terms, 54 years and six months after convicting him on ten counts which included three counts of kidnapping, attempted robbery, assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, three counts of rape and two counts of robbery. The court ordered that all the sentences run concurrently with the life sentence and declared the accused unfit to possess a firearm.

Between 2015 and 2016 the 27 year-old man targeted women who were walking alone at night in the Joe Slovo area, Milnerton. He accosted them, threaten them with a knife, rob them of their belongings, dragg them to secluded areas where he raped them repeatedly. The accused was known to all three victims and was considered a friend. He was also a friend to a brother of one of the victims.

He had previous convictions of theft and possession of drugs for which he received a suspended sentence and a fine.

Advocate Pulane Thaiteng who prosecuted the matter said the offences the accused faced were serious and were prevalent in the society. Victim impact statements compiled by a social worker painted a picture of deeply hurt victims. Some used alcohol as a coping mechanism as they considered themselves unworthy. Some wanted to end their lives. One victim even offered to voluntarily admit herself to Valkenberg Psychiatric Hospital in order to stop herself from committing suicide but this could not happen as the victim was required to fund her admission.

The court reserved harsh criticism for the Department of Social Development for its failure to provide adequate counselling to the three rape victims. Delivering his judgment, Judge Robert Henney said, " I was placed under the impression that no suitable programme of assistance to rape victims were put in place by the Department of

Social Development of the Western Cape, whereby rape victims after they have reported the case to the police and after they had been seen by a doctor, could be assisted. In my view this conduct clearly amounts to a violation of the rights of these three women, which rights they have as victims in terms of the Constitution.”

The NPA welcomes the sentence as it shows that the courts take strong view against sexual offences against women and children.

Kind Regards,

**Eric Ntabazalila**

**Regional Communications Manager**

**DPP: Western Cape**

**Tel: (021) 487 7308 Mobile: 073 062 1222**

**Email: [entabazalila@npa.gov.za](mailto:entabazalila@npa.gov.za)**