

# Support for Victims of Sexual Offences

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RAPE

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Offences in the region of  
Bloemfontein, and their loved-  
ones, with information, support  
and the help they need.



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# Support for Victims of Sexual Offences

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**‘Support for Victims of Sexual Offences’ is both an information providing website and a communication medium between victims of sexual abuse, their loved-ones, and those members of the law enforcement community dedicated to achieving justice and providing victims with assistance and some comfort.**

**Take some time to read the content of this website. While it cannot serve as a comprehensive portfolio of all services involved in the resolution of sexual offences, we hope that you will find useful information that could assist you, allow you to contact the appropriate persons and remind you that you are not alone.**



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# OUR OBJECTIVE

**To provide a system of support for survivors of sexual assault and their loved-ones**

**To empower sexual assault survivors with information regarding their rights and standard procedures during the criminal investigation, the medical examination, as well as the subsequent criminal trial**

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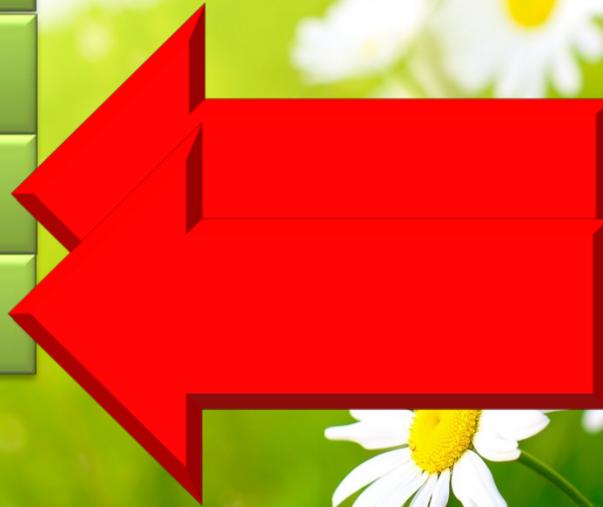
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# WHAT IS RAPE?

## *Why do I need to know the exact meaning of rape?*

Rape survivors need enough information about the law to know whether or not his/her case has a chance of succeeding or not, and why. Survivors also need to understand what exactly is expected of them in order to prove the rapist's guilt in our legal system.

## *What is the exact definition of rape?*

We find the exact definition of rape in the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007. This piece of legislation tells us that the crime of *rape* can be defined as follows:

**Rape is when someone intentionally and unlawfully commits an act of sexual penetration with the victim, without that victim's consent**

## ***What is an act of sexual penetration?***

**This is any act where:**

- a) The genital organs of the perpetrator penetrates the genital organs, anus or mouth of the victim.**
- b) Any body part of one person, any object or any animal part penetrates the genital organs or anus of the victim.**
- c) The genital organs of an animal penetrates the mouth of the victim.**

## ***What about consent?***

**Lawful sexual intercourse requires both parties' consent. However, even if someone gives his/her consent (for example by saying 'yes' or by not resisting) there is NO consent in the eyes of the law where:**

- The victim is forced by violence or the threat of violence to him- or herself, a loved-one or property.**
- The victim is drunk, drugged, asleep or unconscious.**
- The victim is younger than 12 years old.**
- The victim is mentally challenged.**
- Duress or coercion. (For example, if your boss forces you to have sex in order to obtain a promotion at work)**
- A professional deceived the victim into thinking that he/she must submit to a sexual act for physical, emotional or spiritual health.**

# ***Is rape the only sexual crime? What if I was indecently assaulted but was never penetrated?***

**This is also a crime! Several other crimes exist thanks to the Criminal Law Amendment Act 32 of 2007:**

## **Compelled Rape:**

**If someone intentionally and unlawfully compels (“forces”) a third person without his/her consent, to commit an act of sexual penetration with a victim, without the consent of the victim.**

## **Sexual assault:**

**Where someone unlawfully and intentionally violates the victim without the victim’s consent, or where the victim is made to believe that he/she will be sexually violated.**

**(Here, sexual violation includes:**

- ✓ Direct or indirect contact between the genital organs [including breasts] or anus of the perpetrator and any part of the body of another persons or animal or object,**
- ✓ Direct or indirect contact between the mouth of one person and the genital organs [including breasts] and anus of another, the mouth of another, any other body part of another person, any object resembling genital organs or anus,**
- ✓ Direct or indirect contact between the mouth of the victim and the genital organs or anus of an animal.**
- ✓ Masturbation of one person by another.**
- ✓ The insertion of any object resembling genital organs into the mouth of another.)**

# **OTHER IMPORTANT TERMS**

**Incest**: A crime constituting sexual intercourse between blood or adoptive relatives, with or without consent.

**Marital rape**: A crime constituting rape by a husband or wife, whether married in civil, customary or religious law.

**Gang rape**: A crime constituting rape by two or more perpetrators.

**Date rape**: A crime constituting rape by someone that you are out on a date with.

**Consent**: To agree to something, give permission or say 'yes' *when you understand what is being asked of you* and when you are *not forced or deceived* into giving consent.

**Compel**: To force someone to do something, either by using physical force or any threat.

**Person**: Any reference to 'a person' should be understood to include both men and women.

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# I WAS RAPED...WHAT NOW?



Those horrible moments right after a rape are very important. While you might find it very difficult to make decisions regarding what to do, remember that a successful outcome of the case, as well as your own recovery, will benefit from following these easy steps...

## STEP 1: GET TO SAFETY

Make sure that you get to a safe place as soon as possible.



## STEP 2: TELL THE FIRST PERSON YOU SEE & TRUST WHAT HAPPENED

The first person you told about the rape will often be asked to testify in court in order to support your story. If the first person you tell is a stranger, be sure to get the person's name and contact details.

## **STEP 3: SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION**

- **Go to a doctor or hospital as soon as possible. The police will be called to the hospital.**
- **If you are unable to secure transport, contact the South African Police Service (SAPS), who will assist you in traveling to the nearest hospital.**
- **If you report the incident to the SAPS first, a police officer will escort you to the hospital.**
- **Reporting to a hospital is important for two reasons:**
  - 1) Receiving medical attention**
  - 2) Forensic examination (medico-legal management)**
- **If you fear that you have been exposed to HIV infection, you need to receive medical attention as soon as possible because the quicker you receive medical attention, the better protected you will be. Prophylactic medication will not be given after 72 hours since the incident.**

- While certain private hospitals are not fully equipped to provide clinical forensic services, Thuthuzela Care Centres at government hospitals are specifically equipped and specialises in this essential service. (For complete information on the Thuthuzela Care Centre and their locations across the country, click on the Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre link)
- If visiting a private hospital, the attending staff must, on your request, contact the SAPS for proper evidence collection and protection. Enquire about HIV prevention medication as soon as possible.
- Where to report for medical attention in Bloemfontein (also see The Process – The Examination elsewhere in the website):

**TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)**

**National District Hospital**

**10 Roth Avenue**

**Willows, Bloemfontein**

**9301**

**Tel: +27 51 403 9936**

**CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CLINIC**

**Referral clinic for cases reported after 72 hours (although cases should ideally be reported as quickly as possible). Referral to be done by a professional person / private medical practitioner.**

**Appointments: Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre**

## **STEP 4: DECIDE WHETHER YOU WANT TO REPORT THE RAPE TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE**

- While you may not want to make these decisions soon after being raped, the sooner a doctor examines you, the more likely he/she is to find strong proof (like semen or blood from the rapist) on your body or on your clothes.
- Bruises and cuts will stay on your body for a while, but semen, hair, saliva and blood can be lost quickly.
- For a better understanding of the role of forensic evidence in rape cases, see *The Process – How Forensics Work*

## OPTIONS FOR REPORTING YOUR RAPE:

### **1. GO TO THE POLICE STATION NEAREST TO WHERE YOU WERE RAPED**

The police will assist you to give a statement and see to it that you are taken to hospital for examination. If you want to take a trusted person with you, you are entitled to do so. (See The Process – The Investigation)

### **2. IF YOU ARE HURT, GO TO THE NEAREST GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL**

The hospital staff will provide you with emergency medical care if needed and contact the SAPS to come to the hospital to take your statement and provide the necessary consent forms for the medico-legal (forensic) examination.

## **STEP 5: TAKE THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE POLICE STATION AND NAME OF THE PERSON WHO TOOK YOUR STATEMENT**

- **Your case will now be investigated by an investigating officer in the South African Police Service.**
- **This investigating officer will be charge of everything to do with the investigation and preparing the case for court.**
- **Be sure to get your investigating officer's name and telephone number and make sure that he/she also has your contact details.**

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# THE ROAD TO RECOVERY...

Each rape survivor reacts to the trauma of rape in a different manner. You may feel completely different than the next survivor. The period of recovery also differs from person to person. Give yourself adequate time to walk the path to recovery and do not compare your healing process with anyone else's.



If you are concerned that your negative feelings are lasting too long or are becoming overwhelming, get help. There are people who can and want to help you. See the next section on where to find help.

Please read the booklet: *The Road to Recovery: You and Rape*, made available with the generous permission of the Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust, available at: <http://rapecrisis.org.za>.

# PHASES OF RECOVERY

**While there is a pattern to how most people move through the trauma of rape, each survivor will move through this process at his/her own time and in his/her own sequence.**

*There is no single way to recover; your journey is unique. With good support people can recover from rape, but many people choose not to get support...*

**The following phases can be seen in people who do not go for counselling:**

## **ACUTE PHASE**

**Immediately after the rape, most survivors feel shock, dismay, fear, panic and anger. Some show this by being numb or dazed, other by being openly upset. This phase is intense and can last up to two weeks after the rape. You may experience nightmares, feel a sense of shock, guilt, fear, shame, powerlessness, anger, and depression.**

# *PHASES OF RECOVERY*

## OUTWARD ADJUSTMENT PHASE

In this phase, most survivors try to carry on with their lives as normal. To others, you may seem like you are coping. You might even think so yourself. Now you need reassurance that you *can* cope with what happened. Your ability to survive such an experience is tested. You may pretend it did not happen, or simply push the thoughts of the incident away.

During this phase you may not feel the desire to constantly talk about the rape. Survivors often feel they do not want to speak about it at all. This phase is difficult for loved-ones. They might want to provide active support, help you talk about the rape more, just be there for you, while what you really need is for people to just let you be.

It might be helpful to explain to your loved-ones what you feel during this phase. That way, you can get what you need without pushing friends and family away.

# *PHASES OF RECOVERY*

## **INTEGRATION PHASE**

Here we see the strong feelings of the acute phase and the numb feelings of the outward adjustment phase coming together. The intense and negative feelings start returning, but might feel less overwhelming than before. You may begin to feel depressed or anxious and start thinking about the rape when you least expect to.

During this time, you might want to talk more about the rape. Feelings of shame, anxiousness, fear, depression and others might make you feel like your are going mad. This is not true at all, but it is a good time to seek out counselling. Whether you choose to seek professional assistance, join a support group or enter online support forums and chat rooms, remember that seeking help is not a sign of weakness, but simply a way of obtaining comfort and relief.

# PHASES OF RECOVERY

## COMMON FEELINGS / REACTIONS TO RAPE

- 📍 Shock
- 📍 Guilt
- 📍 Powerlessness & loss of control
- 📍 Fear
- 📍 Shame
- 📍 Inability to speak about the rape
- 📍 Nightmares
- 📍 Fear of being touched
- 📍 Depression
- 📍 Anger
- 📍 Grief about loss
- 📍 The desire to use drugs and alcohol
- 📍 The desire to hurt themselves, e.g. cutting
- 📍 Suicidal thoughts or feelings

# PROCESS OF HEALING

The feelings you are experiencing after being raped are a completely natural response to a terrible event. You are not over-reacting. You are also not alone. In our country, a great many men and women have been raped and know how you feel.

Rape impacts not only the body, but also emotions and the mind. Pay attention to all three these elements when embarking on your healing process.

## 1. CARING FOR YOUR BODY

Look after your physical well-being by eating healthily, exercising, try to get your sleeping patterns back to normal, take care of personal hygiene, and make sure you get all the medical attention you need.

# PROCESS OF HEALING

## 2. CARING FOR YOUR EMOTIONS

Enduring emotional pain and suffering is one of the hardest things to do after being raped. Give yourself space and time to feel these intense feelings, as they are important to your healing. Pushing such feelings aside will only prolong your healing process.

Express your pain in ways that do not harm yourself or those wanting to support you. Do not harm yourself or others. The last thing you want is to come to the end of your healing process with regrets.

Use whatever tools you need to gain emotional strength. There are a few suggestions in the section on where to find support. Do not be afraid of talking to friends or, if you so choose, seeking professional help. There are many support groups all around the country. If you know of other survivors, you may even start your own support community.

Recovery is completely possible. You may even become stronger than you were before...

# PROCESS OF HEALING

## 3. LOOKING AFTER YOUR MIND

Many rape survivors have found that positive thinking helped their healing process. It may require a deliberate effort on your part to stop self-criticism and negative or frightening thoughts. To transform their thoughts, some survivors have written down their negative thoughts and rewrote them from a positive perspective. (E.g. 'I'll never overcome this...becomes: although it is hard, I can overcome this) Simple exercises like this will slowly re-programme your mind to become strong and healthy.

Educate yourself. Recovering from rape is about making your own decisions and you can only do this by being as well-informed as you can possibly be.

Remember your faith. Whether this is religious faith, spiritual belief or personal philosophy, strengthen your mind by dedicating yourself to strengthening your faith.

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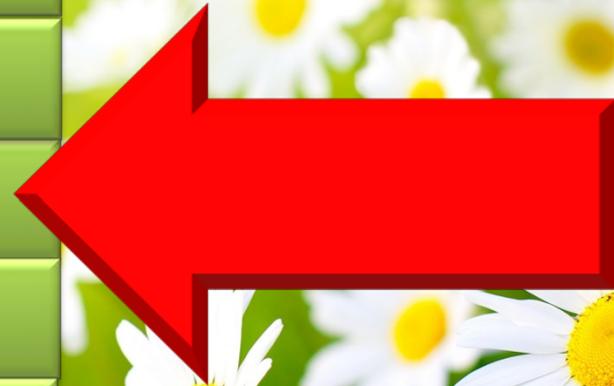
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# WHAT NOT TO DO

## 1. DO NOT HESITATE TO REPORT THE RAPE BECAUSE YOU WERE DRUNK

If you were drunk at the time of the rape, do NOT let this stop you from reporting the crime and seeking medical attention. Being drunk is not a crime, rape is. And remember: According to the law you cannot consent to sexual intercourse while you are intoxicated.

## 2. DON'T GIVE UP!

If a police officer, for whatever reason, does not allow you to report the rape, ask to speak to the station commander. If they still refuse, go to another police station. You can lay a complaint about this later.

No police official is allowed to tell you that you cannot lay a charge, or that you do not have enough proof.

Do not let the police send you home without taking your statement with the instructions to go back the next day. You must be assisted immediately.

### **3. DO NOT WASH BODY OR CLOTHES**

**While most rape survivors will likely want to bath or shower and clean their clothing, this is not advised before the medical examination. Your body is the most valuable instrument in finding proof against your attacker.**

**Also, try to avoid eating, drinking or brushing teeth if possible immediately after the attack. This will wash away evidence.**

**Do not discard tampons or sanitary pads, bedding or any material used to wipe the body.**

**All potential evidence must be kept in a paper bag, rather than a plastic bag as this would compromise biological evidence.**

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# WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT

**You are not alone in this, the most frightening and testing time. Others have suffered what you have and, through their brave feedback, we now understand that survivors can heal and their lives be restored.**

**But this will not be an easy road. While reporting your case and finding justice will likely be a very important factor in your healing process, conviction and sentencing of your attacker is unlikely to comprise the entirety of your healing.**

**Do not hesitate to trust and find comfort in your support base. This means your family, friends, trusted teachers, and other survivors.**

**Here, we offer details of professional services and online information and support groups. While we encourage you to make use of these resources, they are not the only ones out there. Seek, and you shall find help...**



# WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT

## THE TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC) - Bloemfontein

This is your one-stop rape aftercare provider and is a forensic nurse-driven service. Here, you will be provided with both medical and medico-legal services. If you need assistance or referral for counselling or psychological therapy, do not hesitate to visit or contact the TCC.

**Cases reported outside office hours will receive medical attention at that stage but medico-legal examination will proceed the following day**

## ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN

### CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CLINIC

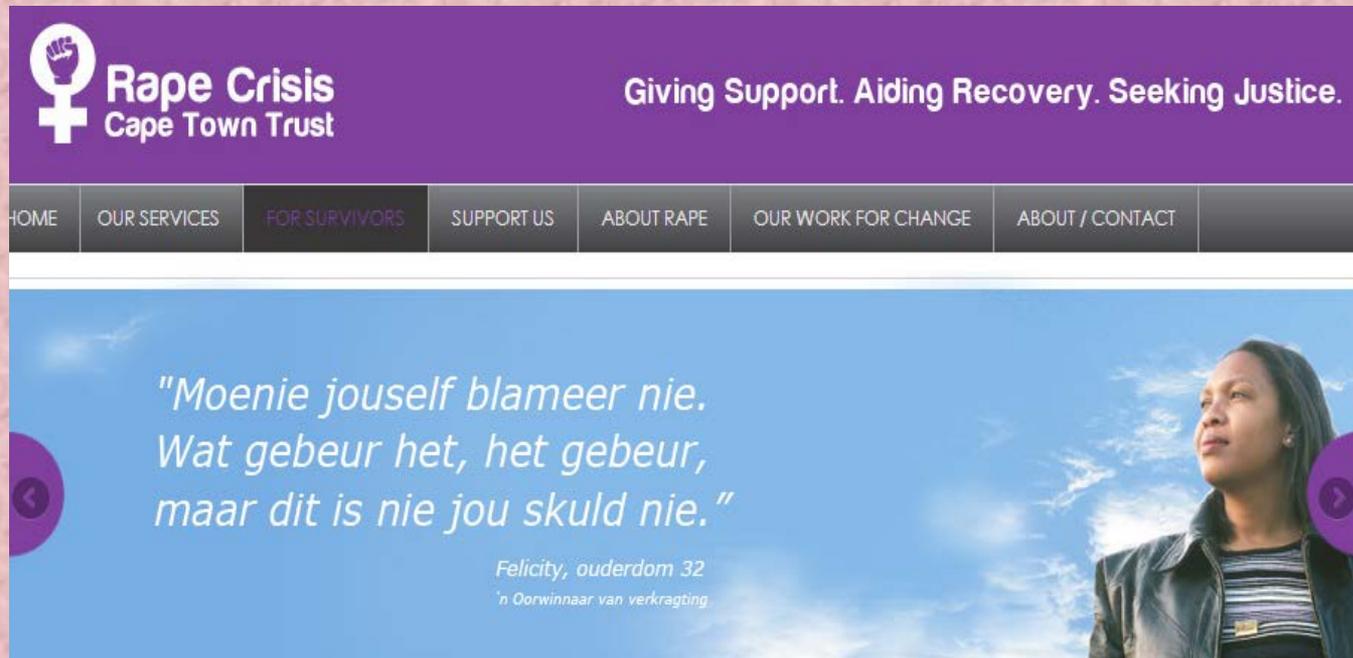
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Appointments: Tshepong TCC +27 51 403 9936



# WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT

Many online information and support groups can be accessed from the comfort of your home or the safety of education facilities. These are just a few suggestions of websites you may want to visit:

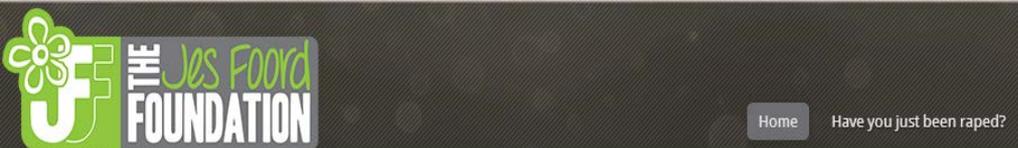


**The Rape Crisis Centre in Cape Town (supported by the Cape Town Trust). Visit their site at: <http://rapecrisis.org.za/information-for-survivors/rape-trauma-syndrome/>**



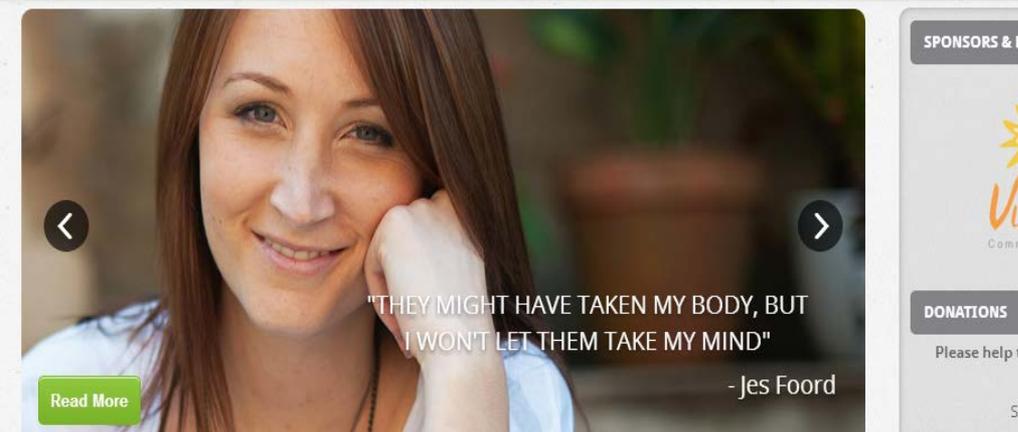
# WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT

Visit the online support group for survivors of rape and sexual abuse: *After Silence*, at: <http://www.aftersilence.org/>



About Us - What We Do - Jes Talks - Events - News - Get Involved

Visit the *Jes Foord Foundation* website, at: <http://www.jff.org.za/>



# WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT

*The DNA Project* is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation that aims to inform the public about the value and uses of DNA evidence in the investigation and prosecution of crimes like rape and other serious crimes. Visit this highly informative site at:

<http://dnaproject.co.za>.

The logo for the DNA Project features the word "DNA" in a large, bold, blue font, followed by "PROJECT" in a large, bold, white font. Below the text is a horizontal line composed of ten colored segments: three white, one blue, one green, one red, one yellow, one blue, one green, and one red.

**DNA PROJECT**

**FIGHTING CRIME WITH SCIENCE**

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# WHO TO CONTACT

**Report for medical attention at:**

**Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre in BLOEMFONTEIN:**

**Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC)  
24 hour contact via National District Hospital Casualties  
10 Roth Avenue  
Willows  
Bloemfontein  
9301**

**Tel: +27 51 403 9936**



## **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CLINIC**

**Referral clinic for cases reported after 72 hours (although, ideally, all cases should be reported as quickly as possible. Referral to be done by a professional person / private medical practitioner  
Appointments: Tshepong TCC +27 51 403 9936**

# OTHER TCC's IN THE FREE STATE

## Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre in WELKOM

**Bongani Hospital**

**Welkom**

**Tel no: 057 355 4106 / 057 916 8154**

## Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre in BETHLEHEM

**Phekolong District Hospital**

**Riemland Road**

**Bethlehem**

**Tel no: 058 304 3023**

# WHO TO CONTACT

- 💡 You can report an incidence of sexual assault at any police station, preferably at the station nearest to where the incident occurred
- 💡 If you are unable to reach a police station, tell someone you trust about the incident & ask them for help in phoning the nearest police station for assistance
- 💡 If you are at school & cannot ask your parents / guardian for help, tell a trusted teacher

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**Welkom...**  
**Kamohelo...**

The objective of this website is to provide victims of sexual offences in the region of Bloemfontein, and their loved-ones, with information, support and the help they need.

THE INVESTIGATION

THE EXAMINATION

HOW FORENSICS WORK

DEMYSTIFYING THE CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE SYSTEM

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# THE POLICE INVESTIGATION

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**An investigating detective must conduct an investigation into reported incidents of rape to find the identity of the attacker (if not known), and to make sure that there is enough evidence to ensure a conviction**

**All evidence will be included in the docket:**

- **Witness statements**
- **Medical evidence (after forensic analysis)**
- **Any other forensic evidence received from the forensic science laboratory of the SAPS**

# AT THE CRIME SCENE

- ❧ **The police will secure your safety**
- ❧ **Secure the safety of the crime scene**
- ❧ **Transport you to the hospital**
- ❧ **The police will comfort you, explain the procedures of the investigation and will listen to you**



# REPORTING THE INCIDENT

- There is no time limit on reporting rape or laying a charge
- However, it is easier to get proper evidence when the crime is reported & investigated as soon as possible
- Try to report the rape to the police station nearest to where the rape took place
- No rape survivor may be turned away simply because the rape took place a long time ago or was committed in the station area of another police station
- If you can, take someone you trust along to the police station
- You have the right to speak to a female police officer if you feel uncomfortable telling a male officer what happened



# THE STATEMENT

- ✍️ **A full statement will be taken (where a survivor is too traumatised to provide a full statement, a preliminary statement will be taken at that point, and a full, supplementary statement will be taken at a later stage)**
- ✍️ **Taking your statement involves giving the police intimate details of the assault. If the presence of any party inhibit you from talking about these details, ask the person to leave**
- ✍️ **The police will ask you to tell them what happened to you. Tell them everything that occurred during the attack**
- ✍️ **The police investigator will ask you several questions during this time. Be patient and answer each question as thoroughly as you can**
- ✍️ **Sign the statement ONLY if you agree with everything in it & are satisfied with how it was written (you have the right to have the statement read back to you before you sign it)**



# THE STATEMENT

## YOUR RIGHTS DURING GIVING OF THE STATEMENT:

- ☞ To have privacy while giving your statement
- ☞ To be comfortable while giving your statement
- ☞ To have someone with you to support you (provided this person is not a witness to the assault)
- ☞ To make your statement in your own language
- ☞ To have the statement read back to you before signing it



# *How can I help my case during investigation stage?*

- ↳ Stay in contact with your investigating officer & phone him/her regularly. (The investigating officer must update you regularly on the status of the investigation and prosecution)
- ↳ Ensure your case investigator knows where to find you at all times
- ↳ If you remember more details of the incident at a later time, tell your investigating officer immediately. Try to explain WHY you did not remember (for example, because you were traumatised or upset at the time)
- ↳ When the case goes to court, meet with the prosecutor before your testimony to discuss the trial
- ↳ Lodge a complaint if you feel your case is not being investigated properly (do this with the investigator's commanding officer or provincial detective head)



# THE IDENTITY PARADE

- Once your rapist has been arrested, the investigating officer might contact you to attend an identity parade to confirm the identity of your attacker from a row of men/women
- This is a vital part of evidence collection
- While it may be a traumatising experience, the police should make you feel safe and at ease
- You do not have to touch your attacker, you will not be in the same room with him and he will not be looking at you while making the identification
- If your attacker is well-known to you, for example a family member, no identity parade will be necessary



# Support for Victims of Sexual Offences

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# MEDICAL ATTENTION!

***Remember: There is a difference between medical treatment & medico-legal management***

- You should receive *emergency medical attention/treatment as soon as possible*
- Even if you are not bleeding, you may still be hurt
- You must first be provided with anti-retroviral treatments to prevent HIV infection, but must also receive immediate medical treatment for any serious injuries
- At a later stage, you will also receive treatment for pregnancy, other sexually transmitted infections, as well as additional preventative care
- Remember, even if you decide not to report the rape, you can (and should) still receive medical treatment
- The collection of evidence is vital to the eventual prosecution of the attacker & is done during the *medico-legal management*

## MEDICAL TREATMENT

VS

## MEDICO-LEGAL MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Receive regardless of whether report is filed with police
- ✓ HIV counselling and testing
- ✓ HIV prophylaxis (within 72 hours)
- ✓ Examination (incl gynaecological examination)
- ✓ Pregnancy test and treatment
- ✓ Other prophylaxis: STIs, emergency contraception, hepatitis, tetanus, etc.
- ✓ Any medical treatment necessary
- ✓ Referral to specialists if necessary

- 🔑 Relevant to criminal proceedings later
- 🔑 Use of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) provided by SAPS
- 🔑 Taking of specimens
- 🔑 Compiling of medico-legal report

# AT THE HOSPITAL...

- ☞ **Forensic examination & evidence collection may take a long time**
- ☞ **You will be examined by a clinical forensic practitioner (doctor/nurse) specially trained to gather evidence & offer medical treatment**
- ☞ **You may take someone you trust with you**
- ☞ **Your permission will be requested to perform HIV testing (after counselling)**
- ☞ **Emergency contraception can be provided within 5 days after the incident. (You may also consult the medical practitioner about options regarding termination of pregnancy if the rape occurred more than 72 hours ago)**

# MEDICAL ATTENTION

- ❏ **CONSENT** is always required for medical treatment & examination of adults & children
- ❏ Survivors receiving medical care have the right to withdraw consent for medical attention at any time
- ❏ Children can give consent for medical treatment, including HIV prophylaxis, medical and medico-legal examinations from the age of 12 years, on condition that they understand the procedures
- ❏ For children under the age of 12 years, consent can only be given by a parent or guardian, and, if they are not available, a magistrate must provide such consent

# THE FORENSIC EXAMINATION

During this procedure, evidence will be collected for later use in the criminal trial

## Who performs the forensic / medico-legal examination?

- ⌘ The clinical forensic practitioner, who is a specially trained doctor / registered nurse
- ⌘ The clinical forensic practitioner is charged with the duty of collecting evidence in support of the survivor's statement to the police

# **How does the forensic / medico-legal examination work?**

- The investigating officer, when taking you to the hospital or when contacted by hospital personnel, will take a Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) along to the hospital
- This SAECK is a set of specially designed kits for keeping all the forensic evidence of the rape collected from the survivor in a clean, uncontaminated package
- Prior to the examination, the rape survivor will have to sign a consent form. This is to agree and give consent to the examination
- The doctor or nurse will ask for the medical history, which includes details about the rape
- Some of the survivor's clothing may be taken as evidence at a later stage.
- If you know of any evidence present on any part of your body or the scene, you must bring this under the attention of the investigating police officer.

- The doctor or nurse will take relevant collection of swabs. The swabs taken may include:
  - Inside the mouth (to obtain rapist's saliva)
  - Genital swabs
  - Any other place on the body that the rapist may have licked or deposited bodily fluids
  
- The doctor or nurse will examine the rest of the survivor's body and collect samples to find evidence of the rapist's hair, saliva and semen. **It is thus important to tell the doctor where the rapist touched you, so that as much evidence as possible can be collected.**
  
- All information obtained during the examination will be written on a J88 medical report form, which details the doctor or nurse's findings for use in the criminal trial.
  
- All pieces of evidence is put in the SAECK and handed to the police.
  
- The SAECK will be kept safe until a suspect is apprehended, when it will then be sent to the forensic science laboratory for analysis.

# **HOW DO I REPORT FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION?**

Report at: Thuthuzela Care Centre in BLOEMFONTEIN (which is a forensic nurse-driven service):

## **Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC)**

24 hour contact via National District Hospital Casualties

10 Roth Avenue

Willows

Bloemfontein

9301

Tel: +27 51 403 9936

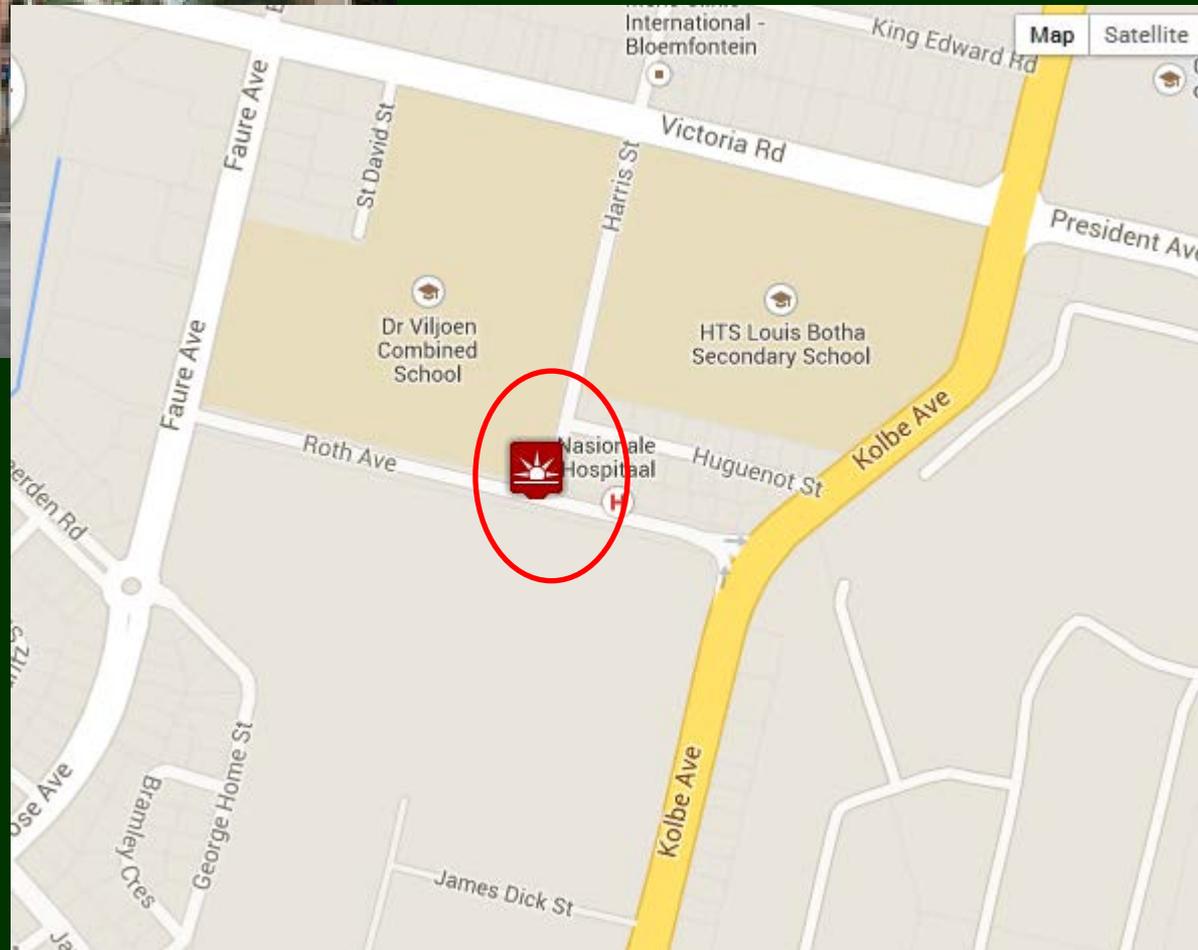
## **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CLINIC**

Referral clinic for cases reported after 72 hours. Referral to be done by a professional person / private medical practitioner

Appointments: Tshepong TCC +27 51 403 9936



# NATIONAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL BFN



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# THE CRIME SCENE

- 🔍 **The crime scene, which includes the body of a sexual assault survivor, will be carefully studied for evidence**
- 🔍 **The crime scene will be preserved until all possible evidence has been collected**
- 🔍 **The scene of the attack will be recorded by way of photographs, video & sketches**
- 🔍 **Possible evidential material will be collected & sent to one of the SAPS Forensic Science Laboratories**

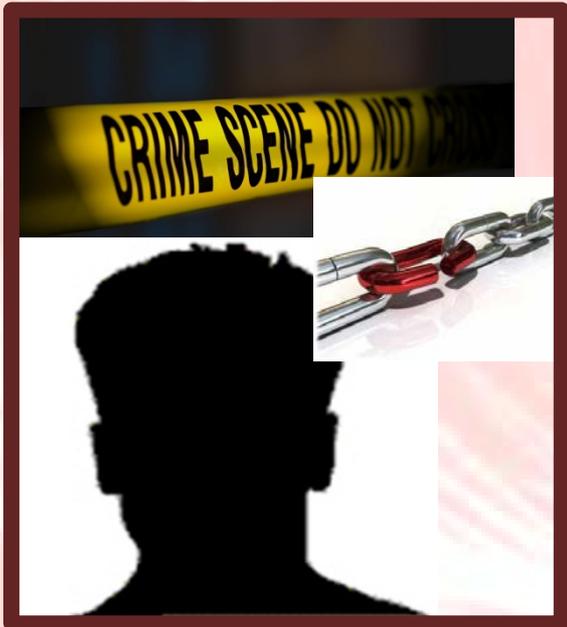
# AT THE LAB...

- 📍 While investigating officers are interviewing witnesses & possible suspects, the forensic scientists at the Forensic Science Laboratories of the SAPS will be examining evidence collected from the crime scenes
- 📍 The objective of forensic analyses:
  - Provide information on the *identity of the attacker*
  - Provide a *link between the attacker & the crime scene*
- 📍 Biological material that could yield DNA (genetic 'fingerprint') belonging to the attacker in rape cases, include:
  - Blood
  - Skin
  - Saliva
  - Tissue under nails
  - Hair
  - Semen

# OBJECTIVE OF FORENSIC ANALYSES



- Blood
- Skin
- Saliva
- Tissue under nails
- Hair
- Semen





# DNA EVIDENCE



- Every person's DNA is unique. By comparing the DNA profile of one person (e.g. that of the accused) to the profile of another (e.g. the unknown DNA profile taken from the crime scene), it can be determined if the unknown profile belongs to the accused or to someone else
- Following this comparison, one of three results can be obtained and presented to court:

## INCLUSION ("Match")

- The accused *could* be the donor of the DNA. This result must still be interpreted in light of population statistics (what is the *probability* that someone else could have been the donor?)
- If the DNA profiles match, other evidence must still be presented to prove guilt in the eyes of the law

## EXCLUSION

- The DNA from the crime scene does not belong to the accused

## INCONCLUSIVE

- No conclusion can be made from the analysis (e.g. when insufficient amounts of DNA is available)
- Does not indicate guilt or innocence

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# THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: YOUR CASE GOES TO TRIAL

Laying a charge against your attacker does not guarantee that he/she will be caught, kept in custody (the term used to describe someone who has been arrested by the police), convicted of the crime or properly sentenced.

The path from reporting a rape, to conviction and sentencing of the offender is often a stressful, frustrating and disappointing one. However, the members of the criminal justice system will work very hard to ensure that justice is done.

The ensuing criminal trial may also be a scary one, especially if you have never had exposure to the inside of a courtroom. The following section is aimed at providing you with some information to ease the discomfort and fear associated with criminal proceedings.





**CRIMINAL  
INVESTIGATION**



**DOCKET TO PUBLIC  
PROSECUTOR FOR  
DECISION /  
DIRECTIONS**

**THE SENTENCE**



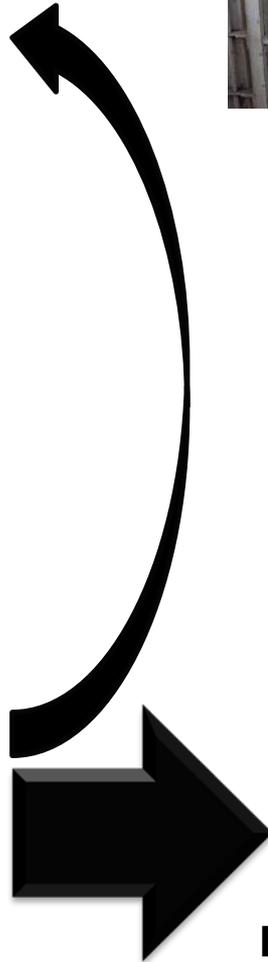
**THE VERDICT**



**THE TRIAL**



**BAIL APPLICATION IN  
COURT**





# CASE DOCKET TO THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR FOR DECISION / DIRECTIONS

- The investigating officer submits the case docket to the public prosecutor to:
  - *Decide* whether prosecution will be instituted
  - *Direct* the investigator to complete further investigations
- If the prosecutor decides not to prosecute, it does not mean that the police and prosecutor do not believe you. It simply means there is not enough evidence in the docket to secure a conviction. (Prosecutors will never 'give it a try'. Once an accused has been found not guilty, he/she may never stand trial on the same facts again.)
- If you are dissatisfied with the decision by the prosecutor, you have the right to make representations to the DPP's office.
- If no prosecution follows, you can still apply for a protection order that stipulates that the rapist should not contact you or approach you in any way.
- Remember: **Rape is one of the most difficult cases to prove! The burden to prove a rape case is that the guilt must be proven *beyond reasonable doubt*.**

# BAIL APPLICATION / BAIL HEARING



- Bail is an agreement in which an accused is temporarily released from custody and pays an amount of money as surety that he/she will appear in court on all the dates of appearance (Failure to appear → arrested)
- Accused persons have a constitutional right to apply for bail
- *If bail is granted to the accused, it does NOT mean that he/she is considered innocent by the court*
- The bail hearing is separate from the trial. You need not attend the bail hearing, but you can if you want to. (Inform the investigating officer so that he/she may inform you of the hearing date). Tell your investigating officer all the reasons you can think of why the accused should not be released on bail. (In exceptional circumstances you might be asked to provide these reasons in court).
- If an accused receives bail, he/she is not allowed to do certain things, such as leave the country or intimidate you or your family. Should this happen, be sure to let the police know *immediately*. If nothing is done, you must report this to the station commander or the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID).



# THE TRIAL

- **Go to court on every date that you are ordered to do so! (The investigating officer will notify you of the court date by way of a witness subpoena).**
- **Before trial starts, your prosecutor will schedule a meeting with you. During this meeting:**
  - *You may ask the prosecutor questions about the trial*
  - *You must tell the prosecutor exactly what happened. Read your police statement to refresh your memory*
  - *You may discuss with the prosecutor possible questions that may be asked in court*
- **The prosecutor acts on your behalf and for the State. The rapist is referred to as 'the accused', and his legal representative is the 'defence counsel'.**
- **You will be protected in court by the police court orderly.**
- **On the day that you are called to court, be sure to be there before 09:00. You will be seated separately from the accused & other witnesses.**

- If you travel from your home to court, talk to your prosecutor about the possibility of reimbursement.
- Unfortunately, cases do not always proceed on the day set for trial. Postponements are a reality in criminal proceedings and cases may take months or even years to finalise. Do not give up! Postponements occur for a variety of reasons, for example the prosecutor or defence counsel need more time to prepare for trial, the accused has fallen ill, or you have examinations to write, in which case you yourself may request a postponement.

## **IN CAMERA PROCEEDINGS**

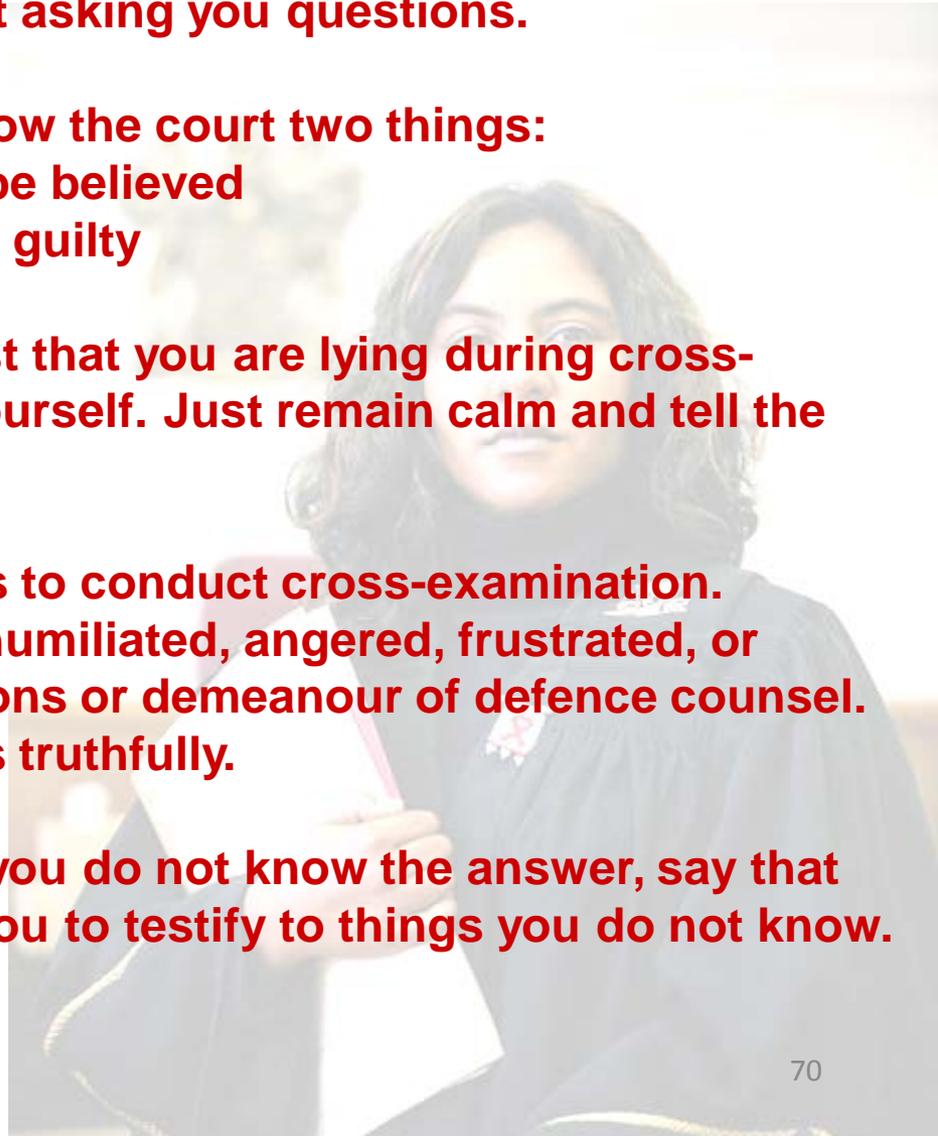
- If you are under 18 years of age, the court will automatically be cleared of the general public.
- If you are over 18 years of age, you may ask that the court be cleared of the general public while you give your testimony. This is called an *in camera* hearing.
- Children will testify through an intermediary, which means the child witness will remain in a separate room while giving testimony.

# GIVING TESTIMONY – Examination-in-chief

- As the survivor, you will probably be the first person to give evidence in the trial.
- You are entitled to give testimony in your home language. (An interpreter will translate your testimony. If the interpreter is not translating your testimony correctly, tell the magistrate or judge immediately.)
- You will be asked by the presiding officer to promise/swear to tell the truth.
- The prosecutor will be first to stand & ask you questions:
  - *Listen to these questions carefully & answer truthfully*
  - *Do not volunteer information not asked by the prosecutor – answer only what was asked*
  - *Speak slowly & clearly. Take your time & use pauses in between points*
  - *When the presiding officer asks you to wait before continuing your testimony, take a deep breath and wait until he/she has completed their written notes*

# CROSS-EXAMINATION

- **When the prosecutor is done asking questions, the accused's legal representative will stand up and start asking you questions.**
- **The duty of defence counsel is to show the court two things:**
  - **That your story cannot be believed**
  - **That his/her client is not guilty**
- **While defence counsel might suggest that you are lying during cross-examination, you need not defend yourself. Just remain calm and tell the truth.**
- **Defence counsel use different tactics to conduct cross-examination. Sometimes survivors feel attacked, humiliated, angered, frustrated, or offended by the suggestions, questions or demeanour of defence counsel. REMAIN CALM. Answer all questions truthfully.**
- **Where a question is asked of which you do not know the answer, say that you do not know. No-one will force you to testify to things you do not know.**



**Who do I contact at the Court for Sexual Offences if I am in need of information regarding the criminal trial?**

## **Court for Sexual Offences in BLOEMFONTEIN:**

**Bloemfontein Magistrates Court  
Pres Brand Street  
Bloemfontein**

**Tel: 051 506 1307**



**Who do I contact at the Court for Sexual Offences if I am in need of information regarding the criminal trial?**

**WELKOM Dedicated Court for Sexual Offences**

**Magistrates Court in Welkom  
1 Heeren Street  
Welkom**

**Tel: 057 916 2500**



# **Who do I contact at the Court for Sexual Offences if I am in need of information regarding the criminal trial?**

**Magistrates court – Bethlehem**

**Oxford Street  
Bethlehem**

**Tel: 058 303 5386**



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# IT HAPPENED TO YOU TOO...

**Family and friends of rape survivors are survivors unto themselves. However, they often suffer in silence. Please remember that your pain and sadness over what happened to your loved one is justified and you should take care of yourself as much as you care for the rape survivor.**

**The path to recovery is a long one. The rape survivor will likely go through a range of intense emotions and responses. Remember, there is no 'normal' response to rape and you might at times feel helpless and frustrated.**

**There is hope. Do not hesitate to seek out counselling, for you too carry a heavy burden. While we provide some suggestions here, feel free to seek out online support groups where you may receive support from other loved ones of rape survivors and where you may obtain valuable information and hints at dealing with your own situation.**

# POSSIBLE PROBLEMS AFTER RAPE...



**Strained  
relations with  
family/friends**



**Neglect of  
children /  
spouse**



**Alienation  
of loved  
ones**

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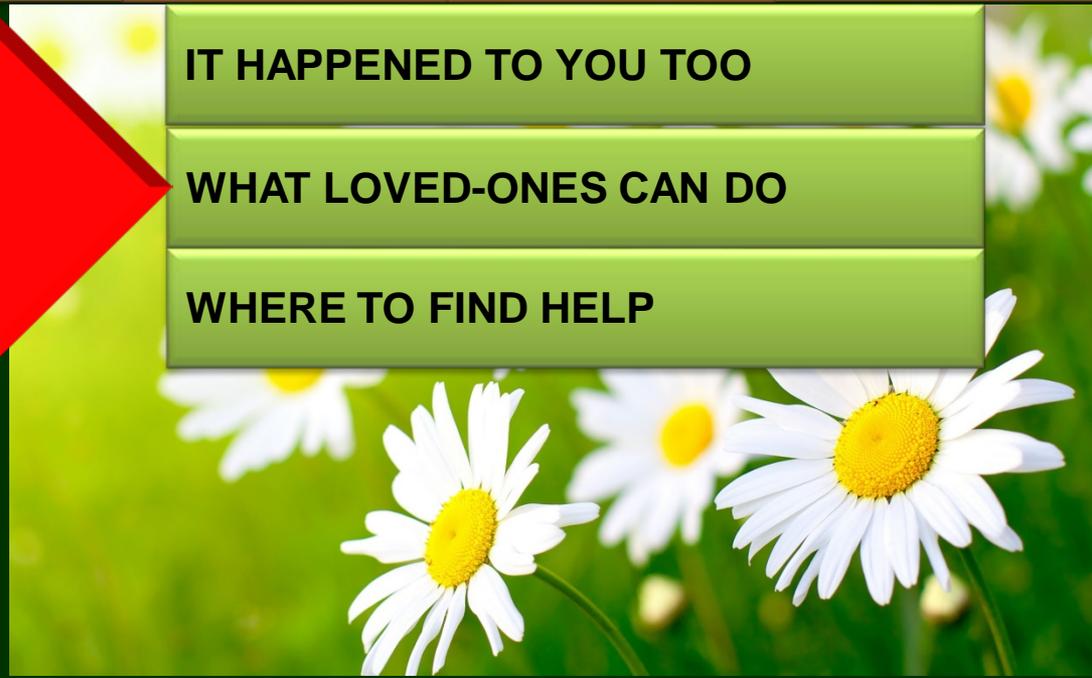


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# **SOMEONE I CARE ABOUT WAS RAPED...WHAT NOW?!**

## **1. REMAIN CALM AND LISTEN**

Even if you feel enraged and devastated, your calmness will sooth your loved one. Rage will just traumatise the victim more.

It is vital to *listen* to the survivor. No matter how many times the survivor needs to tell his/her story, listen without judgement.

## **2. ENCOURAGE THE SURVIVOR TO RECEIVE MEDICAL ATTENTION**

Even if the survivor does not want to report the rape to the SAPS, he/she has to the right to medical care, which includes HIV and pregnancy prophylactic treatment and treatment of injuries

## **3. EMPOWER YOUR LOVED ONE**

The rape survivor's control was taken from him/her through the assault. Let the survivor have control over what the next step will be. Let them express their feelings without your opinion. If they prefer to remain silent, just let them know that you are there and ready to listen whenever they are ready to talk.

#### **4. ENCOURAGE THE RAPE SURVIVOR TO REPORT THE RAPE**

**Without placing undue pressure on your love one, suggest the rape be reported to the SAPS.**

#### **5. MAINTAIN YOUR LOVED ONE'S TRUST**

**Keep all communication from your loved one confidential. It is very important to provide the rape survivor with a safe environment to talk and share.**

#### **6. ENCOURAGE THE RAPE SURVIVOR TO SEEK COUNSELLING**

**Encourage your loved one to seek professional counselling, to join a support group (even if it is online!), to express his/her feelings through art, writing or other outlets. Do not be satisfied with your loved one simply burying their feelings.**

#### **7. REMAIN STRONG YOURSELF**

**It is not easy remaining strong, patient and understanding throughout the long and arduous process of healing of a rape survivor. Don't hesitate to seek support and/or counselling for yourself. The stronger you are, the stronger support you'll be.**

# **NOTIFICATION:**

**In terms of *the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007*, the following-**

**Anyone who suspects a child or a mentally disabled person is being sexually abused MUST report this to a member of the South African Police Service (SAPS)!**

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# FINDING HELP...

Your loved-one, the rape *survivor*, takes priority. As far as you can, make sure the survivor has received medical care. 24 hour emergency medical care is available at the nearest hospital. In Bloemfontein, the District National Hospital (see Contact Us) is specially equipped to provide both medical care and manage the forensic medical examination.

Counselling is a vital part of the healing process. Counselling can also be obtained through visiting the District National Hospital.

If your loved-one is unwilling or unable to obtain counselling, see the section under 'Survivors': Where to find help

While it is important that your loved-one receive whatever support and assistance they need, it is also important that you too receive help and support.

Do not hesitate to talk to friends and family.

Obtain counselling yourself, and where this is difficult to do, access online support groups to share your experience and obtain valuable information on dealing with your unique situation in the best & most healthy way possible.

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CHILD VICTIMS

MALE VICTIMS



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# CHILD VICTIMS

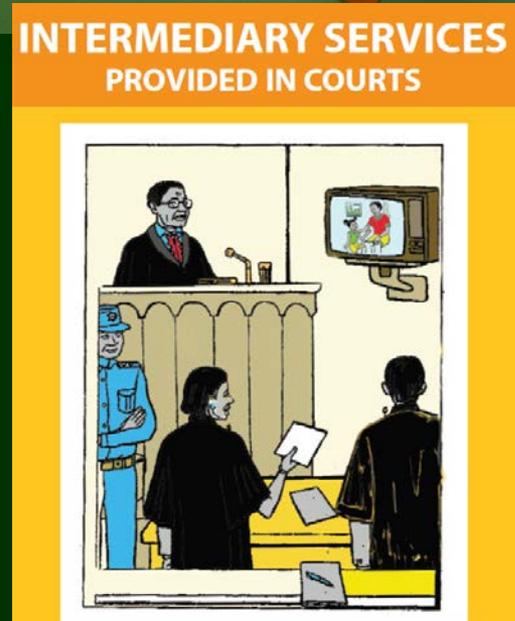


- Children will be seated in a child-friendly waiting room where they can play with toys provided to shorten a long day at court
- Child witnesses may receive a teddy bear when they testify at court, knitted especially for them by the Teddy Bear Project (subject to the availability of stock)
- Child witnesses normally testify by way of intermediary, which means that the child witness will remain in a separate room and testify via an appointed third person (for example, a retired teacher may be appointed by court to act as intermediary)



## **HOW DO CHILDREN TESTIFY IN COURT?**

- ☞ Children testify from a separate room, known as the witness testifying room
- ☞ The child will not see the courtroom / accused
- ☞ A video camera / one-way mirror is attached to the wall opposite from where the child sits
- ☞ The intermediary has earphones to enable him/her to follow the proceedings in court
- ☞ The intermediary will hear the questions & put these to the child, whose answers will be captured on the live video link



**To read more on the use of intermediaries in cases where children testify, please read the following:**

**<http://www.justice.gov.za/vg/sxo/2013-sxo-intermediary-services.pdf>**

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# MALE VICTIMS

Rape is about control, aggression and domination. The fact that men are raped is still surrounded by a great deal of silence and stigma.

Interviews with rapists have revealed that many rapists do not have a specific gender preference but believe that overpowering women would be easier than men.

Unfortunately, ridiculous myths surround the rape of men:

**MYTH 1: MEN CANNOT BE OVERPOWERED**

**TRUTH: RAPISTS CAN OVERPOWER MEN AND DO SO THROUGH THE USE OF WEAPONS AND EXTREME VIOLENCE, WHICH OFTEN RESULT IN SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURIES**

# MALE VICTIMS

**MYTH 2: ONLY GAY MEN ARE RAPED AND ONLY GAY MEN RAPE OTHER MEN**

**TRUTH: RAPE IS ABOUT POWER AND CONTROL, NOT SEXUAL DESIRE. THE RAPIST USES RAPE AS A WEAPON TO DOMINATE THE VICTIM, WHETHER MALE OF FEMALE. HETEROSEXUAL MEN RAPE AND ARE RAPED**

**MYTH 3: GAY MEN DESERVE TO BE RAPED**

**TRUTH: NO HUMAN BEING DESERVES TO BE RAPED. IT IS ILLEGAL TO VICTIMISE HOMOSEXUAL PEOPLE IN ANY MANNER.**

**MYTH 4: ALL MEN WHO WERE RAPED BECOME ABUSERS THEMSELVES**

**TRUTH: MALE RAPE SURVIVORS DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY BECOME ABUSERS! SURVIVORS WHO ARE SUPPORTED AND CAN TALK ABOUT THEIR ORDEAL DO NOT BECOME ABUSERS.**

# MALE VICTIMS

**MYTH 5: IF THE MALE VICTIM GETS AN ERECTION AND EJACULATES DURING RAPE, IT MEANS HE ENJOYED IT**

**TRUTH: THIS IS UNTRUE! ERECTIONS AND EJACULATIONS DURING RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE ARE THE MALE BODY'S PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO THE PHYSICAL CONTACT. RAPISTS OFTEN USE THIS KNOWLEDGE TO FURTHER HUMILIATE THE MALE VICTIM AND ENCOURAGE THE VICTIM NOT TO REPORT THE RAPE. IT DOES *NOT MEAN THAT THE MALE SURVIVOR ENJOYED THE RAPE.* IN FACT, THIS TRAUMATISES THE VICTIM EVEN MORE.**

**MYTH 6: HETEROSEXUAL MEN WHO ARE RAPED BECOME HOMOSEXUAL**

**TRUTH: RAPE CANNOT CHANGE SOMEONE'S SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

# MALE VICTIMS

**Male rape survivors experience most of the same symptoms as women do. Unfortunately, the way people treat male survivors differ greatly from the way people treat female victims. People often question male survivors' manliness and ability of willingness to defend themselves. *This increases the trauma and shock for men who were victims of rape.***

**Men are often too humiliated to report rape. A silent culture is created in which men are silent sufferers.**

**If you are a survivor of rape, remember that you are not alone. Male rape is under-researched and under-reported but it is a horribly frequent occurrence. You are entitled to the same medical attention, medico-legal examination, counselling and right to justice as female survivors.**

**Men often do not seek counselling and support. As a male survivor you might be going through some doubt regarding your sexuality, depression and great rage. These intense feelings are unlikely to go away by themselves and are very harmful to yourself and your loved ones. Get help as soon as possible. This is the quickest, truest way of getting onto the path of healing.**

# MALE VICTIMS

The road to recovery...

## 1. TALK ABOUT IT

This will likely be your most difficult task. Because male rape is such an unspoken crime, people are often unsure of what to say to support you. Before you tell a person what happened, think why you would wish them to know. How do you want them to react? People are scared of things they do not know or understand. Accept that not everyone you tell will understand what you have been through, and be prepared for this.

## 2. TAKE SOME TIME OUT

Trauma still affects your body and your emotions for a while after the event. To give yourself space to heal, hand over some of your responsibilities. Emotional injuries are no less serious than physical injuries.

# MALE VICTIMS

## 3. WRITE IT DOWN

A safe and effective way of releasing stress, anger and confusion is to write. Put your thoughts and feelings down on paper. Read your earlier thoughts every now and then. You will find you heal as time goes by.

## 4. TAKE CARE OF INTENSE NEGATIVE EMOTIONS AND RESPONSES

You might experience intense feelings of anger, anxiety, guilt, etc. Do not allow these feelings to grow stronger and stronger. Adopt forms of release like working out, walking, gardening or any other activity that might bring you some peace.

# MALE VICTIMS

## 5. COUNSELLING

If you find that you are not talking about your rape to your loved ones to spare them further pain and suffering, seek help. Phone a rape helpline or connect to support groups online. Talking to a counsellor allows you to say things without the constant fear of hurting or burdening someone. You don't have to cope with the rape all on your own...

## 6. STAY HEALTHY

While physical fitness may be the last thing on your mind, it is very important to stay healthy as it will help you cope mentally and emotionally. The anxiety and emotional trauma may deplete your energy levels, cause sleeplessness, or loss of appetite, but purposefully trying to stay healthy will help.

# Support for Victims of Sexual Offences

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CONTACT US

**Welcome...**  
**Welkom...**  
**Kamohelo...**

The objective of this website is to provide victims of sexual offences in the region of Bloemfontein, and their loved-ones, with information, support and the help they need.



**Tshepong  
Thuthuzela  
Care Centre**

**Tshepong  
Domestic  
Violence  
Centre**

**SAPS**



# CONTACT DETAILS FOR THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRES ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA

- ❁ Free State (Bloemfontein): TCC National Hospital (051-403 9936)
- ❁ Northern Cape (Kimberley): TCC Galeshewe, Kimberley Northern Cape Hospital (053-830 8900)
- ❁ Gauteng (Mamelodi): TCC Mamelodi Hospital (012-801 2717)
- ❁ Gauteng (Soweto/JHB): TCC Soweto, Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital (011-933 1229/3346) / TCC Natalspruit Hospital (011-909 1002/3/6/9)
- ❁ Gauteng (Kopanong): TCC Kopanong, Kopanong Hospital (016 428 5959)
- ❁ Eastern Cape: TCC Libode, Umtata (047-568 6274) / TCC Mdantsane (043-761 2023)
- ❁ KwaZuluNatal: TCC Phoenix Crisis Centre, Mahatma Ghandi Hospital (031-502 2338) / TCC Umlazi, Prince Mshiyeni Hospital (031-907 8496)
- ❁ NorthWest Province (Mafikeng): TCC Mafikeng, Mafikeng Hospital (018-383 7000)
- ❁ Western Cape: GF Jooste Hospital (021-691 6194)

# CONTACT DETAILS FOR MAGISTRATES COURTS IN THE FREE STATE

- ❁ **BLOEMFONTEIN MAGISTRATES COURT (Sexual Offences Court)**
  - **Tel: 051 506 1307**
  
- ❁ **WELKOM MAGISTRATES COURT (Request the Dedicated Court for Sexual Offences)**
  - **Tel: 057 916 2500**
  
- ❁ **BETHLEHEM MAGISTRATES COURT**
  - **058 303 5386**

# SAPS CONTACT DETAILS:

## **BLOEMFONTEIN:**

- **Bainsvlei SAPS**                      **051 409 6051**
- **Batho SAPS**                              **051 409 7316**
- **Bayswater SAPS**                      **051 406 2602**
- **Bloemspruit SAPS**                      **051 503 4000**
- **Heidedal SAPS**                         **051 409 7212**
- **Kagisanong SAPS**                      **051 409 5603**
- **Kopanong SAPS**                         **051 423 2512**
- **Mangaung SAPS**                         **051 406 4401**
- **Navalsig SAPS**                         **051 507 6244**
- **Parkweg SAPS**                         **051 507 6000**

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# **TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)**

## **What are Thuthuzela Care Centres?**

- ❁ One-stop facilities, part of RSA's critical anti-rape strategy**
- ❁ Aims: reduce trauma for survivors / improve conviction rates**
- ❁ Represents specialised, integrated, child-friendly approach to survivor support and rape prosecution**

# TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)

## ❁ The objectives of the TCC are realised in the establishment of Thuthuzela Care Centres across South Africa:

- ❁ Free State (Bloemfontein): TCC National Hospital (051-403 9936)
- ❁ Northern Cape (Kimberley): TCC Galeshewe, Kimberley Northern Cape Hospital (053-830 8900)
- ❁ Gauteng (Mamelodi): TCC Mamelodi Hospital (012-801 2717)
- ❁ Gauteng (Soweto/JHB): TCC Soweto, Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital (011-933 1206/1229/3346) / TCC Natalspruit Hospital (011-909 1002/3/6/9)
- ❁ Gauteng (Kopanong): TCC Kopanong, Kopanong Hospital (016 428 5959)
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- ❁ NorthWest Province (Mafikeng): TCC Mafikeng, Mafikeng Hospital (018-383 7000)
- ❁ Western Cape: GF Jooste Hospital (021-691 6194)

# **TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)**

## **What can I expect when visiting a TCC?**

- 1) Welcomed & comforted by site co-ordinator / nurse**
- 2) Explanation of medical treatment & medico-legal examination**
- 3) Receive emergency medical treatment as required**
- 4) Forensic medical examination conducted**
- 5) Questioned by investigating officer of the SAPS**
- 6) Receive counselling from social worker**
- 7) Arrangements to go to place of safety if necessary**
- 8) Receive assistance in understanding processes & outcomes of trial**

# TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)

## WHO ARE THE MAJOR ROLE-PLAYERS AT THE TCC?

### ☞ FORENSIC NURSE

- Conducts the forensic and medical examination
- Conducts testing procedures such as pregnancy tests and HIV testing
- Arranges follow-up visits, especially VCT

# TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)

## VICTIM ASSISTANCE OFFICER (VAO)

- This person provides the survivor with an explanation of VAO services and prepares the survivor for his/her court appearance
- The VAO completes the intake form
- Provides survivors with follow-up services (telephonically) during counselling & VCT check-ups
- Informs the survivor about the status of the case

## SITE CO-ORDINATOR

- Orientate the survivor about the centre
- Completes the intake form
- Arranges transportation for victim with investigating officers
- Contacts the standby social worker (from the Department of Social Development) when necessary

# TSHEPONG THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC)

## CHILD WELFARE

- Social worker provides children with counselling
- Does bookings for follow-up visits

## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Social worker provides adult survivors with counselling
- Arranges follow-up meetings with survivors

# TCC BLOEMFONTEIN



## Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre

**National District Hospital:  
10 Roth Avenue, Willows  
Bloemfontein, 9301**

**Tel: 051 403 9936**

**The Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre is situated in the National District Hospital in Bloemfontein (The Tshepong Domestic Violence Centre is situated on the same premises, in front of the Hospital)**

## CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CLINIC

**Referral clinic for cases reported after 72 hours.**

**Appointments: Tshepong Thuthuzela Care Centre**

# TCC BLOEMFONTEIN

**24Hours  
emergency  
medical  
assistance**

**Organise &  
conduct  
forensic  
medical  
examination**

**Organise  
follow-up  
care &  
court  
preparation**

# TCC BLOEMFONTEIN

## MEET THE TEAM:

### MEDICAL STAFF AT NATIONAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL

- ☼ @ 10 Roth Avenue, Willows
- ☼ Contact them at: 051 403 9936

### CASE MANAGER: TCC BFN

- ☼ Michêle Nel – 051 506 1306
- ☼ 24 hour contact via National Hospital Casualties

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# TSHEPONG DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTRE

- ↳ **On premises of National Hospital. Building situated in front of Hospital**
- ↳ **Assistance in terms of *Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998* to survivors of domestic violence**

***Why is this centre important to survivors of rape?***

**Where rape survivors are in need of protection against attacks or intimidation, they can visit this centre to apply for protection orders specifically worded to suit their exact needs**

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*Please contact us for any suggestions, requests for help or information.*

*Our sincere thanks to the Cape Town Trust's Rape Crisis Centre website for the generous provision of information. Please visit their website at: <http://rapecrisis.org.za>.*