

# JUSTICE SYSTEM FAILING THE VICTIM'S FAMILY

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South Africa has a very progressive and democratic constitution but disturbingly so it's only on paper in reality it's the opposite. The judicial system is failing people of this country badly. It's almost 3 years since Nandipha's death, she was raped and murdered on the 15 December 2005, since her rape and murder the trial of her alleged murderers has still not finished!! How hard is it for the prosecutor to proceed with charging one of the accused who confessed?

It's been reported that the case of Nandipha Makeke has been postponed 17 times, meanwhile the perpetrators remain in custody. Having TAC Provincial Congress on the same day of the trial had a major blow, only a handful crowd wearing HIV POSITIVE T-shirt were inside the court room.

The state called its witness Magistrate Johan Lootze to give testimony and confirm that one of the accused made a confession at the magistrate court in Mitchell's Plain. Magistrate Johan also confirmed that the accused was in his right state of mind, he wasn't drugged or beaten. He told the court that only him, the accused and Mr Welile Mthembeka were the only people present when the accused made the confession. Mr Welile was translating what was said in English to isiXhosa and vice-versa. The defendant attorney argued that the confession was made after police forced and assaulted his client.

It became too much for the victim's father Mr Makeke to listen, he walked out the court room and stood outside throughout the proceedings. He's hurting deeply! that's the expression I got when he asked me a questions that I do not have an answer to. "Why did the accused kill his daughter? Why? What was the motive to kill her after raping her?" asked Mr Makeke.

The case has been postponed to the 27th February 08, because one witness didn't attend the hearing. When will Makeke's Family find peace? Has her spirit found peace?

**PEACE WILL ONLY BE ATTAINED WHEN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF THE COUNTRY GIVE PERPETRATORS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN HARSH SENTENCES!!**

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