



Girl claimed she was raped in latrine: Accused acquitted

...alleged victim did not to testify at trial

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A FARMER who went on trial for allegedly raping a teenager inside a latrine eight years ago, has been acquitted. Nigel Hazel said the alleged victim who was 17 years old at the time, accused him of rape after he promised her \$500 but instead gave her \$150. He said they were in a secret relationship for a few months prior to the alleged incident. Hazel, 33 who was represented by attorney Jason Jackson went on trial before San Fernando Third Court Justice Althea Alexis-Windsor. During the trial, which took a week and a half, the alleged victim said she did not want to relive the incident and declined to give evidence. An application was made by State attorney Maria Lyons-Edwards and the girl was cross examined by the prosecution based on the statement she gave the Siparia police on December 14 2009 - the day of the alleged incident. The State's case was that Hazel was cutting grass at his home and on more than one occasions spoke to the girl. The prosecution's case was that he started making sexual advances toward her and when she refused him, she was taken by force to a latrine a short distance away and raped. The jury took two hours to return with the not guilty verdict. Hazel was also represented by attorney Kathyanne Champaine.

https://www.trinidadexpress.com/news/local/girl-claimed-she-was-raped-in-latrine-accused-acquitted/article_07695356-a791-59ec-a7f0-b2ebdd3574a6.html