Appeal Court reserves judgment in doctor’s rape conviction appeal

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Appeal Court reserves judgment in doctor’s rape conviction appeal  
  
Lagos Division of the Court of Appeal has reserved judgment in the appeal filed by the Medical Director of Optimal Cancer Care Foundation, Dr Olufemi Olaleye, seeking to rescind the judgment of a lower court which convicted him of rape.  
  
Olaleye was in October, last year sentenced to life imprisonment by the Lagos State Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Court for raping his wife’s niece, a teenager, when the defilement happened.  
  
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In his judgment, Justice Rahman Oshodi held that the prosecution, the Lagos State Government, had proved the charge against the defendant and the evidence against him was compelling.  
  
However, in the appeal filed by the convict through his lawyer Kemi Pinheiro (SAN), on November 24, last year, Olaleye highlighted 35 grounds of appeal against the judgment of the lower court.  
  
According to the appellant, the lower court erred when in the absence of any direct evidence, it held that the alleged victim of the crime was a child of 16 years at the time of the offence, adding that there was no direct evidence from anyone who witnessed the birth of the alleged victim of the crime.  
  
The appellant stated that the prosecution did not tender any documentary evidence in support of its case that the alleged victim was 16 years.