



Police seek plastic bag baby's mother

MEC slams child abuse, especially when the mother is perpetrator

NONDUMISO ZWANE

THE Gauteng MEC for community safety, Sizakele Nkosi-Malobane, has expressed outrage at the continued abuse of children in Gauteng.

This comes in the wake of a 19-month-old baby wrapped in a plastic bag who was thrown out of a moving vehicle allegedly by her mother last Tuesday in Kensington, Johannesburg.

Police spotted the plastic bag and upon investigation, they found a malnourished little girl of 19 months wrapped in a plastic bag. The police took the girl to a nearby hospital.

Nkosi-Malobane said it was sad that people continued to devalue human life and dignity, even worse as it was done by the mother.

"One begins to wonder what has happened to the principles of ubuntu where my child is your child. I urge mothers who decide to get rid of their children to give them up for adoption, rather than ending their lives in this ruthless and painful manner. I want to commend the police who helped in saving the life of this little angel."

She said police had been directed to work around the clock to find the perpetrator.

Joburg police are looking for the parents of the child. Col Lungelo Dlamini said the child was in a place of safety and a case of child abandonment and attempted murder had been opened.

The Jeppe SAPS has urged anyone who can assist the police in locating the child's relatives or finding the person



MY CHILD IS YOUR CHILD: Gauteng MEC Sizakele Nkosi-Malebane has expressed outrage at the continued abuse of children in the province.

who left her on the side of the road, to contact them on 0116246060/6000.

According to the National Adoption Coalition of South Africa (Nacsa) a review of reported abandonment indicates 65% of abandoned children are newborn and 90% are under a year old. Disturbingly, some 70% of abandonment locations are cited as unsafe, with com-

mon places including sewers, gutters, drains and toilets.

Nacsa said a 2014 study found there were 18.5 million children in SA and of these 4.5 million lived with neither of their parents, with the number of orphans having increased by 30% over the past 10 years to about 5.2 million.

nondumiso@thencwage.co.za