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Minister of National Security Hon Robert Montague says Sunday's killing of 17 year old Micholle Moulton must be condemned by all in the strongest possible terms. Micholle's 12 year old sister was also shot in the incident.

The Minister extended condolences to Micholle's family as well as every other family affected by crime and violence.

He wished a safe recovery for Micholle's sister, and for all other victims of violent crimes.

Minister Montague said the incident on the heels of Jamaica's celebrations of Jamaica 55 is a harsh reminder of the realities we face as a nation.

“Even while we have much to celebrate, some have no thought for the future, preferring to hurt our youth and destroy their hopes and dreams” said Minister Montague.

He said the incident also underscores the difficulties the police force faces, detracting from their hard work which has resulted in a 5 per cent decrease in crime overall.

Minister Montague noted that despite the increased investment in the security apparatus, all will come to naught if Jamaicans do not unite against the minority of criminals.

“We must redouble our efforts and every law-abiding citizen must report all incidents of criminality; there are several options available to do so anonymously. We have the Stay Alert app, you may call 811 or Crime stop at 311, or write the information on a piece of paper, put it in an envelope, mark an X on it and drop at any post office” the Minister added.

He called on all Jamaicans to unite as a nation and put aside whatever differences they have to save the future of Jamaica.

The National Security Minister said the Jamaica Constabulary Force has given the assurance that no effort will be spared to bring to justice the criminals who carried out this dastardly act.

He noted that the Ministry will continue to work on implementing its 5-pillar crime management strategy, focusing on situational prevention through the safe design of environments, as well as effective policing.

Minister Montague is calling on all Jamaicans to use Micholle’s killing, and the start of the new school year for a renewed push to protect our children.

“Every parent should ensure their child has the Stay Alert app on their phone and ensure schools have an up-to-date picture of their child; support the police in ensuring children do not loiter at bus parks, or transport centres and implement curfews for the children in your communities”, Minister Montague added

He encouraged adults to form Neighbourhood Watch groups adding that they should band together and monitor their communities

The Minister also encouraged parents to tell their children to speak up about any inappropriate advances, and urged them to listen to the children, noting that all of us can play a part to protect the children.

He said we need to go back to the days of the village rearing the child.

#ifyouseesomethingsaysomething