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**Complaint: Dispatch Online - Defamation of Witchcraft and self-defined Witches**

The South African Pagan Rights Alliance objects to the propagation of highly implausible and physiologically impossible assertions that Witchcraft caused an 18-year-old woman to give birth to crockery as reported in the appended story entitled '**Mozambican teen gives birth to three cups**' republished on 15 August by Dispatch Online.

A complaint has already been lodged against IOL for publishing this story under the title 'Woman gives birth to cups'.

The allegations made by the President of the Mozambican Association of Traditional Healers Aulerio Demoraz represent the worst form of religiously motivated propaganda against Witchcraft and are defamatory to self-defined Witches who regard Witchcraft as a bone-fide religion.

In republishing these ridiculous allegations, the Dispatch Online contravenes the South African Press Code which determines that the press should avoid discriminatory or denigratory references to people's religion and refrain from referring to a person's religion in a prejudicial or pejorative context. The content of this article does not in any way significantly add to the reader's understanding of Witchcraft. The article instead only serves to further negatively stereotype Witchcraft as harmful by portraying Witches as a danger to the communities within which we live and work. These harmful stereotypical definitions merely serve to justify irrational public fear of Witchcraft as an allegedly harmful practice.

South African Witches regard harmful stereotypical definitions of Witchcraft as injurious to our dignity. The South African Pagan Rights Alliance demands an immediate public retraction of prejudicial statements made against Witchcraft.

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### **Mozambican teen 'gives birth to three cups'**

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<http://www.dispatch.co.za/article.aspx?id=237256>

A MOZAMBICAN teenager reportedly gave birth to three cups, independent television channel Stv reported yesterday, showing images of the crockery.

The young woman, 18, who lives in the southern province of Gaza, was said to have given birth to the cups on her way to hospital after she complained of labour pains when she was three months' pregnant .

The Mozambican association of traditional healers told the station there was nothing strange about the story and that similar cases had occurred in other parts of the world due to witchcraft.

The association said she needed traditional medicines in order to exorcise the "evil spirits" which made her give birth to the cups. — Sapa

<http://www.dispatch.co.za/article.aspx?id=237256>