



MEDIA RELEASE: KIDNAPPING AND MURDER OF AN 8 YEAR SENOTLELO GIRL

DATE: 19 February 2023

The Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality is shocked by the news of kidnapping and killing of an eight (8) year old girl in Ward 20 Senotlelo village, allegedly by a 53 year old man from the same village. The little girl was reported missing on 12 February 2023 and after a 5 days search, her body was eventually found in a pit toilet at the residence of the suspected man, on the 17 February 2023. We condemn the killing of an innocent little girl. We must all keep our children safe. We equally discourage reported acts of violence of damage to property. We need to allow law enforcement authorities to do their work to investigate and bring this matter to its conclusion.

As the Municipality we would like to convey our heartfelt condolences to the Sambo family and the community of Ward 20 at large. It is painful when the children are unable to claim their rightful place within the communities where they can play freely without being fearful, of those who are supposed to be protecting them.

We should not wait for campaigns such as "16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children" to fight the plight of social ills against women and children but we should everyday be at the forefront. We need to be vocal about the unspeakable crimes against this vulnerable groups within our communities. Furthermore, preventing and responding to violence against women and children (in particular girls) require a multi-sectoral approach, where in government, private sector, community, faith- based organisations and other structures need to fight this battle together and make our communities safer for all. This kind of crimes shows us we need to do better in this regard, remarked the Executive Mayor of the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality, Cllr NS Mtsweni.

Practices such as ukuthwala and human trafficking also needs ongoing campaign. We will continue to involve men and boys as campaigners until the cycle of violence is broken. To our men, we encourage you to love and support your women and children in your lives. May the soul of the little Nomsa rest in eternal peace.

#ENDS#

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