

URGENT ACTION

RAPE SURVIVOR GRANTED LEGAL ABORTION

The Supreme Court in Argentina ordered to allow a 32-year-old woman a legal abortion after it was initially denied by a judge. She was pregnant after being raped while in captivity in a brothel for months.

In the evening of 11 October the Supreme Court overturned the decision of a judge that had on 9 October denied the woman a legal abortion in Buenos Aires, the capital, on the basis of an appeal (*recurso de amparo*) filed by an anti-abortion NGO. The Supreme Court ordered the authorities in Buenos Aires to allow the abortion as a matter of urgency. The abortion has been carried out.

The Supreme Court also called on the judicial authorities in Argentina to comply with its ruling of 13 March 2012 that clearly establishes that any rape victim must have access to safe abortion if she chooses, and that a judicial order is not required for health professionals to carry out the abortion.

Amnesty International welcomes the recent decision but remains concerned that this case is emblematic of the judicial involvement in abortion requests in Argentina despite the Supreme Court ruling on this matter. The denial of a safe and legal abortion to pregnant women as a result of a rape constitutes a violation of human rights and amounts to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 308/12. Further information: <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR13/006/2012/en>

Name: 32-year-old woman

Gender m/f: Female

Further information on UA: 308/12 Index: AMR 13/007/2012 Issue Date: 18 October 2012

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