

State vs Oupa Mosia

Senior State Advocate Millicent Chilwane

In the case of the State vs Oupa Mosia, the accused was convicted of 37 counts of rape, four counts of assault, one count of robbery and one count of theft.

The accused approached girls and young women between the ages of 13 and 24 with the promise of a job at a clothing store in the area. He asked his victims to accompany him to a supervisor who, according to him, stayed in the neighbouring Vosloorus area, in Extension 25. To get there, they passed an open piece of land.

He appeared to be a smooth talker, because in all the incidents, each of the 16 girls accompanied him voluntarily. When he got them to a piece of open land, he became violent, assaulting and raping them. He raped each girl two to five times. He kept his victims with him for a few hours before releasing them. He assaulted one of the girls with his fist and she lost her front tooth. After raping her for a third time, he forced her to have oral sex with him, even though her mouth was still bleeding. He then proceeded to rape her twice more.

Five of the girls altered certain facts about the manner in which they had accompanied the accused, which resulted in the accused being charged with kidnapping and sending the police on a wild goose chase. The investigation therefore took a bit longer. It also meant that the police and prosecution were not certain whether they were, in fact, dealing with a single rapist or not. The only way the facts could be established was through DNA evidence.

The case had to be postponed three times for the DNA results. Superintendent Micelle Thompson helped the prosecutors by taking all the dockets and handling them personally.



Adv Millicent Chilwane, Senior State Advocate, DPP: South Gauteng.

As the trial date drew closer, all five the complainants confessed that they had gone with the accused voluntarily. They said that they had lied, because they were ashamed about the fact that they had gone with a stranger voluntarily and were also scared of their parents.

The indictment had to be amended, and with the help of the DNA evidence, the prosecutors were confident that it was Oupa Mosia who had raped all the victims. Of course, they were happy with the sentence. It was a great moment to witness the emotional release and sense of joy exhibited by the complainants when they heard that the serial rapist, Oupa Mosia (29) of Vosloorus, Ekurhuleni, had been sentenced to 13 life terms for rape.

This case should serve as a warning to the public not to trust people too easily.

Farewell to Adv Elna Wait and Adv Mamabolo

Mona Moerane

The office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP): North Gauteng hosted a farewell function for Adv Elna Wait and Adv Sam Mamabolo on 22 April 2010 at its Pretoria office. The Director of Public Prosecutions, Adv Sibongile Mzinyathi, bid farewell to the two valuable members of his team. These individuals had each contributed immensely to the criminal justice system. Adv Wait started prosecutions in 1975 as a clerk of the court and is retiring as a Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, while Adv Mamabolo is being transferred to the Polokwane office

to be closer to his family. The DPP emphasised that, although the departure of these two members saddens their colleagues and management, they are happy for them because it is not the end of the road for both of them, but merely the beginning of a new journey. All the speakers wished their colleagues well and promised to keep memories in their hearts of what they had learned from each of them. "May the future be what you would like it to be. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours. Our warmest thoughts will be with you wherever you may go," said the DPP.