

Handout #8

A 1983 Rape Case in Hunan, China: Liu Changjian Raped His Own Daughter

Source: Liu, Bin. Ed. *Dang dai Zhongguo ming an, 1949-1995* [Famous legal cases of contemporary China, 1949-1995]. Guangdong: Zhuhai Chubanshe, 1996. Translated by Ming-te Pan.

During the period between February, 1982 and November, 1983, peasant Liu Changjian of Lilin County, Hunan Province repeatedly raped his own daughter, Liu Siying. This resulted in her becoming pregnant, having an abortion, and being traumatized both physically and psychologically. Liu [Changjian] terrorized his daughter. For example, one night in July, 1983, Liu intended to rape his daughter. His daughter resisted strongly. Liu took a knife and threatened to kill her if she did not give in. Later, his son grabbed the knife and took it away from him. Liu did not stop. He went to his kitchen, took a kitchen knife, and threatened his daughter and raped her. Liu Siying was pregnant after being raped repeatedly by her father. Twenty days after she had an abortion at the county hospital, Liu raped her again. On the night of November 12, 1983, Liu [Changjian] attempted to rape his daughter yet again. Liu Siying was determined to resist. In the middle of the night, she ran away barefoot from her home, wearing only one light article of clothing.

The People's Court of Lilin County tried the case. The court maintains that Liu Changjian repeatedly raped his daughter. The way he conducted the crime was cruel, resulting in severe damage [to social order], and he had no sense whatsoever of the natural bonds and ethical relationships between members of a family. Approved by the Supreme Court of Hunan Province, the rape convict, Liu Changjian, was sentenced to death. The execution was carried out on July 16, 1984.