



MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

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'Refrain from giving criminals the respect they don't deserve,' says MEC Motlhabane

Reclaiming the streets was the theme of the recent march which demonstrated the commitment of the Bokone Bophirima Provincial Government, Municipalities, SAPS, business sector and the communities of the Province in our concerted fight against crime.

The program which was focused on; sexual abuse against elderly, vulnerable children and women, attracted over a thousands people who attended this launch recently organised by the Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Dr Mokgantshang "Mpho" Motlhabane on the march.

This program which started in a form of a march recorded a historic attendance and following was part of activities during the official launch of the 2017 February Safety Month held at Boitekong Extension 23 in Rustenburg.

The communities utilised the opportunity to voice out their concerns regarding high rate of crime, drug abuse, including dissatisfaction over the manner in which police are handling reported cases.

Elderly women who came in numbers to support the march, cited instances where they allege that some police officials are found working together with criminals.

The community requested that MEC Motlhabane and the Provincial Police Commissioner who also attended this program, Lt Gen Baile Motswenyane to intervene in curbing the involvement of certain police officers in acts of criminality. "Your intervention will assist to rebuild the trust and restore our confidence on our police," said one of the elderly.

In his address, MEC Motlhabane said the country as a whole is suffering from a high level of criminal activities, where people continue to be victimised by selfish, dangerous and heartless criminals.

"We should work together to put these criminals where they belong, in jail. It is a fact that the government alone cannot win the fight against crime, but it takes a community and the nation at large to build a crime free society, a safe and secured

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nation. Safety of our community is a collective responsibility which can be realised through a collective efforts.

We need to refrain from giving criminals the respect they do not deserve and begin to restore the dignity of our elderly persons. We must make them feel safe wherever they are,” said Dr Motlhabane.

The departmental MEC said the department will continue mobilising men and women, business sectors, churches, Community Safety Forums (CSF), Community Policing Forums (CPF) and all relevant stakeholders with a sole objective of strengthening the partnership to fight crime and make South Africa a safe country.

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