

Challenging Culture: Violence Against Women and Girls

The Partnership:

This work was done in conjunction with Bobbie White, Dr Elizabeth Dominey and Professor Gail Thomas from the Soroptimists International (SI) (Bournemouth) and Tina Symington and Lauren Bailey from the BCP Community Safety Partnership.

Dr Louise Oliver, Dr Orlanda Harvey and Barbara



Please scan to find lots of additional resources regarding VAWG: including research report, UN reports, videos, student posters, book recommendations and paper abstracts

Scan QR Code or use this link:
<https://bu.padlet.org/harveyo2/ncasc-challenging-culture-xyu3jmkdkbdnu7gk>

Context



- Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is an umbrella term used to cover a wide variety of abuses (ONS, 2023) against women and girls
- The UK Government's 'Violence Against Women and Girls' Strategy examines a range of abuses which are disproportionately gendered, including domestic violence and abuse, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, as well as related issues such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), honour-based abuse, revenge pornography, modern slavery, and trafficking (Home Office, 2021).

Current UK Situation



(Lily Allen video)

A significant problem with violence against women and girls exists within the UK (Tudor 2023)

, for example:

- The victim was female in 74.1% of domestic abuse-related crimes, in 86% of sexual offences and 91% of rape offences recorded by the police in the year ending March 2022.

A recent report on sexual abuse in schools in England (Ofsted, 2021) found the occurrence of sexual harassment was commonplace, which encompassed such behaviours as girls reporting:

- unwanted or inappropriate comments of a sexual nature (80%),
- being sent pictures or videos they did not want to see (88%),
- being put under pressure to provide sexual images of themselves (80%),
- having pictures or videos that they sent being shared more widely without their knowledge or consent (73%),
- being photographed or videoed without their knowledge or consent (59%),
- sexual assault of any kind (79%),
- feeling pressured to do sexual things that they did not want to (68%),
- unwanted touching (64%).



Why us?



OUR RESEARCH

- 'Violence Against Women and Girls: Social Justice in Action'. Conference
- The aim was to raise awareness of issues relating to violence against women and girls, and bring together diverse professionals, including NGOs, charities, frontline staff, academics and students, all of whom work or have an interest in VAWG, to share knowledge, explore limitations and seek solutions to sustain social justice.
- **The issue: with all the evidence and legislative changes – why does nothing seem to shift?**
- **The questions:**
 - What works?
 - What needs to change?

Our Methods



- The aim of the research was to explore current good practice and what the attendees saw as potential barriers and facilitators to implementing change.
- Delegates were offered the opportunity to engage in two different qualitative data gathering activities:
 1. Problem and Solutions trees (Snowdon et al. 2008). Participants could add to these throughout the day.
 2. Appreciative Inquiry (AI - (Cooperrider et al. 2007)) workshop: Conference participants chose to join in facilitated conversations aligned to exploring innovative ways to bring about change in this area.

Key points: Changes needed in social policy and direct practice

- Long-term, sustainable funding to resource support, interventions and preventions.
- Wraparound support for frontline staff working in this field.
- **Increased flexibility in support so that the services 'fit in with the clients' not 'the clients forced to fit in' with the services.**
- A need to create more safe spaces in places where victims/survivors can go to without suspicion from the abuser, e.g., GP and school.
- A need to make reporting easier from members of the public to professionals, including quick referrals as they are better than none.

Key points: what needs to be continued (and developed) in policy and direct practice

- **A need to continue and build on current multi-agency working.**
- Government supporting change to legislation and policy to intervene/prevents VAWG.
- **Support and resources already available e.g., support groups and refuges.**
- Small charities working together.
- More knowledge exchange and training about VAWG, for example, more conferences which bring different professionals together.
- Having a broader range of evidence-based offender/perpetrator programmes.
- An increase in early intervention work especially more work done in early years education around relationships, gender and family violence.



What needs to change to bring about change?

UK situation: Is this a case of social narratives becoming realities for women and girls?

The Sun HOME | FOOTBALL | SPORT | TV & SHOWBIZ | LIVING | NEWS | VIDEO

BBQ dad 'killed 6 over wife's affair'

Court told of bloodbath

FROM TOM WELLS, IN ST HELIER, JERSEY 13th August 2012, 11:00 pm

COMMENT NOW

A POLISH builder slaughtered six people at a family barbecue after he flipped over his wife's affair, a court heard yesterday.

Damian Rzeszowski, 31, stabbed wife Izabela to death in the street after chasing her through their flat.

When cops arrived they found the bodies of the couple's daughter Kinga, five, and son Kacper, two, inside.



Plymouth gunman ranted online that 'women are arrogant' days before rampage

Exclusive: Jake Davison, adherent of misogynistic 'incel' culture, may have been trying to quit toxic community, final messages reveal



▲ Tributes to the victims of the attack in the Keyham area of Plymouth on Saturday. Photograph: Finnbar Webster/Getty Images

The gunman who killed five people in a mass shooting in Plymouth ranted at a 16-year-old girl that "women are arrogant and entitled beyond belief" in some of his final online exchanges just a few days before he embarked on Britain's worst mass shooting in more than a decade.

Jake Davison, 22, told a US teenager on a subreddit forum that he was "bitter and jealous" and that women "treat men with zero respect or even view them as human beings".

In the online messages posted days before he killed five people, including his mother and a three-year-old girl, Davison's adherence to "incel" culture is starkly evident.

Incels - involuntary celibate men - are members of misogynistic online groups who blame women for their sexual failings.

Thread

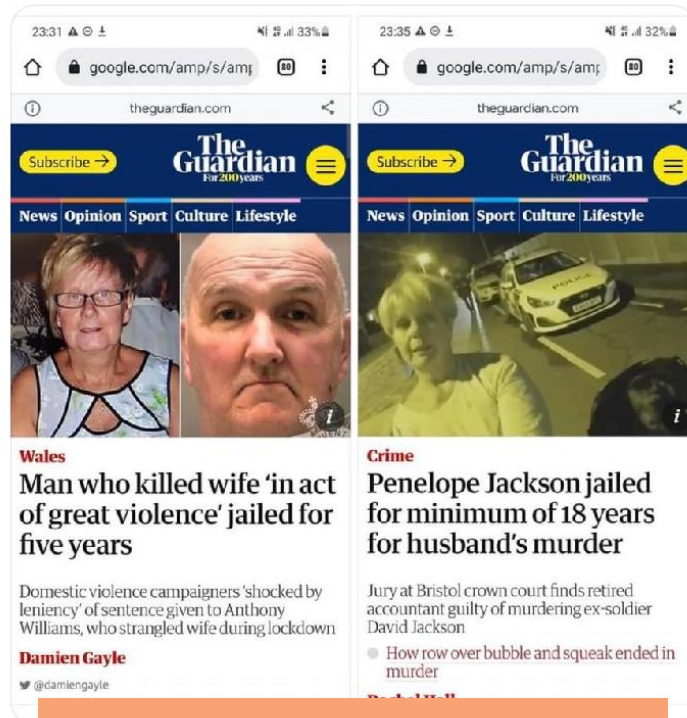
David Challen liked



Bella Vida. #NoThankYou    

@Bornawoman99

Spot the difference



Wales
Man who killed wife 'in act of great violence' jailed for five years

Domestic violence campaigners 'shocked by leniency' of sentence given to Anthony Williams, who strangled wife during lockdown

Damien Gayle
@damiengayle

Crime
Penelope Jackson jailed for minimum of 18 years for husband's murder

Jury at Bristol crown court finds retired accountant guilty of murdering ex-soldier David Jackson

How row over bubble and squeak ended in murder

7:
57
The press: Guidelines for reporting on VAWG for journalists are rarely followed (Royal, 2019).

Danyal Hussein found guilty of murdering two sisters in London park

Mother recalls daughters' lives in victim impact statement, describing evidence as 'overwhelming'



▲ Mother describes daughters' as 'wonderful, strong women' outside court - video

A teenager has been convicted of the murder of two sisters in a London park last year whom he stabbed to death after coming through a government "deradicalisation" programme.

Danyal Hussein, 19, murdered Nicole Smallman, 27, and Bibaa Henry, 46. He was said to have drawn up a "contract" in his own blood with a demon to sacrifice women in return for winning the lottery.

While the killings were not treated as a terrorist attack, it can now be reported that investigators consider that Hussein underwent "a form of radicalisation" in terms of exposure to occult material on the so-called dark web.

Investigators also believe he would have gone on to kill more women if he had not injured his hand when he murdered the sisters, an injury Hussein put down to being robbed at knifepoint on a visit for hospital treatment the following day.

'I got sick of her nagging, poking and prodding': Husband who 'murdered his wife and four children' then drove around with her body in his van for weeks says he's now 'relieved to be in jail because he couldn't do anything right'

- Michael Jones Jr. 38, of Summerfield, Florida, was charged in the fatal baseball bat beating of his wife and deaths of his four young kids on September 18
- Newly released evidence includes interviews with cops where Jones admits there was trouble in the relationship
- He claims that he was subjected to 'nagging, poking and prodding' by his now deceased wife Casey Jones, who suspected he was having an affair
- The 32-year-old woman's decomposing body was later found in the husband's van after the vehicle crashed while he was driving in Brantley County, Georgia
- Jones later led police into nearby Charlton County, to find the buried remains of his children, Aiyana, 1; Mercalli Jones, 2; Preston, 5; and Cameron Bowers, 10
- The siblings were either strangled, or drowned, police said. His motive for the slayings remains unclear, but Jones admits he's 'relieved to be right here' in jail

By RALPH R. ORTEGA FOR DAILYMAIL.COM

PUBLISHED: 22:33, 13 December 2019 | UPDATED: 23:55, 13 December 2019

THE EVIDENCE BASE

- **Hegemonic masculinity**, in which there is a deep sense of male entitlement and where men believe that being masculine is about being tough, dominant and in control are more likely than other men to be violent against women (Smith, Parrott and Tharp, 2015; Flood, 2019; Hill, 2020).
- **85 percent of the global population**, reveals that close to 9 out of 10 men and women hold fundamental biases against women (UN Gender Social Norms Index, 2023)
- **18%** of young men hold negative views about feminists and more young people agree (36%) than disagree (35%) that feminism has gone too far and makes it harder for men to succeed. Among young men, 50% agree while only 21% disagree. (Carter, 2020 - Hope not Hate Charitable Trust).
- The report authors note the impact of online social networks to spread discontent and misogynist views of women's drive for equality (Carter, 2020 - Hope not Hate Charitable Trust) .

The social narrative impacting us?

“Won't get a lie from me, ain't no confessions
 Before I tell a lie, won't tell you nothin'
 Any time I got you, girl you my possession
 Even if I hit you once, you part of my collection”

Future – “Collection”

“My lover she's waiting for me just across the bar
 My seat's been taken by some sunglasses asking 'bout a scar, and I know I gave it to you months ago
 I know you're trying to forget
 But between the drinks and subtle things
 The holes in my apologies, you know I'm trying hard to take it back”

Fun: We are Young

breath you take
 ve you make
 u break
 take
 ou
 ou Take

“If we talk about tradition...
 Traditionally, every single man in history had multiple wives, and there was not a single woman who was celebrated for having multiple husbands. Female promiscuity has always been disgusting and frowned upon.”

Andrew Tate

“I think the women belong to the man.”
 “i don't want her (his hypothetical girlfriend) to have her own opinions.”

Andrew Tate

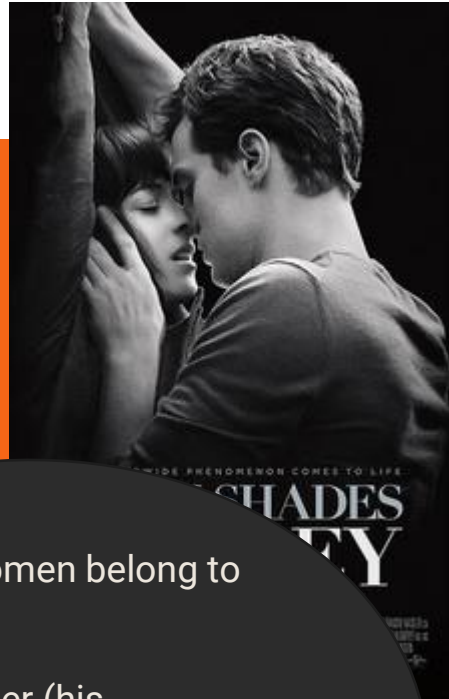
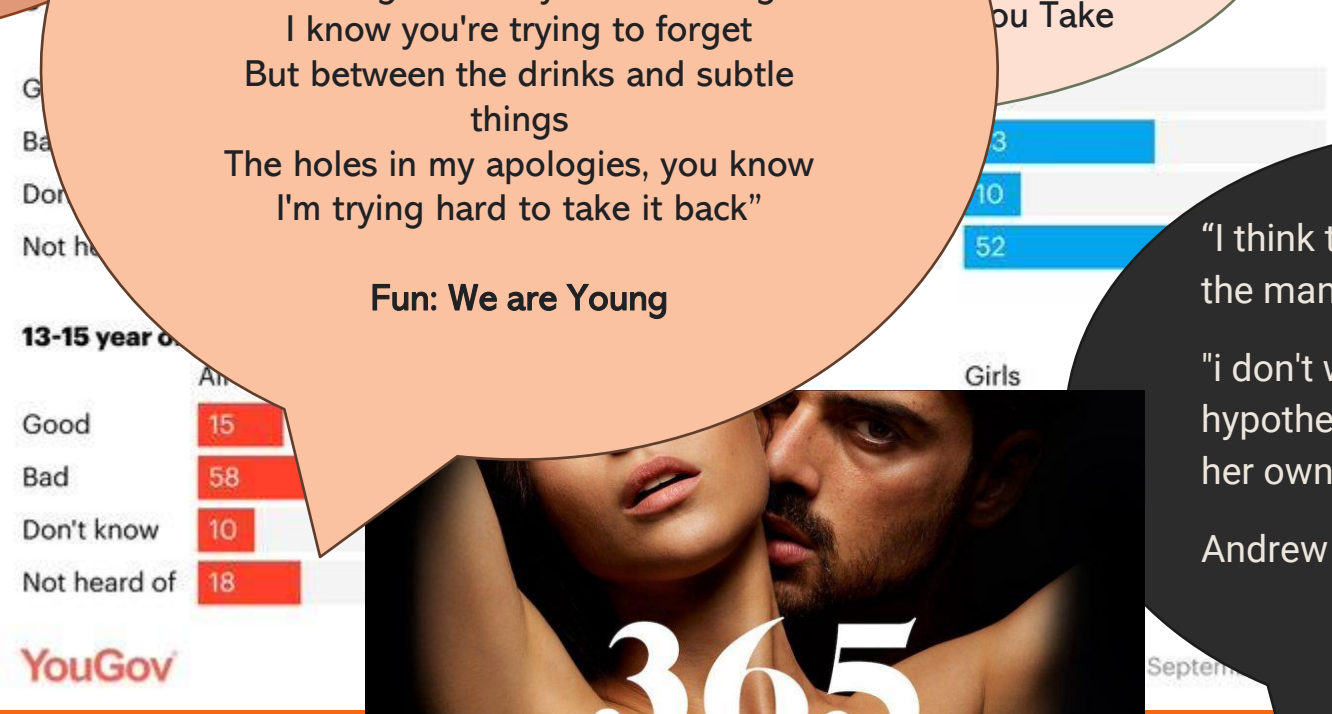
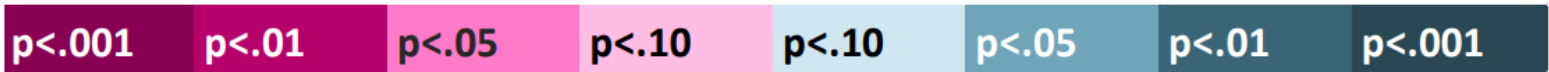


Table 12: root causes of domestic abuse

Age and Gender (Grouped)	People who carry out domestic violence against women are enabled and worsened by sexism in wider society	People who carry out domestic violence against domestic violence against women are just 'bad people', it's not a reflection of wider society	Neither	Don't know
Male 16-24	32.8%	34.4%	10.7%	22.1%
Male 25-49	31.1%	40.5%	9.0%	19.4%
Male 50-64	32.6%	46.1%	9.2%	12.2%
Male 65+	34.0%	39.5%	11.0%	15.4%
Female 16-24	58.8%	20.5%	3.9%	16.8%
Female 25-49	46.6%	27.0%	5.7%	20.8%
Female 50-64	45.6%	32.7%	7.2%	14.5%
Female 65+	41.1%	28.9%	10.1%	20.0%
All	39.6%	34.2%	8.3%	17.9%



GENITAL PORTRAITURE: SOLICITED OR NOT

Results showed a significant prevalence of this type of cyber-violence in the sample, as **48.1% of the participants had received an unsolicited dick pic from an unknown man at some point** (Duran and Rodríguez-Domínguez 2023)

I'll Show You Mine so You'll Show Me Yours

- **Most frequently reported motivational category for sending genital images was a transactional mindset (i.e., motivated by hopes of receiving images in return).**
- The most commonly desired reaction from recipients was that of sexual excitement.
- Men who reported having sent unsolicited dick pics demonstrated higher levels of narcissism and endorsed greater ambivalent and hostile sexism than their non-sending counterparts (Oswald et al. 2019)

Just found dick pic!!!

18 replies

starynight63 · 18/08/2021 03:34

I posted a few weeks ago, I found out partner of 7 years 2 kids (youngest 8 months now) had been having an affair and he left us. When I caught him out on the affair he suddenly felt awful and wanted to make things work.. I stupidly believed him.

He moved home but had been putting in minimal effort and I just felt something wasn't right.. soooo I did what I've read others do and swore I'd never do but went through his phone! And thank the bloody gods I did. I've been breaking my heart day and night thinking it's me that's not good enough & wanting more than anything us to work things out. I didn't find any messages (I presume all deleted as that's what he said he had been doing while having the affair) but in his recently deleted photos was a dick pic!!!! In our living room, with a new rug visible we only got last week. I AM FUMING.. shaking, crying, I feel lost.. who is this man?

Now I know that's me done, no way do I or my girls deserve this. And I know it must not be me that's not good enough, but simply he's turned into a lying, deceiving pig..

please give me advice to stop me getting sucked back in 😞

One heartbroken mummy.

Growing up and pornography

Based on CCo's survey and focus groups, these 5 pillars depict what the average experience can be for a boy growing up at different ages, and what she may come across online.

47% of young people aged 16-21 stated that girls 'expect' sex to involve aggression, a further **42%** stated that most girls 'enjoy' sexual aggression.

Boy A is 9

Boy A is in Year 5. Two of his friends have been given an iPhone for Christmas. They start joking about 'porn'. They saw it on a pop-up ad while playing an online game and show it to Boy A.

Boy A is curious but he finds the videos worrying. He decides not to tell his mum or dad, he doesn't want to get his friends in trouble.

By age nine, **10%** had seen pornography, **27%** had seen it by age 11.

Children who view online pornography at age 11 or younger are significantly more likely to become frequent users as young adults.



Boy A is 11

Boy A starts secondary school. Boy A's parents give him an iPhone and install adult content filters.

Boy A joins a football team with boys from older year groups. They AirDrop porn to his phone. Some of this content is degrading and violent. Boy A finds it distressing but he doesn't speak to his parents in case they take his phone away.

The majority, **79%**, of 18-21-year olds had seen content involving sexual violence before turning 18.

21% of males aged 16-21 viewed pornography at least once a day in the last 2 weeks, compared to **7%** of girls.



Boy A is 13

Boy A asks his parents if he can sign up for social media. Many of his friends already have profiles on Twitter, TikTok, Instagram and Snapchat. Boy A is now the minimum age for most platforms, so his parents agree.

Boy A uses Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat to seek out pornography. He finds this easier than getting round parental controls on porn sites.

The average age that children first see pornography is 13.

The greatest number of young people (**41%**) had seen pornography on Twitter

followed by pornography sites (**37%**), Instagram (**33%**), Snapchat (**32%**) and search engines (**30%**).



Boy A is 14

Boy A watches online pornography several times a week. He shares content with friends. Sometimes they compete to find the most disgusting or offensive content. 'Gross-out' pornography concerns him less than when he was younger, because he is so used to seeing it now.

43% of young people agreed with the statement 'Young people mainly view online pornography due to peer pressure or to fit in'.

36% of young people aged 18-21 have sought out content involving at least one act of sexual violence.



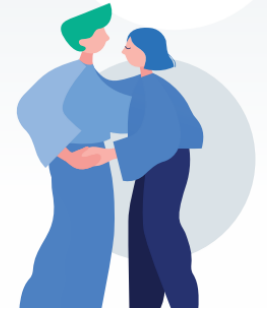
Boy A is 16

Boy A starts a relationship with a girl at school. The only depictions he has seen of sex have been in online porn.

Boy A's girlfriend explains that sex in porn isn't a reflection of real-life sexual experiences. They talk about how pornography can depict women as 'sex objects', and how it doesn't present a variety of normal body types.

58% of young people aged 16-21 agreed that viewing pornography affects young people's behaviours towards one another.

47% of young people aged 16-21 stated that girls 'expect' sex to involve aggression, a further **42%** stated that most girls 'enjoy' sexual aggression.



The conversation

It is critical to influence the dominant social narratives around gender roles, sexuality and relationships.

- “And nothing ever happens, nothing happens at all
The needle returns to the start of the song
And we all sing along like before...”

- Del Amitri: Nothing Even Happens



<https://bu.padlet.org/loliver83/the-desired-outcome-a-world-where-women-and-girls-do-not-liv-8g3ww17ukngbtu7k>

OUR FUTURE RESEARCH

We are currently developing a funding bid for the NIHR.

The purpose of this research would be to find out the extent to which professionals have or are experiencing DA in their private lives as well what support has been accessed and barriers and facilitators to support.

Barbara's Poem

Blinded by Science.

He reeled me in with his chemistry
Pretending to be someone else
Self deprecating, empathetic and kind
Telling me what I wanted to hear

He slipped into my bed and heart
Pretending to be someone else
Projecting, his "ex" was the narcissist
So I would feel sorry for him

Cognitive dissonance through the roof
Exploiting boundaries I thought were strong
Insidiously manipulating his own agenda
Causing me complete confusion.

His exaggerated sense of self importance
So self centred he was his own universe
Master manipulator and masterbator
My needs were unimportant

My need for external validation left me wide open
Reaching out knowing his agenda
But I just kept begging for more
My self esteem was on the floor.

Introduced to his "ex" as an old work colleague.
The penny finally dropped he was the devil in disguise
Time to walk away with my head held high
Time to be unapologetically me.

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