

Calling it 'evil' – the easy way out?

Dr Maria Kaspersson, University of Greenwich

Hundreds of perverts on the run

By Anil Dawar

HUNDREDS of sex criminals including convicted rapists and paedophiles are on the run across the UK, police have admitted.

Detectives are searching for 346 registered sex offenders who have disappeared off the radar, some for more than a decade. Some have served prison terms or were required to sign the sex offenders' register after being given suspended sentences. All have a duty to tell police and probation officers where they are living.

Tory MP Nick de Bois said electronic tagging may be needed for sex offenders living in the community. He added: "These people clearly cannot be trusted."

The figures were released by 38 of 45 police forces in the UK under the Freedom of Information Act.

One sex offender in Gloucestershire has been missing since 2000. Jon Brown of the NSPCC claimed there was an average of one police officer or civilian worker to watch every 50 registered sex offenders.

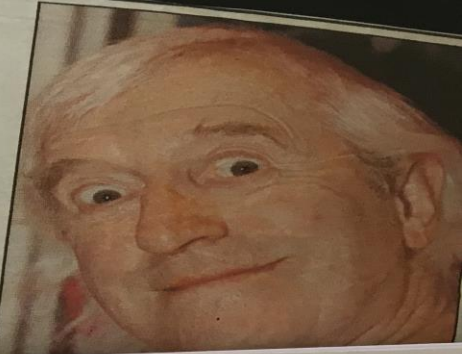
Stoke Mandeville 'ignored complaints about fiend Savile'

By Emily Davies

STAFF at Stoke Mandeville Hospital received ten complaints about Jimmy Savile, but victims' statements were ignored, a damning report will reveal today. Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt will send new revelations about the extent of abuse, described as 'horrific'. An official report will publish allegations that Savile assaulted and raped victims at Stoke Mandeville.

A good day to bury bad news?

FIGURES showing David Cameron has spectacularly failed to meet his promise to cut immigration will today be 'buried' under a slew of reports about the Jimmy Savile scandal. Ministers were 'cynical' about the migration issue, children's homes and schools certain to get blanket coverage. The migration issue was 'cynical' about the migration issue.



'Horrible, wicked' pair who tortured Ayesha, 8, to death are jailed

By Chris Greenwood
Crime Correspondent

THE father of a schoolgirl tortured to death by her 'brainwashed' mother said 'justice has been served' as she was jailed for 13 years yesterday. Afsar Ali, 35, sobbed as his wife and her sadistic lesbian partner were sentenced to jail.

terrifying ordeal of eight-year-old Ayesha was the hardest thing he had ever done. 'I have a lifetime to grieve this unspeakable loss,' he said as he left court. 'Yes, justice has been served.'

she had failed in her basic mother's duty of protecting Ayesha, and will probably never see her surviving children again. Kiki Muddar, 43, was jailed for 18 years for her 'manipulative and wicked' actions as she controlled her lover 'like a puppet'. Sentencing the pair at the Old Bailey, Judge Christopher Moss QC said it was a 'dreadful and horrible' case. He said Muddar had

former special school volunteer and transport worker, bears the 'lion's share' of responsibility for subjecting Ayesha to a life of cruelty and misery that defies belief. Ayesha, a bright and intelligent little girl, was found dead in her bedroom after suffering 56 injuries, including severe burns from her mother's cigarette. Turning 30 Chowdhury, who hung and carpeted in the dock, Judge Moss said she had 'disgracefully failed' in her fundamental position of trust. Judge Moss said tribute to the courage and personal restraint of Mr Ali, who, as a witness, had to learn for the first time the disturbing details of the case.

2015

Starting point

Evil does not just happen, it is done

Evil people / characters – rare

Evil acts – most of us are capable

The evil label removes our responsibility

The label 'evil' is problematic

“All of these cases [...] appeal to a kind of imaginative laziness in us. We prefer to understand evil in terms of archetypical horrors, fictional villains, and deep viciousness, rather than to strain our capacities for intuitive understanding towards a grasp of the difficult truth that people much like us perform acts that we find unimaginably awful” (Morton 2004:102).

Evil labels hamper our comprehension

Process of othering

Dramatisation of evil

Personalisation

Monster labels cloud the context

- Particularly when female offenders



Evil labels make us miss the point

'Paedophiles' – characterised by a process of othering and penal populism

Stranger Danger

No room for rehabilitation or reintegration

Hide risks in the family and home

Evil labels remove community responsibility



Evil labels exclude non-ideal victims

Nils Christie – ideal victims

Roy Baumeister – the myth of pure evil

- Benefits the victims

In cases where victims are not ideal, the violence they suffer is minimised, the offender is excused and the victim is blamed

- Confrontational violence
- Domestic violence and rape – mainly female victims

How could police and care staff tolerate girls aged 12 having sex with abusers?

Oxford inquiry slams system that handed out contraception to victims of groomers

Opportunities were missed

I couldn't tell if my girl was more at risk from sex predators or the social worker

Will council boss get £600k payoff?

Horrific stories will stay with me forever, says Cameron

'They couldn't have cared less'

Conclusions

Process of othering

Dramatisation of evil – personalisation

Hampers comprehension

Removes our responsibility

Stranger danger in focus

Evil labels benefit victims and society

Non-ideal victims – justice not done

Evil labels – appealing as ‘we’ benefit, but problematic as ‘our’ role is not in focus



References

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