Family still wants answers

MERISSA NADOO

THE DEAD

Lynching’s long battle to see DNA bill passed

VANESSA Lynch is the founding member of the DNA Project. When she was 12 years old in 2000, her family was targeted by a group of white young people and lynched in the town of Aucamville, Richtersveld, South Africa. The event is known as the Aucamville Lynching. Lynching is a form of hate crime and has been illegal in South Africa since 1998.

On September 21, 2003, Lynching was brutally murdered and her body was left hanging on a tree, leaving behind her family, friends, and community members in shock and grief. The act of lynching is a heinous crime that has been illegal in South Africa since 1998. Despite the illegal status of lynching, the Aucamville Lynching occurred.

Lynching’s family has been fighting for justice ever since the event. They have been advocating for the passage of a DNA bill that would allow for the collection and analysis of DNA evidence in hate crimes.

The DNA bill was finally passed into law in 2008, with Lynching’s family being instrumental in its passage. The DNA bill provides for the establishment of a national DNA database and the collection of DNA samples from individuals who have been victims of hate crimes.

Lynching’s family has been holding a vigil every year on the anniversary of her death, calling for justice and raising awareness about hate crimes.

Lynching’s family has not given up on their fight for justice. They continue to fight for the passage of the DNA bill and to ensure that hate crimes are not allowed to happen again.

The Aucamville Lynching was a tragic event that highlighted the issue of hate crimes in South Africa. Lynching’s family’s fight for justice continues to this day, and their story serves as a reminder of the importance of fighting against hate crimes.