

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Ref. T20177306

IN THE CROWN COURT AT BRADFORD

Exchange Square
Drake Street
Bradford

Before HIS HONOUR JUDGE DURHAM HALL QC
THE RECORDER OF BRADFORD

R E G I N A

- v -

**BASHARAT IQBAL KHALIQ, SAEED AKHTAR, YASAR MAJID,
NAVEED AKHTAR, PARVAZE AFZAL AHMED, IZAR KHAN HUSSAIN,
KIERAN HARRIS, ZEESHAN ALI, FAHIM IQBAL, MOHAMMED USMAN**

**MS K MELLY QC and MS S BEATTIE (instructed by the Crown Prosecution Service)
appeared on behalf of the Prosecution**

**MR A IQBAL QC and MR F ARSHAD appeared on behalf of the Defendant Khaliq
MR P MOULSON QC and MR A SHAKOOR appeared on behalf of the Defendant
Saeed Akhtar**

MS G BATTIS appeared on behalf of the Defendant Majid

MR R FRIEZE appeared on behalf of the Defendant Naveed Akhtar

MR A BELL appeared on behalf of the Defendant Ahmed

MS G KELLY appeared on behalf of the Defendant Hussain

MR G WILSON appeared on behalf of the Defendant Harris

MS F HERTZOG appeared on behalf of the Defendant Ali

MR A DALLAS appeared on behalf of the Defendant Iqbal

MR R FERM appeared on behalf of the Defendant Usman

PROCEEDINGS

23rd JANUARY 2019

REPORTING RESTRICTIONS APPLY:
SECTION 4(2) OF THE CONTEMPT OF COURT ACT 1981
SEXUAL OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) ACT 1992

A

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B

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A

(In Chambers at 10.32 – 11.17

(The jury entered court)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Ladies and gentlemen, in the spirit of trying to assist the barristers, and then me, I had to discuss things with them this morning. Again, in a spirit of co-operation, designed to limit evidence.

B

Stupidly, because I was so focused, for me anyway, very, very focused, on what we were talking about, I forgot that you were stuck outside the door. I apologise. What I should have said, as soon as I saw that we were talking, or I was talking, rather more perhaps than I anticipated, I should have sent you downstairs. My fault. Okay. Not the usher. I am sure if she could have got a word in edgeways, she would have done, but, okay.

C

We're going to listen to the last DVD and then move straight to [Person A] giving live evidence. All right. We will take it up to one o'clock, conveniently, have a break.

Mr Moulson will complete his part this afternoon. So, it actually, falls into a more sensible pattern, doesn't it, Mr Moulson.

D

MR MOULSON: It does, your Honour. Thank you.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: All right.

MS MELLY: Your Honour, ladies and gentlemen, this is the final DVD to be played. It is 19-minutes long. Your Honour should already have a copy of the transcript. A number of defendants are referred to within the DVD, including Yasar Majid, Naveed Akhtar, known as Naj, as well, Parvaze Ahmed, Billy Jo Jo, Saeed Akhtar (Sid) and Fahim Iqbal.

E

(DVD played)

MS MELLY: Your Honour, that concludes the video-recorded evidence. As your Honour and the jury are aware, the next witness will be [Person A]. I wonder if we could take five minutes, perhaps, to just ensure she is available.

F

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Sort things out, yes. That is fine.

Ladies and gentlemen, good idea. I don't know where she is in the building. Get Miss Melly in as well, set the court up in any way we need to. Five minutes all right? Then, as I said, Mr Moulson, you ready to go?

G

MR MOULSON: Yes, thank you, your Honour.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: We will go up to one, then have a good break, and then finish. But, probably only this barrister, this Queen's Counsel this afternoon. We will see. Thank you very much.

H

(The jury left court)

A JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I am going to stay here because to move causes problems.
Would the defendants like to stretch their legs, or not?

MR MOULSON: Yes, I think so.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: There will not be any interaction between the witness, she will

B be coming in through my door. All right? Do you want to do that? Five minutes. No more, please. Remember, I am afraid, to avoid as your barristers have explained, to avoid any misunderstanding by the jury, any mistake, or miscommunication, cafe's off-limits. All right. I know some of you don't use it, this is not a criticism, but that is a rule, a direction. So don't sneak in: That would be a contempt/breach of bail. It is a condition of your bail that

C wherever else you go; you do not go into the court cafe. All right? Thank you very much.

MS MELLY: Would your Honour excuse me for a few minutes.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Just hang on, Miss Beattie. Just hang on.

MS BEATTIE: Can I mention in relation to special measures; the position is being checked

D as to whether the screens are required.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: We need to know. Can you go and - that is what you were going to do, I will not detain you. All right. If counsel wish to go that is fine. Better for me if I stay just for the moment. Thank you.

Mr Iqbal, if Mr Moulson is still going on at 3.30, unless you say to me, "we will comfortably

E finish by 4.15", we will go over. All right?

MR IQBAL: Thank you.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I don't want - you know what I mean.

MR IQBAL: Yes, I understand.

MR MOULSON: Could I take your Honour's lead about that matter, your Honour? I am

F going to outline the ten topics I am going to ask her about. If I get to number nine, number ten is compensation. If I get to complete number nine, and it is 3.30/3.45, should I continue, your Honour, or should I, it will have been a long day for her by then, I can probably talk about the issue of compensation in more detail with Mr Iqbal overnight to streamline it further.

G JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Sure.

MR MOULSON: Thank you.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Makes sense to me. Yes. Only if you have comfortably finished.

MR MOULSON: Yes.

H JUDGE DURHAM HALL: By 3.30.

A

MR MOULSON: Thank you.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Will I call on Mr Iqbal. Fine.

MR MOULSON: Yes, thank you.

(Short adjournment)

B

MS MELLY: Your Honour, the witness is having a short comfort break. Screens will be required.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: All right. We will pop those up, thank you. When that is done, we will get the defendants in and start bringing [Person A3] down. Okay.

MS MELLY: Thank you.

C

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Actually, on that, let's think through. How do we do this?

MS MELLY: The defendants will have to go into the back.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Yes.

MS MELLY: Obviously, your Honour would not be required to rise.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: No. No.

D

MS MELLY: If the defendants came in and then went into the back, it is appropriate.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I think that is going to be the easiest way. Anybody who is not press, or lawyer have to leave the court temporarily. Yes. Shall we bring the witness in first? I was hesitant to bring the witness down and have her in situ first. What do you think? I don't think so. I think we will stick with the original plan.

E

MR MOULSON: Yes. I think if the defendants are behind the dock there shouldn't be a difficulty.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I think, get the defendants in, please, get the jury in. I will explain to the jury why the defendants are, as a courtesy, retiring behind the door, that is my direction. Clear the public gallery at the same time.

F

MR DALLAS: The only reason I rise, if she is to give evidence behind screens, if your Honour could be deeply vigilant to how audibility is to people at the back of court. It is important, with screens we have there, that we can hear precisely what is said.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: No. I am going to make sure none of you can hear a word.

G

Quite ridiculous to think I will not be monitoring audibility. I will tell her to mumble, Mr Dallas. That is what I am going to do. Thank you for reminding me. He has not even had the good grace to blush. Mr Dallas, I better speak to the young lady before the first question.

MR. DALLAS: It is not easy.

H

A JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I may not be aware, so will you be vigilant about that, personally, please. Thank you. Can you see the witness?
MS MELLY: No.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you.

B MS MELLY: We have just gone to get the witness, so she's on her way, so the defendants can retire into the back.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Hang on. First of all, where are the jury? We need the jury here. Does everybody agree that I have to explain to the jury why the defendants, from time to time, may have to retire?

C MS MELLY: The jury should be present when the witness comes in.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: They can be. There is no problem about that. There is no hard and fast rule. No problem with the jury being present, it is everybody else. Mr Bell?
MS MELLY: Your Honour, I hesitate to rise. Can I suggest the following sequence: Of course, the defendants retire behind ---

D JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Bring the witness in.
MR BELL: --- then bring the witness in. The defendants then return into the well of the court, and the last thing the jury then arrive.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Fine. There is no hard and fast rule, but we have all done it in different ways, haven't we? That is fine. You're right. Thank you. Agreed.

E MS MELLY: Okay.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Okay. How close is she? I don't want the defendants; I don't want you inconvenienced either. Understood?
MS MELLY: As regards the special measures, I know there was no objection to screens.

F JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Any objections? Granted, just in case.
MS MELLY: Yes.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Confirmed.
MS MELLY: Thank you. May I say that I very much anticipate that at some point [Person A3] will wish to give evidence without screens. But we will take it stage by stage, if we may.

G JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Okay. It adds to the time. Mr Iqbal, I don't see you starting. I don't see you starting today unless Mr Moulson is particularly quick. Okay. Gentlemen, would you mind just...
Just a minute, yes.

H

A MR MOULSON: I apologise; I am discussing something further. I don't understand the concept of having the screens for part of her evidence and then not having screens. What is the purpose, which has not been squared?

B JUDGE DURHAM HALL: No. That is a rhetorical question. I will deal with that at any application to change as it comes. I am happy with the way things may develop in this case.

MR WILSON: I mean, she might have screens for the whole of it, or she doesn't. I mean, I just don't understand why there is a possibility, at the very least, that she is going to dispense with screens for whatever reason. I might anticipate what those reasons might be, they might be for giving certain evidence if and when she chooses, as she does not want screens, I don't know. I think there needs to be further explanation to your Honour as to what this means.

C JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you, Mr Wilson. I do not require any further explanation, or delay in this matter. Would you bring the witness in. Thank you. In other words, Mr Wilson, let's suck it and see, see what's going on. Okay. Thank you. I cannot deal with it now, can I?

D They can come in. The jury, please. Thank you.

We will have about 35 minutes, [Person A1], then break for dinner. All right.

(In the presence of the jury)

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Getting everybody into one place can take a bit of time. Members of the jury, [Person A].

E I repeat my warning: Any form of special measure (screens, live link, the presentation of AV evidence) is at my discretion and direction. It is because the Courts are grown-up in helping any witness, defence, or otherwise, who needs the measure to give their evidence. It is not to be held against any defendant, or anybody else. The issue remains the same. You will consider what [Person A1] says, as she knows.

F Therefore, [Person A1], I know you are going to be sworn in a moment, or take the affirmation, your choice. Please, keep your voice up. Everybody is a bit concerned that they may not be able to hear you. The microphone - this sounds stupid, but is the truth - don't amplify, they just record on the machine. So, you give it some welly, all right? Off we go.

G [PERSON A], Sworn

Examined-in-chief by MS MELLY

Q. No questions from me, [Person A1], but can you confirm, please, your full name is [Person A5]. Is that correct?

A. Yes, it is.

H Q. We know you as [Person A] for the records.

A

A. Yes.

MS MELLY: Thank you very much.

Cross-examined by MR MOULSON

Q. Is it [Person A5]?

B

A. Yes.

Q. May I call you [Person A1] throughout the course of my questions?

A. Yes.

Q. Thank you. I am going to ask you a number of questions. You understand that?

A. Yes.

C

Q. Yes. Some of these questions have been put to you before by me. Yes?

A. Yes.

Q. You understand it is not my intention to cause any distress, yes?

A. Yes.

D

Q. And, please, if you do not understand anything I ask about, just ask me to clarify, or explain the question?

A. Yes.

Q. I understand that on the last occasion the manner of my questioning did not cause you distress?

E

A. No.

Q. But you understand that there are certain matters of a delicate nature that I need to ask you about?

A. Yes.

Q. Thank you. To try to assist you, [Person A1], and the ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I am going to breakdown my topics of questioning into ten topics.

F

A. Yes.

Q. Some preliminaries first. Secondly, some questions about timings. Yes?

A. Yes.

Q. Thirdly, about issues relating to drink, or drugs. Yes?

G

A. Yes.

Q. Fourthly, about Saeed Akhtar and [Sid's address]?

A. Yes.

Q. Yes. Fifthly, your presentation at the time with care workers and social workers?

A. Yes.

H

Q. Sixthly, your complaints about others at the time with which we're concerned?

A

A. Yes.

Q. Seventhly, specifically on the basis of your video interviews, the prosecution allege that Mr Akhtar raped you on one occasion and, so, I will ask about that?

A. Yes.

B

Q. Eight, again based on your videos, you contend that Mr Akhtar, in broad terms, encouraged you to prostitution, so I will ask about that as well.

A. Yes.

Q. Nine, any question of you having opportunities to complain to others when the behaviour you alleged was being perpetrated on you, 2009, 2010, 2011, that was occurring?

C

A. Yes.

Q. And, finally, the issue of compensation.

A. Yes.

Q. I shall signpost as, I think, the modern language goes, [Person A1], each of those topics as I come to them. It may not be possible to keep the topics in watertight compartments so, please, answer as fully as you wish to in terms of the questions that I ask, and I shall try to keep a focus for you, yes?

D

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. So, some preliminaries, please, [Person A1]. In the first of your video interviews with the police, you say this, you use this expression, "Concerning the time with which we're concerned I totally regret", yes?

E

A. Yes.

Q. For those who need a reference to that, that is page 14 of 42 of your first interview. You use that expression when you're beginning to make the allegations to the police. Do you follow?

F

A. Yes.

Q. What did you mean by that expression, "I totally regret"?

A. Well, what followed the, "I totally regret"?

Q. Sorry?

G

A. What was it relating, in relation to.

Q. Well?

A. Can I have the full sentence?

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Yes. I need it too. Mr Moulson's trying to be short and efficient as, you know. Just tell us, again, what we're talking about.

H

- A** MR WILSON: Your Honour, can the witness keep her voice up? I am having, I can hardly hear her, and others, or the defendants, other defendants, cannot hear her either. If she can ---
- JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Well, you heard that, [Person A1]. You know what is best to do. Keep your voice up, don't be nervous. Stupid suggestion from me; of course, you're nervous.
- B** Mr Moulson, what are we looking at?
- MR MOULSON: Your Honour, it actually begins on page 41 of 42.
- JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Page 41 of 42. I have got this [Person A3], don't you worry. Let's have a look. Where are we? [Person A5] one of 17. This is the very first DVD.
- MR MOULSON: Begins at 13, your Honour, of the transcript.
- C** (To the witness) You're making reference to a man called Sully. Yes? Playing snooker and having a drink and things like that. Yes?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Then there is a reference to people taking cocaine. Yes?
- A. Yes.
- D** Q. Then you say, "That is the kind of the way things worked like that back then". Yes?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Then you say, "I totally regret", then you make reference to going to a snooker place?
- A. Right.
- Q. Yes?
- E** A. Could you read it out, like, as I say, it?
- Q. Yes, of course.
- A. Like, the full sentence from, "I totally regret".
- Q. Yes. I think you are talking about [Person HH] and Pav. Yes?
- F** A. Yes.
- Q. "That is the kind of things, the way things worked back then, like we would all just ring each other when one of the guys wanted another girl type of thing". You then reply, "I totally regret", yes? Then there is a, "yes". Then you say, "And they took us to this snooker place, like I say. There were a guy called Was". Then you go on to describe his vehicle.
- G** Yes?
- A. Yes.
- Q. So, it seems to be, in fairness to you, perhaps an interruption by the police officer after the words, "I totally regret"?
- A. I think ---
- H** Q. Can you help - sorry?

A A. I think, if I remember rightly, I was going to say I totally regret and, I think, I fitted it in further interviews afterwards. The way, when I was on about the way things were, things worked, and us girls rang each other to get each other out. I regret a lot of the situations where I took other girls out into the same circumstances that I was in.

B Q. Yes?

A. So, I think, that is what the, "I totally regret", was in relation to. It was regretting the fact that I may have taken girls out that have then experienced similar stuff to what I've experienced and, therefore, I have placed some responsibility in the trauma that they have further endured then.

C Q. Right. At this time, that was before involvement of Saeed Akhtar, wasn't it?

A. Yes. As I stated in the interviews, it had been ongoing before that, I just didn't have the details of many people involved in the early stages.

Q. Yes. Thank you very much. As a 13 and 14-year-old, [Person A1], were you taking alcohol at those ages?

D A. Yes.

Q. What was the sort of, level of your drinking at that time?

A. Before I went into the care home, it was more like experimental, do you know? Most children go through a stage where they end up having some alcohol with a friend while they're out and it was more like that. It didn't become an issue until I was in the care home and exposed to higher quantities. I had more available to me, people were buying me stuff, and then it became rather an issue.

E Q. Thank you. When you use the expression "care home", do you mean the [Location B1] premises?

F A. Yes.

Q. That was the first care home that you went into?

A. No, I was in [Care home] before that, which was a temporary care home. There was a bit of an issue with alcohol there, but not to the extent as there was when I went to [Location B1].

G Q. Thank you. Were you taking any drugs before you went to [Location B1]?

A. I had experimented with cannabis, it wasn't something I had done regular, I didn't really like how it made me feel. I had never taken cocaine before I went, well, I took it once before I went to Sid's house and that was with his brother Was, briefly, before that. I think I may have, before I went to Sid's house, I may have taken some ecstasy pills in a nightclub about 15-years-old.

H

- A** Q. Thank you. So, having dealt with those preliminaries, [Person A1], can I turn to the question of some timings, please?
- A. Yes.
- Q. With you. I hope you have there a timeline, do you?
- B** A. I do not at the moment, no.
- Q. You don't. All right. I wonder if you could be provided with it, please? Thank you. [Person A1], you recall how this timeline works?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you. The page numbers are in the bottom centre of each page. Could I just ask you, please, and the ladies and gentlemen of the jury to turn to page 24, please, of the timeline. We see there, [Person A1], towards the top centre of the page a reference to February 2010.
- C** A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. And reference to a property [Bed and Brekfast], is that right, in the box underneath?
- D** A. I actually think, I think it is called [Bed and Brekfast].
- Q. [Bed and Brekfast]. Thank you very much. You see the reference to that box?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that right. Was it after that date that you met the man Sid?
- E** A. No, it was before.
- Q. Right.
- A. I know that I was already, I was in the bed and breakfast at times where I met Sid and his brothers and friends and stuff. [Person B2] lived in Little Horton, that was not far away from Holroyd House, and we went back to [Person B2's] house in Little Horton with them, and I walked from there, the bed and breakfast, down to her house on occasions and stuff. So, it was either just before, or during me going there, so round about that time.
- F** Q. Right. Just seeking your help on that answer if I may, [Person A1]. You see to the right of the box we're looking at the moment?
- G** A. Yes.
- Q. And down one line we see "[Person B1] left [Location B1]"?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. Was it after she left [Location B1] that you first met Sid then?
- A. No, I don't think so. I think it was before.
- H** Q. Think it was before?
- A. Yes.

- A**
- Q. Perhaps, if we turn a page back, we can seek your assistance in pinning this down, if we may. If you go to page 23.
- A. Yes.
- Q. We see at the top line, and we go towards the right centre, just to the right of the fold
- B**
- in this paper, that [Person S] was born on [Date] 2009?
- A. Yes.
- Q. It was certainly after that, that you met Sid, wasn't it?
- A. I think so. I do think so. I think I stated in the video evidence that I was pretty sure it was after having [Person S].
- C**
- Q. Yes?
- A. I think it was after the entry of, "moved in with mother".
- Q. Can we go over the page?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you.
- D**
- A. I think it is somewhere between the [Location] entry. Round about there, approximately give or take a month.
- Q. Right. So that [Location] entry appears to be 27 January. No-one would expect you to remember the precise date [Person A1]. You're trying to help us with locations, aren't you?
- A. Yes.
- E**
- Q. Yes. So, after January 27th, sometime in that month after?
- A. Before, or after, I am not 100 percent sure, but it was before the [bed and Breakfast], and it was after the, "went to stay with grandparents", entry, I think. I think. I can't actually remember going and staying with my grandparents, so I am just going by this timeline on that
- F**
- one.
- Q. That is 20th December. So, if we say some time?
- A. Some time between December and January, I would say approximate ---
- Q. Approximately?
- A. Approximately, yes.
- G**
- Q. That time?
- A. Yes.
- Q. So, perhaps, putting it another way, involvement with Sid began at the beginning of page 24. Would that be fair?
- A. Yes.
- H**

- A** Q. Yes. Thank you very much indeed. That is very helpful. You've told us about the circumstances, that you came to be introduced to Sid, being taken to 81 Saffron Drive. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- B** Q. Thank you. When you got to [Sid's address] on that first occasion, yes?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Who were you with?
- A. [Person B2].
- Q. [Person B1]. Briefly, what did you do when you were there on that first occasion?
- C** A. I cannot actually recollect whether there was alcohol and drugs the first time, or not, so I cannot positively say whether we did drink and take drugs the first time. I do remember him showing me a lot of little stuff that you used to have on your phone, do you know, when you used to pay like 50P for a screen-saver and it would be like a little joke type of thing, or a quirky comment. He was showing a lot of them and reading out a lot of text jokes that he had received from other friends and stuff. We were all just talking and having a bit of a laugh.
- D** Q. Right. In terms of other males who were there, on that first occasion, if you can recall?
- A. There was Sid, Khalid, Was, and Nav.
- E** Q. Thank you. Was there any conversation about how old you were?
- A. I don't recollect, so I cannot say yes or no.
- Q. Right.
- A. I do agree that on the first time we went they could have not known about my age.
- Q. Yes. Can I suggest that there was some conversation about age either on that occasion, or on a later occasion when you went and you told Saeed (Sid) that you were 18?
- F** A. I did state in my video evidence as well that to start off with, yes, when we first initially met them, we did lie about us age. It wasn't until afterwards that they found out our real age, but it wasn't after long. We were there for a short while before they learnt of our real age.
- G** Q. So, is this the position: Either on that first occasion, or on a later occasion, when the topic of age first was discussed, you and [Person B1] both said that you were 18?
- A. I actually think I said I was 17 and [REDACTED] on the first time that, well, not the first time, but the first time it got brought up, I am sure I said I was 17 and [REDACTED]
- H** Q. You will appreciate, [Person A1], that we have a record of what was said last time ---

A

A. Yes.

Q. --- by you. My record reads that I asked you, and you told him that you were 18?

A. Yes, but I'm pretty sure, if I'm thinking about it, that I did state that I was 17, just turning 18, [REDACTED]. I may not have remembered previously. Some times memories can come back at a later date. But I cannot be 100 percent sure.

B

Q. You will forgive me, [Person A1], I did ask on the last occasion why you said you were 18, then you gave an answer obtained things, like, "It was just easier to say that I were 18, less questions were asked".

A. Yes.

C

Q. Just easier to say you were 18 because no-one asks questions as to why you were out. Does that help you as to whether you said, 18, or 17?

A. No, not really. Like I said, I am pretty sure, I accept that we did lie about our age when we first met them. I can't remember whether it was 17, or 18, it could have been 18, but I have a memory where I've got, I think I might have said, "17 just turning 18", when I first met them.

D

Q. Right. Moving away from Sid for the moment, did you tell the man Bash your true age when you first met him?

A. No.

E

Q. No. Did you tell him that you were 18?

A. No. I told him that I was 17 and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Q. How old were you when you told Bash that you were 17?

A. I was 14. Bash found out about our true age very early on through a police stop, and telling our date of birth to the police in front of him. So, it was, I've never once throughout my video evidence, said that I didn't lie about my age when I first met people. I've said I did lie, and people did find out the truth before anything happened. People found out the truth very early on, either due to police involvement, social services involvement, or through me and [Person B2] admitting it. It wasn't very long after meeting any of the people, that they found out our true age and they still continued to see us once finding out our true ages.

G

Q. Coming back to the issue of Sid (Mr Akhtar) whom I represent.

A. Yes.

Q. When you gave your ages, you [REDACTED], to Sid, or the men there, on whichever occasion it was, did [REDACTED]

H

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- A** Q. Did you correct them about her true age?
- A. Not initially, no.
- Q. No. Why was that?
- A. People, our situations were that we were in care homes. A lot of the time we didn't
- B** want to talk about the reasons behind why, so some times we used to lie about our age because then people wouldn't question why we were out at that age and question our background we come from and stuff like that. When you are initially meeting someone, you don't want to have to explain the ins and outs of your life at later dates. With each of the
- C** people, me and [Person B2] both opened up and told them about the situations in our lives, that we were in care homes, the reason why we were in care homes, difficulties in our lives, and our ages. So, initially, yes, we did lie to avoid questioning about difficult situations with strangers.
- Q. Did that not persist throughout your contact with Sid, that you maintained you were 18?
- D** A. No. No, not all the way through. The police told him my age on a number of occasions and then one time, after the police had picked us up from his house for being missing and at young ages, I admitted exactly how old I was to Sid and Sid said, "We have known all along that you were younger".
- Q. I will come in a moment, [Person A1], if I may to that time when the police attended at Sid's house and, I think, that you got in the van, then were returned to Sid's house. Is that the occasion that you're ---
- E** A. Yes.
- Q. --- talking about. I will come back to that, if I may, in a moment. But, just keeping with timings, if we can. Can we just turn to page 27, please, in the timeline. Thank you,
- F** ladies and gentlemen. Do you have that, [Person A1]?
- A. Yes.
- Q. There is an entry in the top centre of the page, is that right?
- A. Yes.
- G** Q. You with [Person EE] at 115. Looks like 7th August. Stated you were at 81 Saffron Drive?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Does that represent you talking to the police by telephone?
- A. Yes. Either the police, or the staff of CMS who then informed the police, one or the
- H** other. I cannot recollect exactly which of them I spoke to.

- A** Q. Thank you, very much. You didn't feel under any difficulty telling either the police, or those at CMS on that occasion that you were at [Sid's address], did you?
- A. No.
- Q. No. That is not the only occasion, is it, when you have told people in authority that you were actually at those premises?
- B** A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. So, there was never any pressure brought on you, was there, by Mr Akhtar, to say don't tell people where you are?
- A. Yes, there was. Sid didn't like me telling anyone where I was. I used to tell the staff, without Sid knowing, because the staff were, and police, were less likely to come and pick me up if they knew a location where I was because I was not actually classed as a missing person if they knew which location I was in. So, I did tell them where I was because staff was fully aware who I, aware of my involvement [Sid's address]. Sid didn't like me telling them that I was there, but I made a decision, myself, sometimes under pressure from the staff and the police, to know where I was. At risk of the police going to [Sid's address] to search it, and pressure from Sid for the police not to go to his house and stuff, so I made the decision sometimes to inform them where I was.
- C** Q. This would be the communication with the police, or those in authority, that would be by mobile phone, would it?
- D** A. Sometimes, yes.
- Q. Yes. Whilst at [Sid's address]?
- A. Yes.
- Q. So, whilst in those premises you told those in authority where you were?
- E** A. Yes, sometimes.
- Q. So, you could be overheard at any time giving that address?
- A. I used to have my own room at Sid's house, basically. It was actually a spare room, but I stayed that regularly it, kind of, became my room and I could go up there and have privacy, sometimes, if I wanted. If I was going to the toilet, I could go by myself. Most of the people, when there was drinking and stuff, stayed downstairs. It wasn't until they were going to bed that people went upstairs, or if they were going to the toilet. So I could go upstairs and talk on the phone by myself if I wanted to.
- F** Q. You would have those opportunities, wouldn't you, then to complain about what was happening to you at that address to the authorities, free use of your mobile telephone?
- G**
- H**

A

A. Yes, I could have done, but, as I have explained in my video evidence, I was manipulated a lot of the time into not really understanding the situation I was in, or what was going on. I still, at that point, believed that I was having brief relationships with guys that were interested in me, and didn't really fully understand the situation I was in, or how to process it myself. I was still young, I was still gullible, naive, vulnerable.

B

Q. On how many occasions do you think that you spoke to those in authority on your mobile telephone when you were at [Sid's address]?

A. A handful of times. It was not a lot. I didn't always have a mobile phone, sometimes I did. It wasn't many times that I spoke to them while I was at the house. A lot of the times I used to ignore my phone.

C

Q. In giving that address, accurately where you were, did you not fear the arrival of the authorities and then, if you were frightened of Sid, he would be cross with you, wouldn't he, because of the obvious?

D

A. The police said to me on a couple of occasions because they said that they was tired of dealing with missing person reports surrounding this type of situation. As I think everyone is aware, back then, the process on child grooming and exploitation was dealt with a lot differently by the police. Their understanding was very lacking in the situation and there was plenty of issues around the police, the way they dealt with it all. The police have told me on a lot of occasions that I was a nuisance for going missing, and stuff along them lines. They said to me that if I provided a location of where I was, that I would no longer be classed as the full missing person, I'd just be classed as a vulnerable person and that they would not come and search for me. So, after having a reassurance from the police, I thought that sometimes giving my location was the best approach to make because the police wouldn't turn up.

E

F

Q. You're contending, [Person A1], aren't you, that a lot of adverse sexual conduct was perpetrated upon you at [Sid's address]. Yes?

A. Yes.

G

Q. The free use of your mobile telephone does represent the perfect opportunity to complain, doesn't it?

H

A. Yes, it could have done, but, like I have already explained, my understanding back then was totally different. I was getting told certain things by the members that the, by the people that were attending Sid's house, I was - basically they were all older than me, what they said I believed, I hung on the words; I believed them more than anyone else. I had no family around me, to be telling me any different. The staff at the care home, there was no

A personal relationship with any of them for me to feel, like, comfortable believing what they were saying and following them. I helped - having these personal relationships with these older men, and what they said, was what I believed because I felt attached to them, so to say. I felt like they were saying to me that they were my family, they were the people that were

B going to look after me, and they were telling me their own interpretation on what was going on in and I was believing what they were saying, like any other young girl would do if they had no other parents around, or anyone else around. Everyone looks up to someone older than them for guidance.

C Q. Just dealing with this telephone issue. Your position is this, isn't it: Sid said don't tell them where you are.

A. Yes.

Q. You ignored that and did tell them the authorities where you were?

D A. Yes, but Sid also told me not to have the police coming to his house. So he told me two things not to do and one of which I were going to have to do, so I chose to sometimes tell them my location rather than the police turning up at his house. I cannot make both things disappear. He knew how old I was, he knew I was in care, he knew I was a missing person, and he gave me two impossible tasks to do, and I had to try to do the one that caused the less frustration from him.

E Q. Forgive me, [Person A1]. Are you saying that these men, because of their age and influences upon you, told you to do something and you did it?

A. Pardon?

Q. Are you saying, in broad terms, that because these men were older than you, and had influence over you, you did what they said?

F A. Yes, most of the time.

Q. Right. But here we have, don't we, an example of you doing precisely the opposite?

G A. No. It is not exactly the same thing, though, is it because I was given two tasks by him: Don't let the police come to my house; and don't tell my location. I couldn't do both. If I didn't tell my location, they was going to go to his house; if I did tell my location, then weren't going to go to his house. Sid would have been more mad at the police turning up at his house, with underage girls in his house, drug usage, alcohol usage, and lots of older men, than he would have been them knowing his location. So, sometimes, yes, I told his location. It was only maybe two, or three times, out of the whole time I went there, that I said I was at his house to the staff.

H Q. That is an example of your assertive personality, isn't it?

A A. But my personality wasn't as assertive back there and both are different types of situations. Having an understanding on relationships and how you should be treated by men is one thing and making a decision on whether to tell someone where you are, or not, is a completely different thing. They are both different aspects of life.

B MR MOULSON: Forgive me, [Person A1]. I see the time. Is that a convenient moment?
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: It probably is. I am sure [Person A1] will understand. Would you just take a seat, just sit down for one moment. Thank you very much. All right. We will do it this way.

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Give everybody a proper break: 2.15. Okay?

C Mr Moulson will continue, possibly to completion, we do not know. No pressure. See you then.

(The jury left court)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Would you leave the court, please, quietly and quickly. Thank you. The public gallery cleared, please.

D Are we clear, Mr. Wilson? Mr Dallas, I cannot see to my left/your right. Is the court clear?
MR. DALLAS: The public gallery, there is one person; that is a mini-pupil.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: That is fine. One of yours. Yes. Yes. All right, [Person A1], there is nobody here. Don't talk about the case, will you. You know the rules. Do come back in, ready to start at 2.15. You will be looked after. Thank you.

E (The witness withdrew)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Are you hearing, okay, Mr Ferm, Mr Dallas,
Mr Wilson? Yes. Yes.

MR. DALLAS: Yes. 95% of the time, thank you.

F JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I would be grateful if, just look at me, and if you can signal - don't stand up. If you can signal to me if there is a problem. Okay.
MR. DALLAS: I did try but your Honour is taking a note, that is why I had to stand up.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Yes, touché, good one, no problem. Do something to distract me.

G MR. DALLAS: Yes, your Honour.

(Short adjournment)
(The jury entered court)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you.

H MR MOULSON: [Person A1], just one more point, please, about the telephone calls that you may have made to those in authority while you were at [Sid's address]. We will move on ---

- A**
- A. Yes.
- Q. --- to seek your assistance about some timings. Just looking through the records I have relating to the previous trial, I said this question: "How many times did you ring up your carers to say where you were when you were at Sid's?" Your reply was: "I couldn't give an accurate number. It was multiple times". Is that correct?
- B**
- A. Yes. Yes.
- Q. Miss Melly will have access to these records as well, so she can correct me if I am wrong. Would you like me to repeat the question?
- A. Yes, please.
- C**
- Q. The question and answer, forgive me. We're talking about page 10. My question: "How many times did you ring up your carers to say where you were when you were at Sid's"?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Your answer was: "I couldn't give an accurate number. It was multiple times"?
- D**
- A. Yes, but every time I rang up, I didn't tell them that I was at Sid's house. Sometimes it were just contact with them to let them know I was okay, and stuff like that. It wasn't always to let them know where I was.
- Q. Right. So, therefore, would you sometimes refuse to say where you were?
- A. Yes.
- E**
- Q. Or would you sometimes give a false address?
- A. I would just say, I wouldn't give a false address, I'd just say I was out with friends.
- Q. Right. So you would stand by your answer this morning: On a handful of times, you would give the correct address?
- F**
- A. Yes.
- Q. Where you were at [Sid's address]?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you. Could we just turn then, please, to seek your assistance, if we may, [Person A1], to a time when you no longer visited [Sid's address]?
- G**
- A. Yes.
- Q. If you turn to the timeline, ladies and gentlemen, page 32, please. Thank you, [Person A1]. If you have the top left at page 32, please, [Person A1]?
- A. Yes.
- Q. We see an entry, or entries, in November 2010?
- H**
- A. Yes.

- A**
- Q. Does that accord with the time when you were no longer visiting [Sid's address] or not? I think we have you at [Location G], is that right?
- A. I was not going to - when I was at, one minute. I was not going there anymore, but I did have contact with him after that. He moved house into like a house where it is split into
- B**
- two flats, if that makes sense. He moved there and I went there. So I wasn't going to his house regular at that point, but I did go one more time after that point.
- Q. Right, right. We see from this timeline, just to the right and below the box to which you have referred at top left, that there was a harbourer's warning issued to Saeed Akhtar?
- A. Yes.
- C**
- Q. On 10th November 2010?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Were you no longer going to [Sid's address] then?
- A. No. I was still going then. It was after that. Not to - he was in a relationship with [Person 2].
- D**
- Q. Yes?
- A. I went a couple of times while he was in a relationship with her, and then after that I didn't go as much because they were in a relationship.
- Q. Right.
- A. So, that was the reason why I weren't going.
- E**
- Q. All right. So, if we said you stopped going to the [Sid's address] towards the end of 2010, would that be ---
- A. Yes.
- Q. --- reasonable as ---
- F**
- A. Yes.
- Q. --- your recollection permits?
- A. Yes. I know that once he got with [Person 2] I did go a few more times, but it dwindled down. Before that, I were going multiple times a week and then it went, when he was in a relationship it was just odd occasions we would go over when they were having a drink together and stuff.
- G**
- Q. Right, thank you. I think you may tell us that you visited him at other addresses?
- A. Yes.
- Q. As far as your recollection serves, end of 2010, you are no longer going to [Sid's address]. Is that right?
- H**

A A. He moved from there not long after that as well, so that is another reason why I stopped going to [Sid's address] because he no longer owned the tenancy there.

Q. Thank you very much indeed. Right. I think I can turn to my third topic now, [Person A1], which is a question of?

B A. I spilt my water.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Can we have a tissue, please. You've got them, well done. More water. The water has gone over.

THE WITNESS: The timeline is very big.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Do not worry about that. Okay? What was the third topic, **C** Mr Moulson.

MR MOULSON: Drink and drugs.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Drink and drugs. Right.

MR MOULSON: Are you okay, [Person A1]?

D A. Yes.

Q. Obviously, [Person A1], I want to deal with this as shortly and as sensitively as I can?

A. Yes.

Q. All right. Drink and drugs. I think this is right, is it, that by the age of 12, or 13, you were out drinking vodka. Is that right?

E A. Occasionally. It wasn't like a regular thing. Like I said before, it was like, I think every kid gets to an age where they experiment with alcohol and stuff like that.

Q. Right. Cider?

A. Yes.

F Q. Right. In terms of your intake of vodka, would that be about a quarter of a bottle of vodka about four times a week?

A. Not at 12, no.

Q. No. 13?

G A. Not even at 13. Maybe when about 14. When I was still living at home with my Mum, we'd there'd only been one instance, two instances of me drinking vodka. There had been a couple more instances of me drinking cider, but it wasn't multiple times. It wasn't like every week, or a few times a week. It was just sometimes children being out with friends and all deciding to have experiments with alcohol.

Q. Right. What was your, if you can help us, your weekly intake of alcohol on average, when you were 15?

H

- A** A. It was very high. Multiple times a week. Multiple bottles a day, each time I drank so, yes.
- Q. Thank you. Would this be fair, [Person A1], I don't mean to cause you any distress whatsoever. Do you put that down to the difficulties in your childhood?
- B** A. It was a multiple, it was multiple things. It was difficulties in my childhood, situations I was in, and situations that were currently ongoing. It was a mixture of all different things.
- Q. Yes?
- A. And an escape from each problem.
- C** Q. Right. We know that when you were a few days, I think [Short time period] after your 16th birthday, you gave birth to [Person S]. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you. What was the drinking situation after she was born?
- D** A. I didn't drink all the way through my pregnancy. After she was born to start off with there wasn't an issue, then some situations happened and I was very used to using it as a, I can't remember the word.
- Q. Well, a coping mechanism?
- A. Yes. Exactly. Yes. So, I was very used to using it as a coping mechanism, so I did turn back to drink then. As I drank, the problems got worse, which led me to drink more. So, yes, it slowly started deteriorating after she was a couple of month old.
- E** Q. Right. I think [Person S] was freed for adoption ultimately, was she?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. Thank you. Drinking then as a coping mechanism for that event?
- F** A. After.
- Q. After she was freed for adoption?
- A. Well, she didn't actually get freed for adoption until 2013. I was still having contact with her, but I had been put in temporary accommodation because the accommodation that I lived in was a mother and child unit, so when she temporarily went to stay away from me, while I started anti-depressants, I lost the accommodation. Social services put me into a temporary bed and breakfast and then, because I was housed, I didn't have a priority on housing, so then I couldn't get any more accommodation. I was left there for six months. So, as the situation, I couldn't get my daughter back, I carried, my drinking slowly got worse because of the situation I was in and pretty helpless to change the situation.
- G**
- H**

- A** Q. It was 1st December 2009, wasn't it, that the care of [Person S] was transferred to the care of your mother. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You still had contact with [Person S]?
- B** A. Yes.
- Q. After that, did you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes.
- A. I had contact with [Person S] up until 2012.
- C** Q. Right. Thank you. The period we have been talking about, up to that point that the care of [Person S] was transferred to your mother, can you assist us with any drug use you had at that time?
- A. No, I wasn't taking no cocaine, or anything like that. I had never taken it at that point.
- D** Some times when I went out to nightclubs and stuff like that, I would take ecstasy pills, but it wasn't a regular drug habit, or anything like that. It was more like social drug use, occasionally.
- Q. Right. [Person A1], I will leave that topic there and go to topic number four, which is Sid and [Sid's address] more generally. You have assisted us with the dates, start and end times that you have been there. So, I would like to look at what happened there. You described your first visit, and subsequent visits. Are you able to say, on average, how many times a week you would go there during the time period that we have talked about?
- E** A. Yes, I would say I used to go - it wasn't like per-week, it was more like I would go for a few days at a time and then go home for a day, then go back. So, it would be like two to three days I will be there, then I would go home for a day or two, then I would go back for two to three days. I spent more time at his house than I did anywhere else.
- F** Q. Yes. Some of this case is about adverse sexual activity, which took place at that address, isn't it?
- A. Yes.
- G** Q. It wasn't a question ever, was it, of you being physically forced to go to that address from the care environments which you were at?
- A. No.
- Q. No. We're going to come to the topic of compensation towards the end of my questioning, [Person A1]?
- H** A. Yes.

- A** Q. I know that, or I anticipate, that you will indicate that you had read all about the females in Rotherham who suffered abuse?
- A. Yes.
- B** Q. Yes. When you gave evidence about that topic before you indicated to us that you had read all about it, and seen it on the television and in the newspaper?
- A. I think everyone did. It was pretty thrown in-your-face. It wasn't a choice of me necessarily going out of my way to listen to it or read about it. It was all over every newspaper and all over every news channel, so I heard, yes, I did hear quite a bit about it.
- C** Q. So, you will have heard, won't you, that some of the victims of the abuse in the Rotherham case were forced, at gunpoint by the perpetrators, to go to various addresses, weren't they?
- A. No. I actually haven't heard that, no.
- Q. Right. Some of the perpetrators locked girls in the boots of cars in Rotherham?
- A. Possibly.
- D** Q. Yes?
- A. It wasn't always the situation, though.
- Q. Some girls were, effectively, kidnapped from their homes, or care environments?
- A. Yes, but this is my case, not the Rotherham case.
- E** Q. I know, but you liken yourself to the victims in the Rotherham case, don't you?
- A. Just because I didn't experience any violence, necessarily, in getting me to the house doesn't mean that I never experienced violence at the house, or in relation to any other people that are on trial. It doesn't mean that I didn't experience violence over that time. If you look through my statements before, I have told you that I got - my grandma's house was
- F** threatened, my Mum's house was threatened to be petrol bombed. There was plenty of threats and there was plenty of violence. Just because it doesn't relate to me getting forced by violence to go to that house doesn't mean that no violence occurred during that time.
- Q. Some of those girls in Rotherham were locked in bedrooms, weren't they?
- A. I don't know.
- G** Q. And deprived of their mobile telephones?
- A. Possibly.
- Q. None of those events happened to you, did they?
- A. I wasn't deprived of my phone, but I was told multiple times to snap my simcard up and I snapped my simcard up. But, like I say, just because that happened to them doesn't
- H** mean it had to have happened to me. This is I'm a different person; this is a different case.

- A** Q. You went voluntarily on every occasion that you went to [Sid's address], didn't you?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Why didn't you just stay where you were and not go if these bad things, forgive me, were happening to you at that address?
- B** A. Because it is not just as easy as that when you have been manipulated. Like I have stated before, these people told me they were my family, and they were going to look after me. I built a bond, a trusting bond, up with these people as them as my guidance and stuff like that. They manipulated me into caring about them and I had no understanding of how relationships was supposed to work. I'd come from a situation where my Mum had
- C** experienced domestic violence for years at a time. Violence was normalised in my life. Just because violence was happening to me there, didn't necessarily scream out to me that I needed to be out of that situation. It had been involved in my life, throughout my whole life.
- My understanding of what was right and wrong then wasn't as progressed as it is now. I was
- D** manipulated. I was told by them that they cared about me, and I was craving someone to love me, and these people were telling me they did. I was used to having situations in my life, surrounding circumstances of violence and abuse and stuff like that, so it was very natural for me to then put up with what they were doing and think it was normal.
- Q. I think you told us, on the last occasion [Person A1], that you gave evidence, that you were bright; you were offered a place at university as a 13 or 14-year-old.
- E** A. At 14, yes.
- Q. 14. As you will appreciate, we have heard from a number of social workers, or care workers in this case, who are giving you advice about the situation that you were in?
- A. They wasn't necessarily giving me advice. It had been brought up a couple of times
- F** about grooming. The conversation, had been brought up a couple of times, but no one really put much effort into explaining to me the situation that was going on, or trying to prevent it.
- Q. Well, did you ignore that advice then and simply go because you wanted to go to [Sid's address]?
- A. I didn't fully understand the situation I was in, so, yes, I still went to [Sid's address]
- G** even when people have brought up about grooming because I didn't feel it related to me because, I thought, these people cared about me and weren't manipulating me. When you're getting manipulated, it is very hard to then accept from someone else you're getting

H

- A** manipulated because if you were not manipulated you wouldn't be believing what they were saying.
- Q. Is it correct that sometimes you would walk to [Sid's address] from the places where you were staying?
- B** A. Not from Dewsbury or anything like that, no. I got picked up each and every time.
- Q. Did you ring them to pick you up?
- A. Sometimes. Most of the time they rang me.
- Q. Yes. When you were at [Sid's address] and these bad things were happening to you, do you ever think, "I will just get out of the house and take the 10-15-minute walk to my grandmother's address"?
- C**
- A. I have caused, I put a lot of hassle on my grandparents. Our relationship, at that time, was very strained. Not long before that I had gone to stay with them and there'd been an argument between me and my granddad. Me and my grandad were no longer talking, so I didn't feel like I could then just keep going to the house and getting help from them. Like I
- D** said, our relationship was very strained at that time. Sometimes I did leave the house and go to my grandma's house when our relationship wasn't as bad, but at that time our relationship was very strained.
- Q. In general terms, at the time you were going to [Sid's address] did you ever visit an address at [Location]?
- E**
- A. I had lived there briefly. Before I went to [Sid's address] I went to [Location] a couple of times after that to see my friend. It wasn't anything regular.
- Q. Is that about a 20-minute-walk from [Sid's address]?
- A. Probably about 25 minutes.
- F** Q. Right. When you were walking to [Sid's address], did you think, "Well, these bad things are going to happen to me again, I will just carry on walking to my grandmothers, or to [Location], or use my mobile phone to call a taxi, or the police"?
- A. I rang the police sometimes. I got told by the police that it wasn't a taxi service, and I got myself into that situation and I had to get myself home. I went to my grandma's
- G** sometimes, but, like I said, at certain times our relationship was strained. Just like any other family, families have problems, and when you feel like you cannot turn to that person, you are not going to turn to them. The fact about [Location] and [Person Y1's] house, I didn't have regular contact with them. It weren't like I were there all the time, and I felt, "Oh, right, I can just go, be a burden on them". So, no, I didn't feel like I could go down there because I didn't
- H** want to be a burden on people that I cared about. I even left the house,

- A** sometimes, and slept on the streets to try to avoid situations. So, for you to stand there and say that I could have done this, I could have done that: I did do stuff.
- Q. When you were at [Sid's address] on the occasions that you were, [Person A1]?
- A. Yes.
- B** Q. You say that cocaine was given to you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. I am going to suggest that Sid never gave you cocaine?
- A. Yes, he did.
- Q. Thank you. Did you take cocaine to those premises on any occasions?
- C** A. Only the time when he sent me out to get it off a Bindi, and the time when I gave his cousin my phone for cooking, which he then took. I never took cocaine to the house any other time apart from that. Or one other time when he sent me out to see someone else, but I didn't actually take cocaine, I took money to the house.
- Q. I am not going overlooking the Bindi, or your other responses but I will come to that in my topics. Do you understand?
- D** A. Yes.
- Q. You made reference in your video tapes, [Person A1], to an incident when the police attended at [Sid's address] and you hid in a cupboard?
- A. Yes.
- E** Q. Do you recall that? I think that was in August 2010. Yes?
- A. I don't know the exact date.
- Q. Right. We can find that out. I want to ask you about that visit by police.
- A. Yes.
- F** Q. You say that Sid told you to go and hide in a cupboard. Is that correct?
- A. No, he didn't tell me to hide in the cupboard. He told me to go hide.
- Q. "To go hide"?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Were you with anybody at the time?
- G** A. [Person EE].
- Q. [Person EE]. So, you hid in a cupboard in the upstairs of the house. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- H** Q. With [Person EE]?

- A**
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. Did you hear what was being said downstairs?
- A. Yes. The bedroom was at the top of the stairs, and the door was open.
- Q. Right?
- B**
- A. The police knocked on the door.
- Q. Yes?
- A. And they asked if we were there. Sid lied and said, no, that he hadn't seen us, and he didn't have contact with us because we were underage, and that he'd had a grooming warning, so they won't, we weren't even. They said, "Do you mind if we come in and look about". He
- C**
- said, "No, that is fine". They came in, they looked downstairs, then they came upstairs and one of them opened the cupboard door and found us there and took us out of the house.
- Q. Right. Well, I am going to suggest that your recollection of that conversation is wrong, but don't worry about this. The police came upstairs and found you. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- D**
- Q. You and [Person EE] in the cupboard?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. Is it correct, according to you, that you had one of your feet literally on a bag of cocaine. Is that right?
- A. Not in view. The cocaine was hidden in something else, but I was stood on top of
- E**
- where it was hidden, yes.
- Q. Right. Do you know about how much cocaine was in that bag?
- A. A large quantity.
- Q. Right.
- F**
- A. It was a bag about that big (*indicating*).
- Q. You're indicating about the size of a football?
- A. Yes, but like a flat football.
- Q. A flat football. In your video interview you complain of adverse sexual conduct to you, don't you, at a point of at least up to that date?
- G**
- A. Yes.
- Q. So, bad things, sexually, were happening to you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Up to, at least, the point that cocaine was found and you were standing on a bag of cocaine, yes?
- H**
- A. Yes.

- A** Q. A police officer was, what, a foot or two away from you?
A. Yes.
- Q. So then did you say, "Officer, men of this house have been sexually abusing me, feeding me cocaine, and here is the evidence I am standing on it"?
- B** A. No, I didn't because at that point I still didn't understand that the sexual abuse that was happening to me was abuse. I was manipulated into thinking I was in relationship with these men twice my age and that they cared about me.
- Q. Isn't that the perfect opportunity?
A. It would have been if I would have understood what was happening to me, but since I
- C** didn't understand I cannot tell them something that I didn't recognise was happening me.
- Q. Well, you would have been a little over 17 at this time, wouldn't you?
A. I don't know.
- Q. Extremely bright, offered a place at university as a teenager?
A. Also, I had suffered over three years of mental manipulation and abuse to do with
- D** relationships, with no prior knowledge of how relationships were supposed to work because my Mum had been in abusive relationships all my life as well. So, even though I were academically bright, I wasn't emotionally bright.
- And, about to do with the cocaine, people, including the police and social services, already
- E** had knowledge that I was getting given drugs and alcohol, so I didn't need to pull the cocaine out and be, like, "There is the proof". They already knew and they had not really raised an issue with it.
- Q. There was nothing to stop you, was there, complaining to the police and telling them, "Here is a bag of cocaine"?
- F** A. If I would have understood the situation I was in, I would have done, I agree that it would have been the ideal time, had I understood.
- Q. So, you got out of the cupboard. Yes?
A. Yes.
- Q. In the presence of the police officers?
A. Yes.
- G** A. Yes. What happened then?
A. I told the police that I had no need to be reported as a missing person and told them I was older than I was and that I could stay there.
- Q. Just pause there. So, you lied to the police about your age, did you?
A. Yes.
- H**

- A**
- Q. You are telling them you were 18?
- A. Yes.
- Q. So, you could be there?
- A. Yes.
- B**
- Q. And [Person EE], what did you say about her age?
- A. We didn't say anything about her age.
- Q. Right.
- A. Not that I can recollect anyway. I can't remember the conversation word-for-word.
- Q. So, the police are told by you that you're 18 and can be there. Is that right?
- C**
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. What happened after that?
- A. They took us any way and then they radioed through. They was told my date of birth, and the police officer didn't bother working it out and, instead, just went, "All right then", and took us back to the house.
- D**
- Q. Pause there. So, forgive me, you went downstairs with the police officer?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Sid was downstairs, was he?
- A. Yes.
- E**
- Q. You were taken outside, both of you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Into the police van?
- A. Not a van, it was a car.
- Q. Forgive me. The police car starts to make its way away from [Sid's address], does it?
- F**
- A. Towards Lawcroft House.
- Q. Towards Lawcroft House Police Station.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that right. On route, the officer makes an enquiry relating to your date of birth?
- A. Yes.
- G**
- Q. Yes. Had he calculated it correctly he would have understood that you were 17, I think. Yes?
- A. I don't know. I don't know how old I actually was at the time, so I can't tell you.
- Q. Right. But, in all events, it's clear, isn't it, that because there was an understanding reached in that vehicle that you were 18, you were returned to [Sid's address]. Is that right?
- H**

- A**
- A. Yes. They never even checked [Person EE's] date of birth. [Person EE] was actually 15.
- Q. Why didn't you say, in that police car, what you, [Person EE] and one officer, or two officers?
- B**
- A. Two officers.
- Q. Why didn't you say, in that police car, "I have been being raped, there is cocaine upstairs, all these men are doing all these things to me". Why not complain?
- A. I already answered that. I didn't understand. Had I have understood, I would have done, but I didn't understand the abuse that was going on.
- C**
- Q. Is it because there wasn't actually any sexual abuse, certainly at the hands of Saeed Akhtar?
- A. Yes, there was.
- Q. And that he wasn't sending you out to be a prostitute in any way, shape, or form?
- A. Why would anyone make something like that up? Do you think it makes me feel good having to stand here and say to people that I got sent out to have sex with people for cocaine, or do sexual stuff? I am gaining nothing from making it up. What I say happened, happened. They had sex with me in that house, and they sent me out.
- Q. On the question of your contacts at the time by telephone, your knowledge of other people, forgive me are you all right to continue?
- E**
- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. We know, [Person A1], that you wrote a long list of numbers and names in longhand. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- F**
- Q. Yes. This is Exhibit SC1 which is being spoken about in the last video interview you gave. You wrote out a long list in longhand of numbers?
- A. Yes. I have had sight of it a few times.
- Q. You know the document I am talking about?
- A. Yes.
- G**
- Q. I wonder if his Honour might have a copy, please just so we can see. Thank you very much. And for you, [Person A1], as well. I can produce copies for the ladies and gentlemen of the jury, but it looks like this. A number of pages to it. Names and references down the side. [Person A1], do you know, roughly, when this was written?
- A. It was written when I was at the house around the corner from CMS. I can't
- H**
- remember the name of the street.

- A**
- Q. Can we just try to help on the timeline, if possible?
- A. If I don't spill the water again.
- Q. It might be indicated on there?
- A. I think it was.
- B**
- Q. Sorry. We know that you say you visited [Sid's address] at the start of page 24. Didn't visit it up until the start of page - didn't go after start of page 32. Was it after you stopped going to?
- A. It was about the time of me getting a tenancy on [Location E1].
- Q. Do you have a page number there?
- C**
- A. 32.
- Q. 32?
- A. It was about that time.
- Q. If we go to page 32. Forgive me, which entry are you talking about?
- A. 25th November. 24th, sorry.
- D**
- Q. I am so sorry?
- A. 24 November.
- Q. 24 November?
- A. It was about that time.
- E**
- Q. Right. CMS supported tenancy. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. [Location E1], yes. Right. So it is about that time you wrote this list of names?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you very much indeed. If we just go to the first page of these numbers and, please, be assured I am not going to go through very many of them. We have a name there, don't we, with a surname is it [REDACTED]
- F**
- A. Yes.
- Q. Then in brackets it has "FB" and then a mobile telephone number?
- A. Yes.
- G**
- Q. What does the "FB" stand for?
- A. Facebook.
- Q. Facebook. Why is that type of entry on?
- A. People, a lot of people give the same names that I had met, like Kami, Billy, stuff like that. So the brackets at the side were for me to remember exactly who each person was, but
- H**
- that had similar names.

- A**
- Q. Pausing there. A lot of people you have met have used similar nicknames, have they?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Like Sid?
- A. Yes.
- B**
- Q. Yes. If we see, I am trying to avoid the use of full names, obviously. First name is [REDACTED] then surname, and then it says "Family"?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Reasonably self-explanatory?
- A. My cousin.
- C**
- Q. Your cousin, thank you. We have various entries. More FB entries, don't we?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And matters of that kind. The fourth name down, [Person A1], just above the top holepunch on the first page?
- A. Yes.
- D**
- Q. Yes. There is reference "Sid", isn't there?
- A. Yes.
- Q. With a number ending 595?
- A. Yes.
- E**
- Q. Saeed Akhtar (Sid) has always had that number, as far as you're concerned. Is that right?
- A. He told me he had paid for it ---
- Q. Right?
- A. --- ages ago. He had it the whole time I knew him.
- F**
- Q. He had it the whole time, did he?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Then in brackets, after "Sid", that is Saeed Akhtar's name, it says, "best mate"?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. Why is that entry by his name if he was perpetrating this abuse, or causing you to be a prostitute, [Person A1]?
- G**
- A. Because, like I have explained, I felt like he told me he cared about me. They were my new family. They were going to look after me. At the time that all this was happening, I felt that they were there as my friends and looking out for me, and stuff like that. So, when I first saved his number in my phone, I saved it with "Best mate" at the side of it. By this
- H**
- point, when I have wrote this list out, I might not have re-entered it back into my phone

A saying exactly the same thing. It was just a copy of all the names that was on my contact list as they were. I wrote them all down as they were saved in my old phone to then work out exactly who each one was, so I reprogrammed them into my new phone.

B Q. I am going to come on, at some point[, [Person A1], to the allegation of rape, you made, by Sid upon you?

A. Yes.

Q. This was written after that incident, as far as you are concerned, isn't it?

C A. Yes. This is written after that incident, but, like I have just said, that was how it was saved in my phone when I first programmed it into that phone, and I had never got round to changing it, or anything. I just left it as it was.

Q. So, it was first programmed into your phone before you contend rape by Sid. Is that right?

A. Yes. It was first programmed into my phone a long time ago.

D Q. After you say he has raped you, he remains in your telephone as, "Sid best mate", does he?

A. I never changed it. I don't think I needed to get raped by someone then go into my phone and change his name to, "Sid rapist". Do you know what I mean? Like I said, at that point I still didn't fully understand exactly what had happened was abuse. I didn't understand. I was still getting manipulated into thinking these people cared about me and were looking after me. But, at the house with, say, eight men in it, for the majority to have, majority of them to have had sex with a teenage girl inside that house.

E Now, as an adult, looking back, I can see that is totally wrong. You don't go to a house and expect - that's like being in this court room and expecting you to have slept with near enough everyone in this court room. It is not something that is normal to look at, as an adult, especially as such a young age as what I was when I went there. But, at that age, I didn't understand that that was wrong.

F Q. Just staying with this point for a moment, if I may?

A. Yes.

G Q. After the incident of rape, did you make a complaint to anybody?

A. I once told [Person I2] what had happened. [Person I2] (his girlfriend), she'd tried splitting up with him and she'd come to my house for me to help her get away from him. While she was at my house I broke down and told her what had happened and asked her not to go back.

H

- A** Q. How long after the incident of rape did you see [Person I1] and tell her that had happened?
- A. It was quite a while after; I cannot remember an exact amount of time that passed.
- Q. Right.
- B** A. But it wasn't, like, immediately after, or the day after, or anything. I'd never told anyone else, apart from her, up until the date that I gave evidence to the police officers. She was the only person I ever told and that was when I broke down and told her.
- Q. If you are saying he raped you, [Person A1], why would you want his telephone number in your phone at all?
- C** A. Like I said, this doesn't necessarily mean everything got programmed into a new phone. It was all what was already wrote in my contact list and had been in my contact list for a long time. It wasn't just so I could ring them, it was so I knew who was ringing me. So, if his number came up, I knew it was him; I could avoid the phone call if I wanted to. If it weren't saved, I might not have recognised it and answered it if I was going to avoid him.
- D** Like everyone does, everyone saves numbers in the phone that they know what they belong to. Just because I didn't go and change the last bit of his name doesn't mean anything.
- Q. Put that to one side now, [Person A1], I have no further questions on that document. Thank you very much indeed.
- E** Did you ever tell any care worker, or social worker, [Person A1], that whilst you were in contact with Sid you had been to Birmingham?
- A. Yes, I went to Birmingham, but not with Sid.
- Q. Right.
- A. People from Birmingham came to Sid's house, but I never went to Birmingham.
- F** Q. With Sid?
- A. No. I went to Birmingham to see someone by myself, someone that was my age.
- Q. Right. So, if it is suggested that you went to Birmingham, and forgive me, this is what we have had evidence of, had intercourse with a number of people that would be wrong, would it?
- G** A. Yes, that would be wrong. I had intercourse with one person in a hotel. I met one person in Birmingham, and we stayed in a hotel together. He was one-year older than me. We stayed in a hotel for one to two nights; I think it was two nights. So, yes, I didn't have sex with a number of people.
- Q. Thank you. I will come back to the allegation of rape and the Bindi incident, [Person
- H** A1], as I say.

A

Point 5. The way you presented at the time that these allegations relate to, yes?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you say that you stood up to people if, for example, if they told you to do something, and you didn't want to do it, would you stand up to them, stand your ground?

B

A. Sometimes. It wasn't necessarily normally like - it was normally, it was normally me lashing out at people due to frustration and stuff like that.

Q. You did get round the fire alarm systems at the [Location B1] care home, didn't you, to get out at night?

A. Actually, that only happened once.

C

Q. Only once?

A. Yes. They used to let us out on other occasions and say to us to say that we had threatened to set the fire alarm off to get out. But I actually, only actually set it off once. At [Care home], before I ever met Sid or Bash, or anyone, I set the fire alarm off there multiple times and went out on to a field and played in mud with people my own age, like normal kids would. So, at [Care home], yes, I did set the fire alarm off more times. But, at [Location B1], after we had met Bash and all this started, I only did that once. The rest of the time they let us out.

D

Q. You knew, didn't you, that there were strict hours in place for you to be back at the care home, for example?

E

A. I wouldn't necessarily say they were strict. They never stuck to the hours. They never stopped us from going out, they never advised us not to go out. They would knowingly let us out at 10 o'clock for last cig, knowing we were about to go out into town. They could have told us the door was locked and that they weren't going to let us out, but they didn't, they still let us out. So, I wouldn't call it strict, no.

F

Q. All right. There were rules that meant you had to be in the care home at certain times, weren't there?

A. Yes, I was meant to be in by 10 o'clock.

Q. Yes. So, to get out of the care home, without activating the fire alarm systems, you gave the false story that you were going to have a cigarette. Is that right?

G

A. Yes.

Q. Then you wouldn't come back?

A. No. Then they knew what, they knew what we were going to do like each and every time.

H

A

Q. You've accepted, [Person A1], now that you lied about your age at certain circumstances, yes?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you lie about anything to your social workers, or care workers?

B

A. Sometimes, yes.

Q. Right. What sort of things would you lie about?

A. I cannot think of anything, but I am pretty sure, I'm 14-year-old, I am pretty sure I lied about stuff at certain times. I cannot think of anything that comes to mind.

Q. Lying at 15 and 16?

C

A. I cannot think of any actual circumstances that I have lied in, but I am pretty sure every, not even just kid, every person lies sometimes.

Q. Would you say you were determined to do what you wanted to do?

A. No. Before I went into care, and I lived with my Mum, I weren't even allowed out with my dad, and I had no freedom. I went from that extreme to going into care, where no-one really gave a crap about you. Sorry about that language. Like, no-one really cared, no-one was strict, no-one had boundaries in place. They had rules that they just generally stuck to and didn't really enforce. So, I went from one extreme to another. I kind of spiralled out of control with no guidance there really to guide me in the right direction. I was just left to my own devices to do what I want.

E

Q. Wasn't there input from many people who wanted to help you?

A. Not really. I rarely had meetings with my social worker. She hardly ever turned up. Even the staff at the care home had brought up before that she hardly ever come to see me. I had some involvement from CAMHS mental health, but at that time I was still very young and quite immature and didn't accept the help from the mental health team, which, in

F

hindsight, I really should have done because it would have helped me come to an understanding of what was going on a lot quicker. It would have helped me a lot more, I think. But, I wouldn't say that I had a lot of input from professionals. I had meetings that were called to do with CSE, and I had people that attended them meetings that told me that nothing was really talked about and stuff, like there were people around and involved, but no-one was actually doing anything.

G

Q. Would you say that you rejected the advice of those who were trying to help you?

A. No-one really gave me much advice. They brought up a handful of times that I could be getting groomed and asked me if I thought I was getting groomed, and I said, no. They said what happens when you go to the house? I told them what happened, I told them I was

H

A drinking, I told them I was taking drugs, I told them that the men were around and everything like that. They just went, oh, right. So, in my eyes, like, I didn't understand getting groomed, but I have literally just explained to them, point by point, that I am getting groomed and they haven't raised a further question with me about that. So I am, like oh, all right then, it's

B clearly all right and I am just going off about it. No one raised a point about it. Everyone knew what was going on and all they did was ask me, a handful of times, "Do you think you might be getting groomed?" And it never made an impact on me, and made me look for, really think about it, or look further into it. No-one really explained to me exactly what,

C exactly what grooming was, and I never really made the link in my mind; no-one ever tried to help me make that link. So, therefore, I just carried on with it.

People, like I said, people knew what was going on. They knew what was happening at the house. I never really hid from them exactly what was happening. Fair enough, I didn't tell them in detail what was going on, but they knew stuff was going on and no-one made a big deal about it.

D Q. I am going to move on to point 6, [Person A1]. That is complaints that you made about other conduct to which you were subject at the time you say that these men were involved in abusing you?

A. Yes.

E Q. Before I do that, I'd just like to indicate to you why I am going to ask about that. As I understand it, your position is that you were confused about what was going on at the hands of these men. Is that right?

A. Yes.

F Q. Is it the case that you didn't feel able, because your strength was overborn, or your will was reduced, that you felt you couldn't complain?

A. Not initially. My will was worn down over time to the point where I just felt worthless. But, initially, it was more just lack of understanding of what was going on. There was a lot of manipulation and playing with my emotions. Making me feel like they cared about me and loved me, like they were a family that I didn't have anywhere else and stuff like that. So a lot of it was that.

G Q. Because you complained on numerous occasions throughout the time period of which we're concerned, didn't you, about other things happening to you?

A. Yes.

H Q. In January 2009, for example, you made a complaint of assault against a man called [Named male 4] that complaint to the police. Is that right?

A A. Yes.

MR MOULSON: Your Honour, I am invited by all counsel to go through these. There are about 18 of them. I make it plain I do so collectively, your Honour, if that?

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: All right. [Person A1], Mr Moulson wouldn't be doing this

B unless he thought it right. All right.

THE WITNESS: Yes, fine.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: It is all right?

THE WITNESS: Yes, yes.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: But it will save anybody else having to do this; I will stop them.

C THE WITNESS: Fine.

MR MOULSON: I anticipate a broad measure of agreement, [Person A1], between you and I on this point.

A. Yes.

D Q. We have been through the [Named male 4] incident. 15th July 2010, you made a complaint to the police of rape from an ex-boyfriend. Is that right?

A. It wasn't necessarily a "boyfriend". He lived next door to my Mum's house. We was going to start a relationship. It had literally been a couple of days, we had not had much contact or owt, and then, yes, that happened.

E Q. I am lifting the information from a record, [Person A1], so, please correct me if it is not correct according to you. I don't want to know his name, but you were prepared to give the name to the police, weren't you?

A. Yes. Like I say though, I had known him for a matter of days. There was no emotional manipulation, there was no relationship built-up or anything like that. He literally

F lived next door to my Mum, and I had gone to move in with my Mum and I had known him a matter of days when the incident happened.

Q. On 25th October 2010 you made a complaint, if I can put it, of stalking against another male. Is that right?

A. Yes.

G Q. Thank you. Six days later (1st November 2010), threats made to you by that person about who you complained. Is that right?

A. Yes.

Q. February 2011. Complaint about theft of a bag. Is that right?

A. Yes.

H Q. Thank you. 29 March 2011, complained of assault and damage. Is that right?

- A**
- A. Yes.
- Q. 24th July that year. Complaint in exactly the same way. Is that right?
- A. I have no idea.
- Q. Right. Would you accept that these are lifted from the records. Ms Melly will correct it if I am wrong about any of these?
- B**
- A. Yes, I accept. I can't remember that one, though.
- Q. Thank you. 30th July 2011. You complained of Usman urinating in your flat. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- C**
- Q. Further on that day, complaint of criminal damage. The only details I have are perpetrated by some females. Is that- yes?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. 22nd October 2011. Criminal damage. A knife produced in your presence?
- A. No idea.
- D**
- Q. Do you accept that, yes?
- A. I can't remember.
- Q. 8 May 2012. You said you had been punched in the face by a taxi driver, and he tried to strangle you. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- E**
- Q. 29 June 2013. You complained of some noise nuisance at your premises. Is that right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. 8th December 2013. You complained of sexual assault; nothing to do with any of these?
- F**
- A. I am pretty sure 2013 is way after the time that we're talking about, though.
- Q. Yes.
- A. So, I don't see what that has to do with it.
- Q. Yes, but you were prepared, weren't you, on occasions when bad things happened to you, before, during, and after the period which we're concerned, you were prepared to complain, weren't you?
- G**
- A. Yes, but in each of them circumstances that you've brought up there was no relationship with the person involved. There was no manipulation. There was no nothing there. It was literally instances with people that are near-enough strangers doing something.
- H**
- So, it is a completely different situation. I haven't been manipulated into thinking what was

- A** going on. They was done by people I didn't really know; there was nothing there to confuse or manipulate the situation. So, yes, I do accept I made complaints about other people, but the other people were not, it was not the same situation as this.
- B** Q. When in a visit with a psychiatrist you complained that you had been raped twice, again not allegations made about any of the men in the dock. Is that, yes, or no?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you. We're going to come to topic 7, please, [Person A1]. This is the allegation of rape that you make as against Saeed Akhtar?
- A. Yes.
- C** Q. Yes. Can you help us, forgive me, as to the approximate time? I don't mean minutes, hours, I mean ---
- A. Near the end of going to, well, it was one of the last times that I went to [Sid's address].
- D** Q. One of the last times you went to [Sid's address]?
- A. Yes. I think it was the last time I went to [Sid's address], and then I only saw him once after that, and that was at his other address.
- Q. Right.
- E** JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Could you keep your voice up a little, please.
THE WITNESS: Sorry.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: No. No, no. Thank you.
MR MOULSON: (To the witness) I will come to the incident in a moment, [Person A1], but the issue of the number of times that you saw him after you say you were raped, yes?
- F** A. Yes.
- Q. Talking about the period when you would have been over 17, aren't we, towards the end of [Sid's address]?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that right, yes? Did you go to see Sid after this had occurred?
- G** A. I think ---
- Q. Forgive me?
- A. --- I think once at his other house.
- Q. Right. First of all ---
- A. Quite a while after.
- H** Q. Did you go to the [Sid's address] after this had happened?

- A**
- A. I don't think so, no.
- Q. All right. Did you go to see Sid at any other address after you say this had happened?
- A. No.
- Q. Right. Correct me if I am wrong, [Person A1], but on the last occasion, did you not
- B** say that after this had allegedly occurred you went to see Sid on three, or four occasions?
- A. I don't know. I don't think I did. I'm sure I said that it was one of the last times I'd seen him and that I might have seen him one or two times after.
- Q. Right. Because my note reads that you said, you had been to the (page 46) [Sid's address] once after this had occurred. Then I put, I suggested to you it was four times to the
- C** [Location] address, and you corrected me and answered, "Three times"?
- A. I ---
- Q. Does that ---
- A. --- I don't know.
- Q. --- help with what actually happened?
- D**
- A. No. Maybe I might have forgotten since then, but I can remember clearly going once after that and [Person I2] was there.
- Q. To which address?
- A. To the one in Manningham.
- Q. Is that [Address]
- E**
- A. Yes, I can remember that instance clearly, but I don't know if I went more than that. I remember going once afterwards to the Manningham address.
- Q. It has been pointed out that this exchange is being pointed out fairly to me by Ms Melly. Let me read it to you ---
- F**
- A. Okay.
- Q. --- so you have the full picture and then we can decide where we are with the truth of the number of times that you saw Sid after this incident?
- A. Okay.
- Q. All right. "After this incident, which you say occurred you went to [Sid's address] once then four times to the Girlington address". That is a question by me. Yes?
- G**
- A. Right.
- Q. You replied: "Three times". I say: "Three times to the Girlington address? I put to you on, Sid's behalf, that you had never been to the Girlington address. Can I correct a mistake that I made and suggest to you that you once went to the Girlington address and there
- H** you saw [Person I1] and spoke to her about Sid sleeping with other women"?

A

A. I remember that time going to his house.

Q. Thank you. Then you answer: "No, that is incorrect. I once, I went once when [Person 2] was there". I say, "Yes". Then your answer is this: "I also went on two other separate occasions when there was Sid, his [relative] or whatever he's called, and someone else, I can't remember who, on separate occasions to when [Person 2] were there".

B

A. I - no, I remember. I remember going when [Person 2] were there, and I do remember the other one that you've just talked about because we were watching, we were listening to Desert's "Miss the Rain", that song, I remember that. But, to be honest, it has been years, it has been a year since I were last on the stand. It has been years since this incident, and I can't remember, right this second, whether I went another time after that, or what. I can remember clearly going when [Person 2] was there, and now you've just said that I actually do remember going when one other time, I don't know after that.

C

Q. Right. Perhaps the point is this: If a man has raped you, why are you going to see him?

D

A. There was still a very conflict of emotions going on. Like, even though I felt uncomfortable about everything that happened, I still had the emotions of caring for these people. It had been a long time I had spent with them, and them telling me they were my family and stuff, it's very conflicting for someone that you've looked up to as your family, and they're meant to be looking after you, to have done something wrong. I am pretty sure you must have heard on numerous occasions that parents that do stuff wrong to their kids, kids are conflicted, but they care about their parents, but they are also getting mistreated, do you know what I mean? It is that same situation. These people basically took the place of any parental or adult role I had in my life. I looked up to them for guidance, I felt a relationship with these people. I had no-one else around me, no family that I was in contact with regularly. Like I say, there were no relationship really with the care home staff. So I was very conflicted.

E

F

G

Still, now, it is hard to get my head fully around everything. I still feel mixed emotions round these people. These people made a big impact on my life. For years, I spent day in and day out with these people telling me that they were going to look after me, and they were going to keep me safe; and they were my family. Then these same people had been doing stuff to me that I didn't fully understand at the time. It's not as plain and simple as I met these people and they did something as soon as I met them, or anything. They built up a relationship with me, they made me care about them before they then took advantage and started doing other stuff to me.

H

A So, it's, it isn't just as easy as - like I said, if I walk down the street and I got assaulted by a complete stranger, you feel no connection to that complete stranger. But if it were your own parent that, did it to you, or someone in the place of a parent, or family, you have got that conflicting feeling.

B Q. It was only ever on one occasion, wasn't it, you say that this one, that Sid perpetrated any sexual physical act upon you. Is that right?

A. Yes. Yes, once.

Q. Yes. That is the occasion which we're talking about now, isn't it?

A. Yes.

C Q. He contends, through me, that there was no act of intercourse with you, or sexual physical sexual misconduct to you at all?

A. Yes, there was.

Q. Right. I will try and deal with the circumstances delicately, you understand, yes?

THE WITNESS: Can I have a break?

D JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Yes.

MR MOULSON: Your Honour, I was going to ask for, if that, in fact, was a convenient moment because we have been through some background material to this. I was going to move to the event itself, so I did wonder whether, all things considered, or not, whether all things considered it might be appropriate to break there. I am at topic number seven.

E JUDGE DURHAM HALL: You've nearly done, haven't you?

MR MOULSON: Yes.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Well, just take a seat. Thank you. You're going to get a break, don't you worry. Just how long whether it is.

F THE WITNESS: I just need a quick cig outside.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: A quick cig outside, I am all for that. But, I might - what are you saying to me, Mr Moulson, really?

MR MOULSON: I think one topic, in particular, the compensation topic, which I will not be finished. So I did just wonder whether, bearing in mind [Person A3] will be back tomorrow, in any event, I did wonder whether, given her obvious distress at the moment, it might be a convenient moment?

G MS MELLY: I wonder if [Person A3's] views can perhaps be canvassed by myself, or the usher.

H

A JUDGE DURHAM HALL: What we're talking about, [Person A1], you have been in the witness box for nearly one hour and 20 this afternoon. Mr Moulson is moving swiftly, he's got some few more questions(ish). I don't know. 10, 15?

MR MOULSON: On this topic?

B JUDGE DURHAM HALL: But not over - do you want to come back at 10 o'clock? Or do you just want a quick cig.

THE WITNESS: I just want a quick cigarette. You see, I am staying in a hotel up here and -

--

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Don't say any more. Don't say any more.

C Shall we, I think let's have a quick cig. All right, ladies and gentlemen? A quick cig. Would you give us 10 minutes? Is 10 minutes enough for a quick cig.

THE WITNESS: Yes, fine.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Enough for a packet, in my day. But you just go, give us 10 minutes, all right? Then we will carry, do one more topic.

D MR MOULSON: Complete this one, perhaps, your Honour.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: This topic?

MR MOULSON: Yes.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Okay. 10 minutes. That is okay. 20-to-4 we can come back. You just stay there.

E The press are fine, solicitors fine. Are there solicitors there? They're fine, go on. (To the witness) If you would like to leave us and come back in 11 minutes and 5 seconds. All right.

(The witness withdrew)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you very much. Good, thank you. Anything arising that we can deal with at this is moment? No. Mr Ferm, can you hear? I don't want to ask Mr Wilson; he cannot always shoulder the burden of complaining. Can you hear on the back row?

MR. FERM: Yes, thank you.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: All right. See you in ten minutes.

G (Short adjournment)

(The court reconvened in the absence of the jury)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Hang on. Mr Wilson, I apologise, I think I have inadvertently filed your application. I am not going to rootle through the waste bin. You have another copy of it?

H

A MR WILSON: I am afraid I don't, you Honour. I have been from the southwest, I have no access to ---
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: No, quite right too. We're only jealous of you.
MR WILSON: My learned friend has not ---

B JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Have you got a copy, Miss?
MR WILSON: No. I gave one copy to my learned friend. Your Honour will see I have not marked those passages that I was going to look to, not necessarily all of them are there.
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you so much. That is fine. Yes.
MS MELLY: I am afraid I have not seen a copy of that. I am not sure if you want to ---

C MR WILSON: No, it is...
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I have lost my copy, Miss.
MS MELLY: No. I think some of them have been narrowed down, haven't they?
MR WILSON: I have just marked it. I can certainly let my learned friend look at it.
MS MELLY: I would be grateful.

D MR WILSON: I am just obtaining a copy from---
MS MELLY: Certainly, if I am being asked to make a pre-fact it might be..
JUDGE DURHAM HALL: I have got the response, no problem with that. Can you bring them in. Thank you. Sorry, I don't think, I think we may be at.
MR WILSON: Perhaps we can deal with it afterwards.

E JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Yes. I am going to hand this back. I think I have made a fundamental error of filing it somewhere that I don't know where it is. That is fine. Okay, no problem.

(In the presence of the jury)

F JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you very much. Thank you.
MR MOULSON: Thank you, your Honour. Not too long and just confined to this incident. (To the witness) If I could ask you for your assistance, please.
A. Yes.
Q. You say this happened towards the end of the time Sid was, of course, occupying

G [Sid's address]. Is that right?
A. Yes.
Q. I think you've given an account in your interview (for your Honour's reference video 7 page 23 of 27) and I will go through the relevant parts if I can with you, [Person A1]. Is this right: I think you had said that you had taken some alcohol and cocaine that night, yes?

H A. Yes.

- A** Q. And there was just you and Sid in the house. Is that right?
A. Yes.
- Q. You had taken that on a voluntary basis, hadn't you?
A. Yes.
- B** Q. Yes. You say that you were downstairs, and he began to talk to you, saying words like, "You have done it with everybody else". Yes?
A. Yes.
- Q. Right. He denies saying that, of course, because he denies any incident with you at all of this nature. But, when he was saying that, if that is right, did you think it must be time for me to go now?
C
- A. It was very late at night, I had nowhere to go. I lived in Dewsbury; he knew that I had nowhere to go.
- Q. But your grandmother was 15 minutes walk-away, wasn't she?
A. I have already told you the relationship with my grandma was very strained at the time. There was quite a period of time during that, that me and my grandma had very little contact.
- D** Q. Did you think that, if you're right about him saying that to you, he wanted sex with you?
A. Yes.
- E** Q. And you didn't want sex with him, did you?
A. No.
- Q. So, why didn't you leave the house and walk the 10/15 minutes to your grandmothers, however strained the relationship was?
F
- A. Because I couldn't go to my grandma's. One, it was the middle of the night, and I couldn't go and wake her up. And, two, like I have said, the relationship with my grandma was very strained at the time. My Grandad had banned me from going to the house altogether. We had had a big argument. Still, to this day, I have not spoke to my Grandad since then. I've not spoken to my Granddad in absolute years.
- G** Q. Why not go to the lady 20-minutes away at [Location] then?
A. Also, I'd hardly had any contact with her for years either. I had lived with them when I was 15 and this was two-years-later.
- Q. You say that Sid goes on saying things like: "Do it with me"; "What difference would it make?"; and "He kept going on like that". Is that what you say happened?
H
- A. Yes.

- A** Q. Yes. So, still no thoughts, by you, [Person A1], even though you knew what might happen, of leaving the house and going to either of those places of refuge?
- A. I couldn't. I've already said I couldn't go to my grandma's; my Grandad had banned me from going to the house. I'd not spoke to [Person Y1] in years. I couldn't just turn up at her door out of the blue. So, no, I didn't have any thoughts of that. I did think about how I could get home, but I lived all the way in Dewsbury, and I had no way to get home.
- B** Q. Did you have your mobile telephone?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you call the authorities, the police?
- C** A. I couldn't. I couldn't ring the authorities because I had tried that before and they had left me to sleep on a street.
- Q. If you had rung the police and said, "I think this man is going to rape me"?
- A. The police knew what had been going on for years at that house and with other people. I had gone to a phone box one day and rang the police and said, "I am a missing person, and I am stuck, please can you help me and take me home?" They said, "We are not a taxi service. You have got yourself into this situation; you get it out". The police called me a child prostitute on numerous occasions. The police told me that - and social services told me - that it was my "lifestyle choice" and I had to deal with my lifestyle choice. So, no, I didn't think about ringing the police because I had told the police on multiple times stuff. They knew information about what was going on, and I had it blamed back on me, so why am I going to go to an authority that I have no trust in because they failed me multiple times?
- D** Q. We've been through numerous examples about your proper willingness to complain when ---
- E** A. Yes.
- Q. --- adverse things are happening to you?
- A. Yes, but like I have said, in this situation they knew about the situation and the circumstances, they had known about it for a number of years, and they'd never provided any help. You're not going to keep going to the same service asking for help when they don't help you. If they knew about the situation, and I had asked them for help before and they turned me down, they literally, at 15-year-old, left me to sleep on a street. My Grandma - actually, this was about 14 - my grandma found me asleep on her backdoor step one morning because I had slept overnight. I've slept on the streets multiple times to try and avoid situations like this, and ended up really poorly, depressed, and everything. I had tried informing the police
- F**
- G**
- H**

A before. There is no point in keeping going back and saying, "I need, can you come and help me?" When it is falling on deaf ears and no-one is helping you. So, no, I didn't feel like I could ring the police. I didn't have no trust in the police to help me in a situation like that. The police know that as well because I have told them, and the police have also accepted that

B they didn't do enough for me at that time, that it wasn't fully understood, the situation, and that they've made a lot of changes since then to try and respond differently to situations like that. So, I am completely allowed to have, at that time, felt like I couldn't go to the police for help. It is a completely justified feeling.

C Q. Page 24 of 27 of the video. You understand the questions and answers have been written out?

A. Yes.

Q. Which is the reference I made, commenting upon: "He wore me down"; that is verbally, isn't it?

A. Yes.

D Q. Yes. Page 24 of 27: "I ended up saying yes".

A. I tried pretending to be asleep first.

Q. Forgive me, is it true that you ended up saying: "Yes"?

A. Yes, eventually. It is still classed as rape, though, if you say "no" multiple times and the person doesn't leave you alone and carries on.

E Q. "I went into his bedroom"?

A. Yes. I did walk into his bedroom, and I pretended to be asleep.

Q. So, we have this situation, do we: You and he are downstairs; you go upstairs into his bedroom. Yes?

F A. Yes, and I needed to go to sleep. I was drunk and I was under the influence of drugs.

Q. After saying, "Yes"?

A. I didn't say, "Yes", downstairs, no. I never specified in my video evidence, or any other evidence, where I was at the moment that I said, "Yes".

Q. All right. Tell us now then?

G A. So, we was in the front room. He was saying stuff like that, he, we decided to go to bed, I don't know how the conversation came about going to bed. We went upstairs to go to bed. I pretended to be asleep so then I didn't have to do anything. He kept shaking me and calling me names and stuff like that. Then, eventually, after persistence, that's when I said, "Yes," was right before it, after I had tried saying, "No" repeatedly, I tried pretending to be

H

A asleep. I tried everything I could think of at the time to not do it. He had taken; he had not listened to anything I said and kept trying and persisting.

Q. That is everything, [Person A1], isn't it, forgive me, apart from leaving the house, or using your phone?

B A. I had nowhere to go.

Q. Right.

A. I had no one to ring. I had no-one to help me.

Q. So, you went upstairs. He didn't physically force you up those stairs, did he?

A. No.

C Q. He didn't threaten you with any weapon, or anything of that kind, did he?

A. No.

Q. You went into his bedroom?

A. Yes.

Q. He went into the bedroom, yes, according to you. You pretended to be, "out of it", as you put it. Is that right?

D A. I was pretending to be asleep, yes.

Q. But he was shaking you awake, was he?

A. Yes, and calling me names and saying stuff to me.

Q. "[Person A1], wake up", things of that kind, as you would contend?

E A. I can't remember exactly word-for-word, but, yes, similar stuff.

Q. Right. Do you think, looking back, [Person A1], and reflecting on it, that you might have given reluctant consent to what happened?

A. No. It's not consent if you are getting, if you are saying, "No", repeatedly and that person is not taking no for an answer and eventually end up saying, "Yes", under pressure. It is still classed as not giving consent if you're giving consent under pressure, which I was. I was under pressure.

F Q. You will understand that, no-one, or, certainly, nobody concerned directly with this case, would ever contend that force, or threat of violence, is ever required to prove an allegation of rep, but there was not any ever threat of force, or use of violence upon you?

G A. There doesn't have to be force, or threat of violence. If I didn't have sex with him, I was going to have to sleep on the streets where I would be in danger also. So, I would have been jumping out of the fire and into the frying pan. I would have had nowhere safe and secure to sleep, I would have had nowhere to stay. So, even though it wasn't a threat of violence, or anything like that, I was still pressured into having sex without giving my

H

A consent. I said, "No", repeatedly. The only reason I ended up agreeing to it was because I had no other option because he would not take, "no", as an answer. He kept on persisting. Every time I said "no" he would say, "but this", "but that", "but you should", "but that". That is not classed as me giving consent. That is me giving consent after, under pressure, which is still classed as rape.

B Q. In your interview (number 16 page 6 of 130, you speak about the topic of telling [Person 2] about sexual activity with Sid?

A. Yes.

C Q. I think the direct lift from your video on that page, to which we have referred, is this: "[Person 2] came to stay with me. We were talking about him, and she was the only person I told about sleeping with Sid". Yes?

A. Yes.

Q. Then you tell her about trying to say, "no". Yes?

A. Yes.

D Q. Did you ever speak to anyone else at all about sleeping with, having intercourse ---

A. No.

Q. --- with the Sid? No-one at all?

A. No.

E Q. Do you remember a care worker, or social worker, forgive me, called Rachel Hoyle?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever tell her that you ---

F A. No. People at the CMS made presumptions, themselves, on what was going on. I never once told her that I was sleeping with Sid because at the point that I lived at CMS, inside the home, I had never slept with Sid.

Q. Just, I think, these two final points for this afternoon, [Person A1], if I may?

A. Yes.

Q. We have a notebooks from officers who attended at the meeting with you concerning Operation Kalarabi on 12 July 2013?

G A. Yes.

Q. Yes. You do make reference to certain activities to those officers?

A. Briefly, and not a lot.

Q. Yes, but you don't say that Sid raped you?

H A. I didn't say a lot of things in that. It was a brief encounter, the first time with two police officers I had never met before, in relation to a different ongoing case. I didn't go into

A any detail about anything. I briefly told them I had been abused, gave people's names, said a couple of instances, and they said they would come back to take a further statement of full details of all assaults and crimes against me. So, yes, I might not have mentioned it that first time, but there was a lot of stuff I didn't mention.

B Q. It did take shortly over an hour that meeting, though, didn't it?

A. Yes, but we was talking about a different ongoing case as well.

Q. Okay. We know that ---

C A. Plus, I was, also in - sorry. One, it was, my eldest daughter [Person S] who I have already told you was being adopted, it was her birthday and I wasn't allowed any contact with her, so it was a day of grief, for me, and my family. There was me, my boyfriend (my current children's-father) at that house. We had just recently started a relationship; he didn't know anything about what had happened to me before the police turned up. There was also my little sister there, who would have been in her early teens at the time, maybe about 14/13, I am not sure, I can't remember but she would have been in her early teens. There was also my mother there. So I didn't go into detail about everything or tell them everything that happened there. Obviously, as people can understand, it wasn't the right time to go into detail. I had family there, and people there that didn't, that I had not already spoke to and explained what had happened. I didn't want the first time that my children's father, to hear that I got abused, to be in front of a police officer that turned up out of the blue on the day of my daughter's birthday that I couldn't even see. So.

D Q. Did you tell the officers on that occasion that you didn't want them to follow up what you had told them?

E A. No. They said they was going to come out and take a further statement and they never came back to take a further statement. There has already been conversations with the police about that, their, they've been dealing with stuff like that themselves.

F Q. You see I have a note of DC Gatenby. An officer called Detective Constable Gatenby attended with another officer called Detective Constable Taylor?

A. Yes.

G Q. Yes. This evidence has been read as part of this case, [Person A1], so I would like you to comment upon it if you wish?

A. Yes.

H Q. Yes. A question asked of Officer Gatenby: "Was it the case that [Person A1] had said to both of you" (that is this officer DC Gatenby and DC Taylor), yes, "that she didn't

A want the police to follow up what she had told you?" And this officer (DC Gatenby) said:
"Yes. That is correct". But you disagree with that, do you?

B A. Yes, I disagree with that. I said I didn't want to deal with it right there and then
because, obviously, the people around me. They said that someone would be coming back to
take a further statement from me, and I never had contact with them again. They said, before
they left, in front of my Mum, in front of my sister, in front of my kid's dad that, that they
were going to come back and take a further statement. We tried contacting them one time
and couldn't get through to them, in relation to the statement, and then they never came back
and took a further statement.

C MR MOULSON: Right. Your Honour, that concludes that topic. I wonder if that is a
convenient moment.

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you. We're where exactly we thought we would be.
[Person A1], thank you very much indeed. What I am going to do is just ask you, again, to
take a seat. We're going to come back and start again tomorrow at 10 o'clock. All right?
D There will be the final topic, Mr Moulson, then the other barristers will deal with the discrete,
and other matters if it is appropriate, pertaining to their specific cases as well one after the
other. Okay.

Ten o'clock, okay? Tomorrow and Friday morning, I am still absolutely confident, that we
will be at a position, by Friday lunchtime, whereby you don't have to come back Friday
afternoon. Although I am not prepared to have cross-examination, a final cross-examination,
as it were, held over until Monday. But, I am pretty confident that we will be okay by
one o'clock Friday. 10 o'clock tomorrow. 10 o'clock Friday, finish [Person A1]. All right.
Thank you. See you then.

F (The jury withdrew)

JUDGE DURHAM HALL: Thank you very much indeed. Would you mind just bearing
with me, gentlemen, by retiring through that door for one minute only, if you don't mind,
clearing the public gallery.

You will not be talking about your evidence to any third parties, will you. You know
the rules. You know why. I will ask you not to. Great. See you tomorrow. 10 o'clock. All
right. Thank you ever so much, [Person A1].

(The witness withdrew)

H [REDACTED]

A

[REDACTED]

B

[REDACTED]

ADJOURNED AT 16.25 UNTIL THURSDAY, 24th JANUARY 2019

C

eScribers hereby certify that the above is an accurate and complete record of the proceedings or part thereof having used our best skill and ability in its production.

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