



## Communication Service Kommunikasiediens

Office of the Station Commissioner	PO Box 2549	Honeydew 2040	Tel (011) 801-8507
Kantoor van die Stasie Kommissaris	Posbus 2549	Honeydew 2040	Fax (011) 801-8502
E-mail: (Internal) GP: Honeydew Communication E-mail: (External) gp.honeydew-comm@saps.org.za			

(MEDIA STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATION COMMISSIONER)

### Warning regarding Rapes in Honeydew:

Honeydew SAPS is currently experiencing an increase in the amount of Rape cases being reported in the Precinct. Most victims were adult women between the ages of 20 and 30. These rapes mostly occurred over weekends on Fridays and Saturdays, during the evening and the early hours of the morning.

90% of the reported Rape cases can be contributed to the misuse of alcohol by either the victim and or the suspect. Most of the complainants were either walking pedestrians, when they were attacked or they accompanied the suspect home.

Rape on minors has also showed an increase and in the majority of the cases the suspect was a family member or close friend of the family.

*Keep in mind:* Most victims know the rapists. You have the right to say "NO". Do not leave your children in the care of anyone you are not 100% sure of. People known to the family commit most child rapes.

#### How to reduce the risk of rape and sexual offences:

- If possible, avoid walking alone. Your best defense is having other people nearby.
- If you walk alone, plan your route carefully. Take note of stores or restaurants that are open should you need to ask for help.
- Stay in well-lit areas as much as possible.
- Walk on the side of the street facing the traffic.
- Don't leave a party or a social event with someone you do not know or have just met. Say "No".
- Alcohol may be legal but it impairs your judgement, which could make you more vulnerable. Do not trust people who encourage drinking. Warn your children about the dangers of drinking. If you are going to a place where alcohol will be difficult to avoid, make sure to have friends with you and look after each other.
- Don't rely on a ride home from someone who is going to drink; as you will be faced with an unsafe situation.