

IN THE SEYCHELLES COURT OF APPEAL

DONA BONIFACE

APPELLANT

Versus

THE REPUBLIC

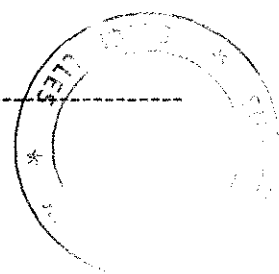
RESPONDENT

(Before, H. Goburdhun (P), A. Silungwe (JA) & L. Venchard (JA))

Criminal Appeal No. 5 of 1997

Mr A Juliette for the Appellant

Mr R Kanakarathne for the Respondent



JUDGMENT

The appellant was convicted of a sexual assault upon a 16 year old girl and was sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 12 years.

Mr Juliette submitted that as the appellant had been convicted exclusively on the uncorroborated evidence of the complainant, the conviction was bad. He argued that the English Law of Evidence was applicable and that under English Law corroboration was required as a matter of law.

The appeal against the conviction is dismissed but the sentence is reduced to 8 years imprisonment as it is manifestly harsh and excessive.

In deference to the submissions of counsel, the reasons for our judgment will be filed in due course.

H. Goburdhun
President

A. Silungwe
Justice of Appeal

L. Venchard
Justice of Appeal

Dated this 14th day of August, 1997

Handed down
A D Am JA