DNA EVIDENCE
CONVICTS RAPISTS

JES FOORD SAYS: “It is vital that rape survivors report
the rape to the police and go to a medical doctor or forensic
nurse for DNA evidence to be collected within 48 hours.”

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU ARE A RAPE SURVIVOR

If you have been raped it is important to get to a health
care facility as quickly as possible to:
• Obtain medical care, treatment and advice
• Collect evidence to support your legal case

To assist in the collection of DNA evidence, victims of
sexual assault should:
• NOT change their clothing
• NOT shower or wash any part of their body
• Report the incident to the police
• Go to a medical doctor within 48 hours for
DNA evidence to be collected

TYPES OF EVIDENCE WHICH MAY CONTAIN DNA

BLOOD
SKIN
SALIVA
TISSUE UNDER NAILS
HAIR
SEmen

Blood, saliva, semen, tissue under the victim’s fingernails or hair that can be
found on the victim’s body all carry the unique tell-tale DNA of the rapist.
If someone has had non-consensual sexual or other contact with you, e.g.,
ejaculates, bites, licks or kisses you, DNA may be left behind. If evidence of someone else’s DNA is found on or in your body it proves they have had contact with you. Reporting cases of sexual assault and preserving DNA evidence could help put the rapist behind bars and prevent further attacks.

WHO YOU SHOULD CONTACT IF YOU ARE A WITNESS OR VICTIM OF CRIME

SAPS Emergency Number: 10111
Stop Gender Violence Helpline: 0800 150 150
Childline: 0800 055 555
AIDS Helpline: 08000 123 22
Crime Line: sms your anonymous tip off to 32211
www.dnaproject.co.za • info@dnaproject.co.za