



**DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

MEDIA STATEMENT

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**All editors/Reporters
For immediate**

The MEC for Social Development Nkakareng Rakgoale, has expressed concern over the continuing incidents of gender based violence. This after a Capricorn TVET College student Precious Ramabulana was brutally murdered and raped at the weekend. Rakgoale says it is disappointing that the incident happened a few hours before the country could launch 16 Day of Activism Against the abuse of Women and Children. Yesterday President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the campaign at Witpoort outside Lephalale in the province.

Rakgoale says a team of social workers, which has already been deployed to the family, is providing psychosocial support services to the family of the deceased and other affected people. Rakgoale says the team will also make an assessment to ascertain whether further assistance can be rendered to the family as they will be preparing to bury their loved one.

"I am devastated as another beautiful young life has been ripped away by a seemingly heartless individual. The fact that this incident happened on the eve of the start of the observation of 16 Days of No Violence Against Women and Children, is an indication that our messages are just falling on deaf ears. We are asking for respect for our women and children, but instead they are being raped and murdered."

"We welcome President Cyril Ramaphosa's plans to curb gender based violence as he says it will be swiftly implemented and that the perpetrators of gender based violence will be given life sentences. These heinous acts are robbing the country of its future leaders.

I would also want to take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt condolences to the Ramabulana family. May the soul of Precious Ramabulana rest in peace." said MEC Rakgoale.

Issued by the Department of Social Development Communications Unit. For inquiries, kindly contact Spokesperson Witness Tiva on 071 249 2178 or 071 609 9090