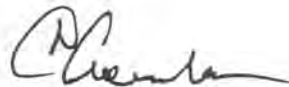




- [4] The mitigating factors are the offender's early guilty pleas and previous good character. The guilty pleas have relieved the victim of the trauma of giving evidence and saved the court's time and resources. The guilty pleas are consistent with the admissions the offender made to police. He says he is genuinely remorseful for his crimes.
- [5] The aggravating factors are that the victim was vulnerable due to her gender and young age. Her trust was breached. She was abused by a family member in her home.
- [6] When children are sexually abused the harm to their mental health is significant. In her victim impact statement the victim has stated that she was frightened of the offender and that she is now frightened of the older men in her family because of what the offender did to her.
- [7] Rape is punishable by life imprisonment. Indecent assault is punishable by 5 years' imprisonment. I am also guided by the applicable tariffs. The sentence of the offender must reflect the principles of denunciation and deterrence because sexual abuse of children are too prevalent in our community.
- [8] Finally a downward adjustment is made to the sentence to reflect the period the offender spent in custody on remand since he was arrested on 6 January 2020.
- [9] The offender is convicted and sentenced to 2 years' for indecent assault and 12 years' for rape, to be served concurrently. A non-parole period of 10 years is fixed.
- [10] The offender shall be subject of a DVRO with no contact and non molestation conditions for the rest of his life.



Hon. Mr Justice Daniel Goundar



**Solicitors:**

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for the State

Legal Aid Commission for the Accused