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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY PROTESTS AGAINST GRANTING OF BAIL FOR SIYATHEMBA KIDS KIDNAPPERS

Members of political parties from the African National Congress, Democratic Alliance and Economic Freedom Fighters, religious leaders and representatives from other community based organisations braved the cold and protested outside the Springs Magistrate court on Monday, 29th May 2017. This protest action was against the granting of bail for suspects in connection with the kidnapping and human trafficking charges.

Four young girls from Siyathemba are now being kept at a place of safety after they were rescued by members of the South African Police Service from a house that they were being held hostage in in Springs, on the Eaststrand after getting a tip off from community members.

These girls are said to have been lured from Siyathemba in Balfour by another young lady to their abductor who is a Nigerian national for allegedly sex slavery and human trafficking purposes.

Lay Minister, Mrs Nomusa Ngobese from the St Andrews Church in Kwa-Thema said we need to go back to God and his teachings. Women need to inculcate a culture of reinforced religious belief and gather strength from there.

The crowd roared in anger waving placards depicting slogans against women and child abuse when the suspects were driven into the court premises to demonstrate their frustration in the morning.

Mrs. Lindiwe Lasindwa who is a member of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature chairing the Infrastructure Development Portfolio Committee commented by saying that “We as the woman’s caucus of the African National Congress they are saddened and hurt by this virus which has engulfed our nation. These perpetrators must know that we will not allow them to continue with this on our watch, no child should suffer such abuse in our lifetime”.

Dipaleseng Local Municipality has also vowed to support the victims and their families. Some staff members of the municipality, dressed in all black with red lipstick were also part of the protestors who picketed outside the court as a pledge of solidarity.

Engagements between the municipality and the affected families have been done to ascertain the nature and extent of assistance required by them.

The case was postponed to the 09th June 2017 and the suspects will remain in custody till then.

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