

George dentist guilty! The pulling of teeth is over

Woman and Men Against Child Abuse (WMACA) members were present at the George Regional Court on Wednesday 11 April where regional magistrate, Francis Makamandela, gave a lengthy judgement. Dr Ian Venter, the George dentist has been found guilty on a charge of sexual assault of a minor child, aged 13.

Venter has at last been charged and found guilty of sexually molesting the 13-year-old boy who had stayed over on the evening of 11 April 2015 at the dentist's Herolds Bay home with his son.

The 13-year-old testified and confirmed that he was forced and sexually molested. The court found no reason not to believe him and found him to be a credible witness despite his age. Magistrate Makamandela said the child did not fabricate the story or contradict himself as the accused had done in his testimony. The child would have painted a different picture if that was the case, but he had no reason for malice, only the truth and pure honesty.

Venter remains under strict bail conditions and is still serving his 4-year sentence under correctional supervision from his previous conviction of performing sexual acts on a friend's minor son during a holiday sleepover.

"We at WMACA are strongly relying on the Justice System / DCS to convict Venter to a lengthy jail sentence. We say NO MORE house arrest - he has re-offended by being under house arrest and we will not tolerate another child being sexually abused due to inappropriate sentences given to child molesters and offenders," said advocacy manager and Western Cape WMACA spokesperson, Joanne Barrett.

She continued by saying that Venter shouldn't be allowed to re-offend. "We are crucially appealing to the justice system to combine his current sentence with the new sentence that will take place in June. He must be sent straight to jail where he must be confined under lock and key."

Ian Venter will appear in the George Magistrates Court on the 6th June 2018 for sentencing.