

Minister of Police strongly condemns horrific acts of gender-based violence and social media exploitation

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Media Statement

Issued by the Police Ministry

PRETORIA - The Minister of Police, Mr Senzo Mchunu, condemns in the strongest terms the appalling acts of gender-based violence and the deeply disturbing exploitation of social media platforms by an individual who confessed to killing his girlfriend. The individual not only brazenly recorded himself making this horrific confession but also posted a picture of the deceased victim online. The suspect was later found deceased, having taken his own life by hanging near the scene where the victim tragically lost her life.

In his condemnation, Minister Mchunu expressed the following: "This shocking incident is a grim reminder of the ongoing scourge of gender-based violence in our society. Such acts of violence are a betrayal of our shared humanity and have no place in our nation. Furthermore, the use of social media to amplify such cruelty is utterly unacceptable and reflects a disregard for basic decency and the dignity of others. The act of this individual having taken his own life ends the immediate legal pursuit of justice, but it does not diminish the severity of his actions or the pain inflicted on the victim, the victim's family, friends, and community, including his own family. Families and communities need to be very much alive and alert to issues of mental health of their members; any sign or suspicion of this disease must be reported to Social Workers and other authorities without any delay. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and loved ones of the victim and reaffirm the government's commitment to intensifying efforts to create a society where women and children can live free from fear."

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