

IN LEEDS CROWN COURT

Case No: 13KD0453722

Courtroom No. 2

The Courthouse
1 Oxford Row
Leeds
LS1 3BG

Wednesday, 5th February 2025

Before:
HIS HONOUR JUDGE BATTY

R E X

-v

YUSUF KAYAT

UNKNOWN COUNSEL appeared on behalf of the PROSECUTION
MR R HOLLAND appeared on behalf of the DEFENDANT

SENTENCE

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JUDGE BATTY: Yusuf Kayat, you can remain seated.

[Person A] was 10 years old. She was a vulnerable child and spoke of being bullied at school. She looked up to the older girls, [Person B] being one, but she too was only a child. They were impressionable. They wanted attention and that made them the perfect prey for you and your friends. You were, for the majority of this period, 19 years of age, as were your friends, if not older. And of course, at that age, each of you should have known better and should have realised and respected the fact that girls of that age are so very far off limits. But the reality was, you did not care. You would turn up in your fancy car, showing off to them, blasting out your music, showing them how grown up you were. And it is clear from B that you were sexually attracted to J, a very good-looking young girl, a young child, in fact, as B described her. Incredible given her age, 10 years of age, and you immediately set your sights on her.

And you wanted her, so you began a campaign of grooming her: sweets, lifts, gifts, clothing, jewellery, makeup, compliments, cigarettes, cannabis, knowing that in doing so this would impress her and disinhibit her. It would make her feel grown up, make her feel wanted. It worked, she did feel wanted, but it also meant that she wanted you, and yet all you ever wanted was sexual gratification. You tested the water with kisses, she came back for more, you called her your girlfriend, making her feel special. Sexual touching followed, oral sex with a 10-year-old girl, telling her to count to 10 when she did it the first time to take her mind off it. You had no interest in what she wanted, it was all about you.

After a sexual act, you praised her, almost as if she was an obedient dog. A feeling which ran through the myriad of the sexual ordeals that you and your friends put her through. As soon as the first oral sex was out of the way, there was another and then another. You were always prepared wearing a condom beneath your clothing, the clearest indication as to your true intentions in respect of joy.

Initially she wanted to seem older, so she told you she was 13. Still a very young child, but when she actually told you her real age of 10, this did not deter you in anyway, because by that stage you were getting the sexual gratification that you sought, and you were not going to let her true age get in the way. Instead, she spoke in her video-recorded interview of how your response was to put your fingers into her vagina telling her she needed to be bigger to accommodate your penis. And so it was aged 10 that you took her to a secluded carpark and had sex with her for the first time. And like with oral sex, once this milestone had been passed, again it was sex, sex and more sex. Initially in the car, then it moved to this derelict building. Sex increased in frequency, often twice in one session, one shortly after the other, only interspersed with her smoking cannabis, no doubt to make her more accommodating. But then you decided that she ought to satisfy the desires of others, and you used her as a commodity to carry favour with your friends, passing her from one to another. She described

one afternoon, or one incident, when three men, who she had never seen before, each put their penis in her mouth until they ejaculated into her mouth, the mouth of a 10- year- old girl. She was like some sort of novelty act for them. They had not been with a white girl; sex before marriage was forbidden, but this innocent corrupted child would do, to satisfy their sexual desires. There were too many men to count; none of them did she want anything to do with. And in the background all this time telling her that she was the one that you were going to marry, getting her to convert to Islam to prolong the pretence, even using the classes [?] as a precursor to take her out in the car, so you could have sex with her again. She was a vulnerable child. Her parents had no idea that this was happening to her. The impact on her life, as she so eloquently puts it, has been profound and devastating. She has been diagnosed with complex post-traumatic stress disorder and chronic anxiety. She has flashbacks and debilitating panic attacks. She has lost financially in periods when she has been unable to work and when she has needed to fund therapy to try to come to terms with the issues that she now faces. She constantly struggles to deal with relationships in her life, from family to friends to romantic relationships. No aspect of her life has been untouched from the devastation of this horrific abuse.

And whilst it is right that you have led an unblemished life since these offences, this can carry little weight given the nature and seriousness of what you have done. I do feel a deal of sympathy for your wife and three children, who will now suffer for something that they have no control over and that happened long before they came into your life. They will struggle to understand the sentence I am to impose, given what they know about you, but had they been here to hear from J and to hear the devastation that your conduct has caused her, and the impact on her life, it may well be that they too would have had a different view.

You were young, but not so young to not fully appreciate what you were doing, and this cannot be described in any way as impulsive one-off offending.

When considering the guidelines that I must follow, the following features apply. I am satisfied that J has suffered severe psychological harm, as reflected in the remarks I have just made about the impact upon your offending. You groomed her, as I have outlined. You plied her with drugs to lower her inhibitions and facilitate some of these offences. Many of the offences, of course, were committed in a group setting. And in almost all of the offences, you or others, who took advantage of her, ejaculated.

The most serious allegations are the allegations of sexual intercourse with a child under 13. These were rapes; let us be right about it, and there were many of them. The jury was sure that there were 15 such offences, but in all likelihood there were more. I propose to pass a concurrent sentence in respect of each of counts seven to 12 inclusive, and count 17, which in my view reflects the overall offending in this case. Offending of over at least a six-month period that can properly in my view be described as a campaign of rape and sexual abuse, both individually and with others. The sentence, therefore, in respect of those counts will be 20 years' imprisonment on each, concurrent. There will be a 12-month extended licence period in respect of each count, again to run concurrently, and there will be concurrent

sentences for the other counts that I shall deal with in a moment. The effect of this sentence is that you will serve two-thirds of twenty years in custody, so just short of 14 years in custody, before your case is referred to the Parole Board. They will then consider whether you can be released and, if so, on what terms it is safe for you to be released. You may be released at the direction of the Parole Board, at some point, not later than the end of the custodial term. You will then serve the remainder of the custodial term, if any remains at the time of your release, and an additional 12 months in the community on conditional licence and subject to supervision. You must abide by the conditions of your release, or you will be liable to serve the remainder of the sentence in custody. In addition, I make a restraining order preventing you from having any contact either directly or indirectly with [Person A], including any form of social media, or through encouraging or instructing any other person so to do. And you must not attend any address or place where you know of [Person A] to be present and or live, or remain within 100 metres of such address after being informed that she is present.

In addition, you will be the subject of notification requirements for the rest of your life. If you fail to comply with those requirements, or if you are to breach the restraining order, you will be committing separate offences punishable with a sentence up to five years' imprisonment. In respect of count one, there will be 12 months; count two, two years; count three, six years; count four, eight years; count five, six years; count six, six years; count 13, eight years; count 14, eight years; count 15, eight years; count 16, eight years. Each of those sentences will run concurrently, so it is 20 years with an extended licence period, is the total sentence. You can go down.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much once again. The sentences I have imposed, [inaudible] those who commit penetrative offences against children under the age of 13, should have an extended licence period. And the effect of such a sentence is that you serve two-thirds of the sentence before then you can apply to the Parole Board to be released, but the Parole Board will only release you if they are satisfied that you are not a danger to the public. If they consider you are a danger to the public, you are not released until the end - until either you are no longer a danger or you finish, in this case 20 years, then you remain on licence when you are released until the end of the 20-year period, and then an additional 12-month period. So that is what that sentence means. All the other offences will run concurrently, so it just, that will be the term of the sentence.

So, thank you once again for returning and I am happy for you to go.

End of sentence.

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