

Women invade Mormon court

THREE screaming women were ejected from the "sex-in-chains" case courtroom this afternoon.

The hearing—in which an ex-beauty queen is accused of kidnapping a Mormon missionary and forcing him to have sex while

chained to a bed—was halted as the women carrying a large purple banner tried to force their way into the courts at Epson.

There was a struggle as police removed them, all members of the Women Against Rape campaign.

Earlier Mr. Stuart Elgrod, defending 27-year-old Joyce McKinney, said that the

missionary Kirk Anderson was "manifestly unreliable." No tribunal could ever convict on his evidence, he said.

Mr. Elgrod was speaking during his submission to the magistrates that there was insufficient evidence to send Miss McKinney and her friend Keith May for trial on a charge of abducting Mr. Anderson.

"The essence and nub of this case must be your views of relevance and reliability of the two—Mr. Anderson and McKinney."

Whenever Mr. Anderson was challenged about something he had done and whether it could be seen against himself or against the church he simply avoided it.

"He almost puts up a wall in front of him."

Mr. Elgrod said of Mr. Anderson's first meeting with Miss McKinney, in the town of Provo, Utah two years ago: "Anderson told us clearly that there was a girl in the car, a blonde girl, possibly attractive . . . but he was attracted by the car."

"We have heard a lot
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Mormon case

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about the standards and ethics of the Mormon church, yet he told us that his relationship with Miss McKinney lasted ten or 12 days.

"He saw her six or eight times not, according to him, because he found her attractive, but because she had expressed certain doubts about the fundamentals of the Mormon religion and he was showing her solutions. . . ."

"Anderson claims he saw her in an attempt to answer all her queries and put her mind at rest.

"He admitted, most reluctantly that they were necking, petting and kissing, perfectly normal reactions in this situation, but these are fundamental and cardinal breaches of the Mormon faith.

"Here was this young man seeing this woman to show her the true way, yet he was indulging in these transgressions.

"Can the two be reconciled?"

Mr. Elgrod said when the couple first had sex together at Miss McKinney's apartment "there were at least two occasions when oral sex took place.

Seduced

"According to Anderson he was seduced and when sexual relationships had taken place he took the view that it was disgusting.

"But does he get up and run? Does he go home. No, he admits that he stays in the same bed, naked, with Miss McKinney and that sexual intercourse takes place again.

"Is this consistent with his claim that he had been seduced, if not raped?"

"Is this consistent with his proclamations of his high moral code."

Anderson's story of how he was held captive in a lonely cottage at Okehampton, Devon, got even more incredible" by the third day, said Mr. Elgrod.

Unshackled Anderson spent a perfectly normal day talking to McKinney and playing music.

He submitted that the period between the Thursday lunchtime and late Friday afternoon showed quite clearly the absurdity of Anderson's allegations.

"It is the most amazing non-kidnap story one has heard for many years."

The picture of the bedroom scene painted by Mr. Anderson was a "most absurd piece of rationalisation."

"He's lying in his bed unshackled and in comes Miss McKinney wearing for the first time apparently a very revealing negligee.

"A woman who had told this man two days previously her ransom would be to give her a baby.

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THE SUN Saturday, December 3, 1977 11

Backing 3.12.77 for rape *Guardian* sentences

A judge said yesterday that women's organisations were right to protest against lenient sentences for rapists. Judge Neil McKinnon, QC, 68-year-old father of seven, was passing sentence in a rape case at the Old Bailey.

He sentenced a man to six years' imprisonment for rape and a concurrent four-year term for wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Before the court was Mr Samuel Pilgrim (40), a pump operator, of Netherwood Road, Hammersmith, London, who had pleaded not guilty to raping and assaulting Miss X, a 29-year-old American secretary. He claimed that she had consented to intercourse and that he acted in self-defence when he struck her.

Judge McKinnon told him: "If sexual offences are not punished in accordance with the tariff we have in this court then we shall certainly hear from the women's rights organisations, and quite properly so."



Judge Neil McKinnon

Judge backs rape protest

AN Old Bailey judge said yesterday that women's organisations were right to protest against light sentences for rapists.

Judge Neil McKinnon, 68-year-old father of seven, told the court that he had heard from Miss X, a 29-year-old American secretary, who had pleaded not guilty to raping and assaulting him. He said she had consented to intercourse and that he acted in self-defence when he struck her.

He told 40-year-old pump operator Samuel Pilgrim: "This is the least sentence I can properly pass."

Bottle

The judge added: "If sexual offences are not punished in accordance with the tariff we have in this court, then we shall certainly hear from the women's rights organisations and quite properly so."

The court heard that Pilgrim attacked the girl in his flat at Netherwood Road, Hammersmith, London, after meeting her at a party.

He hit her over the head with a bottle, cracking her skull.

Sex fury backed by judge

A JUDGE yesterday backed protests at "soft" sentences for sex attackers—by jailing a vicious rapist for six years.

Judge Neil McKinnon, QC, told factory worker Samuel Pilgrim that the sentence was "the least I can possibly pass."

He added: "If sexual offences are not punished in accordance with a tariff we have in these courts then we shall hear from the Women's rights organisations—and properly so."

Terrified

The Old Bailey heard that Pilgrim raped a 29-year-old American secretary after cracking her skull with a vodka bottle.

The woman was so terrified she submitted to intercourse. Afterwards, she fled from the house, wearing only a dressing gown, and was taken to hospital.

Pilgrim, 40, of Netherwood Road, Hammersmith, West London, denied the offence and claimed his victim consented.

He was also jailed for four years, to run concurrently, for wounding the woman.

Rape protest

A four-woman delegation from Women Against Rape, accompanied by Ms Maureen Colquhoun, Labour MP for Northampton, are to raise their case for a tightening of the law with Mr Brynmor John, Minister of State at the Home Office, today.

WOMAN'S WORLD

DECLARING WAR ON MEN WHO ATTACK WOMEN

"T H E R E A R E still too many people who don't consider rape to be a serious crime — unless of course it happens to their wife, sister or daughter."

The speaker is Priscilla Allen, an American writer living in Princess Road, Kilburn. She is an attractive, softly-spoken woman in her early thirties — and she is one of the founder members of the Women Against Rape campaign (WAR) which received its impetus in the wake of the Carol Maggs case.

Carol Maggs, you will remember, was the victim of a brutal rape by a soldier, Thomas Holdsworth.

Holdsworth was set free by a court which said it did not want to destroy the young man's promising career in the army.

WAR was formed before the Carol Maggs case hit the headlines, but the resultant publicity gave the group more immediate public recognition than it might otherwise have had.

WAR's first public meeting was held in June last year.

Since then, WAR has grown in strength and similar groups have been formed all over the country.

On December 12, WAR presented a document to the Home Office, asking that the Home Office publicly support their demands.

WAR has had no reply to date.

But what do the WAR

members expect the Home Office to do?

"First and foremost, the Home Office can stop what we call 'go-ahead' sentences," said Priscilla.

"Six months suspended, fines and brief prison sentences are a signal to every man that the law says he can go ahead and rape."

"Long-term prison sentences aren't a good thing, but at present, it's the only way in which a judge can demonstrate that he considers rape to be a serious crime."

"We believe that economic dependence on men is one of the root causes of rape — there is a proven connection between battering and rape — and the government must arrange for women to have enough money, and therefore the social standing, to protect themselves from a situation where she feels in danger of rape."

"Even simple things like ensuring that there is adequate street lighting at night and police protection available for those who want it, will go a long way to stopping rape."

"And when women are raped they should be given automatic compensation by law, without having to undergo a second trial."

The rapes which are reported

are still only a percentage of those which take place, and WAR believes that many things could be done to encourage women to report every rape.

Ideally it would like to see state-funded rape crisis centres all over Britain.

It also feels that too many people (men and women) still believe that a rape victim must somehow have brought it all on herself.

Acceptance

Recognition of the seriousness of the crime by the law and the government would encourage acceptance of the fact that a woman who has been raped deserves only sympathy and caring concern and not, as sometimes happens, a further attack by policemen, doctors, lawyers and the press.

There are those who believe that there will always be rape, that it's natural for men to feel uncontrollable sexual urges, that rapists should perhaps be scolded like naughty children, but not treated as criminals.

Not surprisingly, the members of WAR would disagree strongly. Priscilla says that rape is the ultimate rejection of any idea that women are equal to men.

"If men really respected women as their equals," says Priscilla, "there would be no rape."

● If you would like more information about WAR or would like to attend its public meetings, it can be contacted at 29, Lydford Road, London, N15 or at 138, Drummond Street NW1
Tel: 624 6364 or 800 7379.