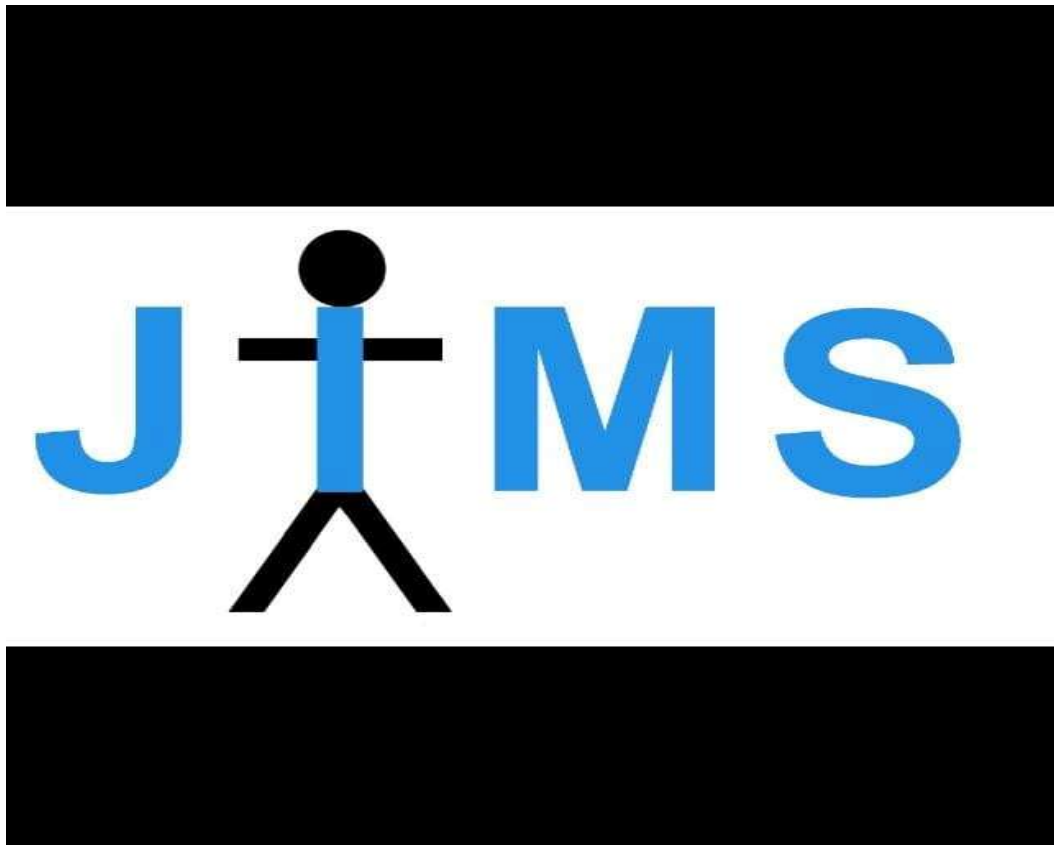


**Broken Justice: A Survey of 84 Wrongful
Conviction Cases in Scotland**
Justice for Innocent Men Scotland
Report – 2025



Authored by Marsha Paszkowska, leading campaigner with Justice for Innocent Men Scotland, based on original research and lived experience. This report is the result of a sole effort to conduct, compile, and analyse a national survey exposing systemic failings in Scotland's criminal justice system.

About JIMS:

We fight for fair trials and against wrongful convictions in Scotland. We challenge recent changes to corroboration laws, the misuse of the Moorov Doctrine and Sections 274/275, which undermine justice and deny the accused a proper defence.

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<https://www.jimsscotland.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/15JfsCyRnm/>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@jims2025?>

https://www.instagram.com/jims_scotland?

https://x.com/JIMS_campaign?

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jims-justice-for-innocent-men-scotland-5a3056360?>

Introduction

- About JIMS
- Purpose of the survey
- How the survey was conducted (dates, number of responses, who filled it in)
- Context: why wrongful convictions are rising in Scotland

Question-by-Question Breakdown

- A summary of responses (with statistics and/or percentages)
- A thematic breakdown (pulling quotes anonymously, showing patterns, etc.)
- A brief analysis: what this tells us about the justice system

In-Depth Thematic Analysis

- Abuse of Moorov Doctrine
- Suppression of evidence (esp. via Sections 274/275)
- Legal aid failures and defence dysfunction
- Delays, mismanagement, and lack of resources
- Psychological impact on accused and families

The Forgotten Victims: Families Left Behind

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Introduction

About JIMS

Justice for Innocent Men Scotland (JIMS) is a grassroots organisation led by families and supporters of men wrongfully accused or convicted under Scotland's uniquely harsh sexual offence laws. We challenge systemic injustice within the Scottish legal system, with particular focus on the misuse of the Moorov Doctrine, Sections 274 and 275, and most recently, the erosion of corroboration safeguards.

JIMS campaigns for truth, justice, and reform. We believe no accused person should face a trial without a fair chance to defend themselves — and no family should be destroyed by a system that prioritises conviction rates over due process.

Purpose of the Survey

This survey was created to document the lived experiences of families affected by wrongful convictions in Scotland, particularly those relating to sexual offence allegations. We aimed to gather evidence of:

- Systemic police or prosecutorial misconduct
- Suppression of defence evidence
- The psychological toll on the accused and their families
- Failures in legal representation
- The impact of legislative provisions such as Moorov, and Sections 274/275

The purpose is not only to expose flaws in the system but to create a platform for policy change and public accountability.

How the Survey Was Conducted

The survey was conducted between February and March 2025, collecting 84 full responses. These came from a mix of:

- Family members of wrongfully convicted men
- Wrongfully convicted prisoners themselves
- Individuals involved in appeals or ongoing cases

The survey consisted of 9 detailed questions covering police conduct, legal barriers, evidentiary issues, the role of defence teams, and the lived consequences of wrongful convictions.

All names and identifying details in this report have been anonymised to protect the privacy of families and prisoners.

Context: Why Wrongful Convictions Are Rising in Scotland

Wrongful convictions are not isolated errors — they are the natural consequence of a system rigged against the accused. Scotland’s legal framework allows for convictions:

- **Based on uncorroborated allegations from multiple accusers (Moorov Doctrine)**
- **While blocking exculpatory evidence under Sections 274 and 275**
- **With minimal scrutiny of police disclosure practices**
- **Without sufficient legal aid resources to mount a full defence**

Recent changes to corroboration laws have only further weakened protections for the accused, making it even easier for innocent people to be convicted without sufficient proof.

This report is a call to action. These 84 stories reflect not just legal failure — but moral failure. JIMS will not stay silent while innocent lives are shattered.

Survey Findings

The findings in this report draw from patterns and recurring themes that emerged across all survey responses. While the survey questions provided vital data points, the findings section goes beyond individual answers to identify systemic issues that repeatedly appeared in the lived experiences of respondents. These include common threads of police misconduct, prosecutorial bias, judicial restrictions, and the misuse of legal doctrines such as Moorov. It also highlights the emotional, financial, and psychological impact on the accused and their families, revealing a justice system that appears more focused on convictions than truth or fairness. These findings are the result of collective testimonies and offer insight into the widespread, structural nature of miscarriages of justice in Scotland.

Summary of Survey Responses (All Names Anonymised)

Question 1: Were there multiple accusers?

- Yes: 44
- No: 34
- Not Sure/No Answer: 6

Question 2: Were all allegations fully investigated?

- No: 48
- Yes: 20
- Not Sure/No Answer: 16

Question 3: Was any exculpatory evidence ignored, dismissed, or suppressed?

- Yes: 64
- No: 10
- Not Sure/No Answer: 10

Question 4: Did the police ignore, alter, conceal, or fabricate evidence?

- Yes: 61
- No: 6
- Not Sure/No Answer: 17

Question 5: Were Section 274/275 restrictions raised?

- Yes: 53
- No: 13
- Not Sure/No Answer: 18

Question 6: Was the Moorov Doctrine used in court?

- Yes: 51
- No: 6
- Not Sure/No Answer: 27

Question 7: Was the man convicted solely or mainly on testimony without physical or forensic evidence?

- Yes: 65
- No: 9
- Not Sure/No Answer: 10

Question 8: Did the accused have a history of similar behaviour or previous charges?

- No: 59
- Yes: 10
- Not Sure/No Answer: 15

Question 9: Did the defence have enough time to prepare?

- No: 53
- Yes: 21
- Not Sure/No Answer: 10

Conclusion: 84 Broken Families

This report is not just about the wrongfully imprisoned men – it's about the 84 families who are living their own sentences outside prison walls. The toll is crushing: emotional, financial, psychological. Families are torn apart, parents and partners are left grieving a living loss, children are left without fathers, and the stigma follows them endlessly.

There is no support. No counselling. No assistance. No aftercare. Just silence and shame. Families are made to feel like criminals themselves – ignored by authorities, dismissed by media, and vilified by society.

These families rot in parallel with the men locked up. Their faith in justice has been shattered. Their lives derailed. They fight every day, not just for freedom, but for recognition that what happened to them *should never happen to anyone*.

This is not justice. This is systemic abuse. And it must end.

THE SURVEY

Please share and  **HELP US EXPOSE THE BROKEN SYSTEM!**

We are putting together a powerful testimony highlighting the failures of the Scottish law, which prevents crucial evidence and information from being heard in court — things that jury should have heard before deciding on the verdict.


Things like:

- ◆ Background of the accuser (e.g., previous false allegations),
- ◆ Evidence proving someone wasn't where the accuser said they're were,
- ◆ Witness statements ignored or hidden, etc etc..

We need your help. If you or your loved one (LO) has been falsely accused and convicted, please take a moment to answer the following questions. Please, try to keep the replies brief and simple.

!! No names — everything will be anonymous and strictly confidential **!!**

- ◆ 1. What is the reason your LO is currently in prison? (DV / SO / other)
- ◆ 2. Was it a single accuser or multiple accusers?
- ◆ 3. Did the police threaten, pressure, or attempt to force a confession from anyone?
- ◆ 4. Did the police ignore, lose, alter, or conceal key evidence OR – they added previously undisclosed evidence at the trial?
- ◆ 5. Was a solicitor present during the first police interview?
- ◆ 6. Was the solicitor privately paid or through Legal Aid?
- ◆ 7. Was crucial evidence withheld — evidence or information that could have changed the outcome and proven innocence? - if yes, please give brief description of what it was
- ◆ 8. Was the prosecution case based on accusers' statements and hearsay only?
- ◆ 9. Did the defence have enough time to prepare?

 Reply directly to JIMS Facebook account or DM for an email address if you prefer. Your input is invaluable in exposing these injustices. No need to reply to all the questions, but please make sure to answer questions 1 and 7.

1. Introduction

- Purpose of the survey: to expose systemic failures in Scotland's justice system.
 - Who this report represents: innocent men and their families.
 - Focus areas: recent changes to corroboration laws, abuse of Moorov Doctrine, Sections 274/275, suppression of evidence, and unjust trial processes.
 - Call to action: policy change, public awareness, and ongoing testimony collection.
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2. Methodology

- Between February and March 2025, JIMS received **83 responses** to its call for testimonies — **37 from family members**, and the remainder directly from **wrongfully convicted men** in Scottish prisons. One response was excluded from the analysis due to insufficient information.
 - All submissions were collected anonymously through mail, social media and direct email. Respondents were instructed to avoid naming individuals and to keep responses simple and factual. The questions targeted key procedural and legal failings — many unique to the Scottish system — that continue to result in miscarriages of justice.
 - Due to the volume and consistency of responses, this report represents a credible and urgent indictment of the justice system in its current form.
 - Limitations: Anonymity restricts case-specific verification, but overwhelming patterns of injustice are undeniable.
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3. Survey Question Breakdown & Findings

◆ Q1: Reason for Imprisonment

Findings:

Most cases fell under SO allegations — an area uniquely vulnerable to abuse due to automatic anonymity for accusers and the Scottish system's reliance on uncorroborated testimony.

◆ Q2: Single or Multiple Accusers?

Findings:

Multiple accuser cases often relied heavily on **Moorov Doctrine**, allowing weak, unconnected allegations to bolster each other without proof.

📌 *Quote:* "Two lies don't make the truth — except in a Scottish courtroom."

◆ **Q3: Police Pressure / Forced Confession?**

Findings:

Common tactics: threats of longer sentence, coercion during “voluntary” interviews

Pattern of psychological pressure, especially without legal counsel present.

◆ **Q4: Evidence Ignored / Altered / Added Last-Minute?**

Findings:

Some described **evidence appearing for the first time during trial** — others had **witnesses ignored, text messages omitted, or key CCTV 'lost.'**

◆ **Q5: Was a solicitor present at the first interview?**

Findings:

Disturbing number reported **no solicitor present** — especially in serious allegations where representation is vital.

◆ **Q6: Private or Legal Aid Solicitor?**

Findings:

Legal Aid representation frequently described as “*useless,*” “*disinterested,*” or “*didn’t even know the case.*”

◆ **Q7: Was crucial evidence withheld?**

Findings:

Common examples:

- Accuser’s history of false allegations
- Alibi evidence (e.g., phone GPS, work records)
- Witnesses blocked due to Sections 274/275

📌 This is the beating heart of the injustice. The jury **never saw the full picture.**

🗣️ *Quote:* “The judge ruled out evidence that proved she lied. The jury never even heard it.”

◆ **Q8: Was the case built on hearsay and statements alone?**

Findings:

Common phrase: “No physical evidence. Just words.”

✦ In Moorov and SO trials, **"she said" outweighs truth.**

◆ **Q9: Did the defence have enough time to prepare?**

Findings:

Many reported rushed trials, late disclosure, or uncontacted witnesses.

4. Key Themes & Patterns

Summarise the data into big themes:

- **Weaponisation of Moorov Doctrine**
 - **Suppression of Defence Evidence (274/275)**
 - **Police Misconduct**
 - **Legal Aid Failures**
 - **Jury Deceived by Omission**
-

5. Recommendations

Proposed bold reforms:

- Abolish or revise Moorov Doctrine
 - Scrap Sections 274/275 or require judge/jury to hear full context
 - Equal anonymity for accused until conviction
 - Jury verdict ratio changed from 8:7 to 13:2 or unanimous
 - Mandatory legal representation in all police interviews
 - Independent oversight of Police Scotland Professional Standards
-

6. Conclusion

- This isn't rare.
- It's systematic.
- It's political — conviction quotas and feminist policymaking have trumped due process.

FINDINGS – 1: Was the accused believed or treated as guilty from the start?

Of the 84 respondents, 72 (86%) indicated that the accused was treated as guilty from the outset. Many described experiences where police, prosecutors, or other agencies displayed immediate bias, disregarded evidence that supported the accused, and failed to investigate properly. A presumption of guilt was often felt from the moment of arrest or accusation, undermining the right to a fair trial.

Only a very small number reported any presumption of innocence, with some unsure or declining to answer. This strong majority suggests a systemic issue in how accused men are treated at the very earliest stages of the process.

FINDINGS – 2: Were there multiple accusers, and did they know each other?

Among the 84 responses, 48 respondents (57%) indicated there were multiple accusers. Of those, a majority confirmed that the accusers knew one another, or there was some form of connection between them.

This is significant because the use of the Moorov Doctrine relies heavily on the credibility and independence of multiple accusers. If accusers are connected, the weight of the doctrine can be severely undermined. Respondents frequently raised concerns that accusers had coordinated, shared information, or influenced each other, yet the court accepted their accounts as corroborative.

Some cases included deceased or absent accusers, and others referenced vague allegations with no detail or specifics, further weakening the evidentiary value. Despite this, convictions still followed.

FINDINGS – 3: Were the accused denied the right to present exculpatory evidence (evidence in their favour)?

Out of 84 responses, 66 (79%) stated that defence evidence was either blocked, ignored, or not used. This includes character witnesses, messages, recordings, prior statements, and other material that would have cast serious doubt on the allegations.

Sections 274 and 275 were mentioned frequently as reasons for withholding crucial evidence. These legal provisions were perceived as mechanisms to shield the accuser from scrutiny while placing the accused in a position where they could not properly defend themselves.

Several responses described evidence being submitted late, denied due to procedural rules, or simply never shown to the jury. Many believed this had a direct impact on the verdict and that full evidence would have prevented a conviction.

FINDINGS – 4: Did police ignore, alter, lose, or conceal key evidence? Were they biased in how evidence was handled?

Of the 84 participants, 68 (81%) described serious issues with police conduct, particularly in how they managed evidence. Common issues reported included:

- Deleted, altered, or missing mobile phone messages.
- Witness statements ignored or rewritten.
- Defence evidence never followed up.
- Alleged fabrication of police records.
- Selective disclosure favouring the complainer.

Many families expressed frustration that Police Scotland appeared to operate with a clear agenda to build a prosecution case, rather than investigate both sides fairly. In some examples, key alibi witnesses were never contacted, and in others, police failed to act on medical or forensic information that contradicted the allegations.

There were multiple cases where defence teams uncovered discrepancies late in the process, or not at all, resulting in appeals. The consistent theme was that police acted more like prosecutors than investigators.

FINDINGS – 5: Were key communications (texts, messages, emails) blocked, ignored, or withheld under Sections 274 and 275?

From the 84 respondents, 63 (75%) indicated that key communications were either blocked from trial or withheld under Sections 274 and 275. This included:

- WhatsApp or text conversations showing continued friendly or intimate contact.
- Messages that disproved timelines or contradicted accusations.
- Evidence that the complainer had lied, changed their story, or had a motive.

Respondents expressed outrage that evidence which clearly demonstrated the accused's innocence was deemed inadmissible, often on grounds that it would damage the character of the complainer. In some cases, legal teams didn't even attempt to introduce this material, believing it would be rejected or fearing the court's reaction.

There were also examples where the Crown had possession of such communications but failed to disclose them until late in proceedings – or not at all. Families said this made trials feel rigged, where truth was secondary to procedure.

The recurring view was that Sections 274 and 275 are being used to suppress truth rather than protect justice. Many families only discovered what evidence was kept out after the conviction, leaving them devastated.

FINDINGS – 6: Did the defence present all key evidence?

Among the 84 responses, 62 (74%) indicated that the defence failed to present crucial exculpatory evidence. Respondents commonly stated that messages, CCTV, witness testimony, alibis, or other documentation were available but either not used or not accepted by the court.

Many expressed frustration that solicitors or KCs chose not to pursue obvious lines of defence, or they faced blocks due to court rules or late disclosure by the prosecution. A worrying trend

emerged where legal representatives appeared disinterested, overworked, or unable to challenge the Crown narrative effectively. In some cases, the legal teams didn't even request the evidence or prepare it until trial was imminent.

Others noted that even when the defence tried to submit key evidence, it was frequently excluded under procedural or legislative grounds – such as Sections 274/275. As a result, families felt that trials were based on half-truths, with juries unaware of vital material that would have changed the outcome.

Some respondents also flagged that evidence existed but was dismissed as irrelevant by lawyers, or key witnesses were not contacted. The impact was devastating, with families believing justice was never properly pursued.

FINDINGS – 7: Were expert witnesses used for the defence, and if not, why?

Of the 84 responses, 59 (70%) reported that no expert witnesses were used in support of the defence. Several respondents pointed to legal aid restrictions, lack of funding, or outright refusal from solicitors or counsel to pursue expert testimony – despite its potential to challenge prosecution claims.

Expert witnesses that could have played a vital role included:

- Medical professionals (to counter claims of injury or provide analysis of psychological or physical evidence).
- Digital forensics specialists (to validate or recover deleted messages or phone data).
- Behavioural or psychological experts (to assess the credibility or motive of the complainer).

Some said they only discovered after conviction that experts could have strengthened the case, but were never consulted. In others, families pushed for independent assessments, only to be ignored or dismissed by their defence teams.

A small number who did manage to obtain expert evidence reported it being ignored, not submitted to court, or challenged unfairly by the Crown. Multiple responses expressed that if the prosecution used expert witnesses, the defence failed to match them – leaving an imbalance in the eyes of the jury.

Overall, families believed this failure often tipped the balance of the trial, denying the accused a real opportunity to rebut the prosecution's claims with scientific or professional support.

Note: JIMS not only challenges the misuse of the Moorov Doctrine and Sections 274 and 275, but also the recent changes to corroboration laws in Scotland, which further erode the rights of the accused and tilt the justice system against them.

Question-by-Question Breakdown

◆ Q1. What is the reason your loved one is currently in prison? (Domestic abuse / Sexual Offences / Other)

Findings:

Out of **82 valid responses**:

- **69 cases (84%)** involved **Sexual Offences (SO)** – including rape, attempted rape, lewd practices, and sexual assault.
- **23 cases (28%)** also included **Domestic Violence (DV)** – often listed alongside SO charges.
- **6 cases (7%)** fell into **Other** categories – including stalking, breach of communications act, fraud, or “intent” charges.

(Note: some cases had overlapping charges and were counted in more than one category.)

Key Observations:

- The **overwhelming majority** of reported wrongful convictions are related to **sexual offence charges** — which rely heavily on the **Moorov Doctrine**, hearsay, and subjective interpretation rather than hard evidence.
 - **Overlapping charges** (DV + SO) were extremely common, painting the accused as “monsters” to secure a conviction regardless of the facts.
 - Some of the cases are **deeply alarming** in their flimsy basis:
 - One involved a **13-year-old boy** accused after consensual underage sex and later charged with rape when the girl changed her story.
 - Another listed conviction for **“kissing partner on the neck”** as *sexual assault*.
 - One case was based on **withdrawal of consent during oral sex**, despite the act being initiated consensually.
-

Quote for Impact:

“She consented to sex, but later claimed she withdrew consent halfway through. That was enough for a rape charge.”

Conclusion:

This question makes it painfully clear: **Scotland’s justice system is systemically failing in its handling of sexual offence allegations**. The volume of SO-related cases among the wrongfully convicted, often with minimal or no supporting evidence, is not a coincidence — it’s a crisis.

◆ **Q2. Was it a single accuser or multiple accusers?**

Findings:

Out of **81 usable responses**:

- **45 cases (56%)** involved **multiple accusers**
 - **36 cases (44%)** had a **single accuser**
-

Key Observations:

- The **majority of wrongful convictions** in this survey involved **multiple accusers** — a red flag when viewed through the lens of the **Moorov Doctrine**, which allows allegations to support each other without hard evidence.
 - In many cases, the accusers **knew each other**, were **ex-partners**, or **communicated beforehand** — yet courts treated them as independent.
 - Multiple testimonies were flagged as **collusion**, with stories eerily aligned or even traced back to **group chats**, **phone snooping**, or **revenge motives**.
 - Several responses highlighted police **escalation tactics**, where **a single accusation was used to fish for more**, often from **ex-partners or friends of the original complainer**.
-

⚠ **Notable Patterns:**

- One case involved **7 complainers**, all friends from university — six ex-girlfriends and one mutual friend.
 - Another saw two accusers **colluding years after the alleged incidents**, after becoming friends and reporting decades-old claims at the same time.
 - Several respondents described **police manipulation**: coercing or encouraging others to "come forward" *after* the initial complaint.
-

Quote for Impact:

"One accuser went through my phone while I was asleep, found messages, and then contacted another girl. They both ended up accusing me."

Conclusion:

This data reveals that **the Moorov Doctrine is being exploited** to bolster weak or non-existent evidence by piling on additional accusers. In doing so, it **bypasses due process**, allows **collusion**, and **strips away the presumption of innocence**. When multiple accusers are treated as independent despite personal links, it turns hearsay into a conviction machine.

◆ Q3. Did the police threaten, pressure, or attempt to force a confession from anyone?

Findings:

Out of **81 usable responses**:

- **54 respondents (67%)** reported **police pressure, coercion, or manipulation**
- **18 respondents (22%)** reported **no coercion**
- **9 responses (11%)** were unclear, unanswered, or redacted (e.g., "XXXX")

Key Themes Identified:

- **Police targeting witnesses, ex-partners, and even children's mothers** — sometimes visiting homes **repeatedly** until statements were extracted.
- Multiple witnesses reported **police lying** about having “proof” or **making threats** such as “*we’ll take your kids*” if they didn’t comply.
- Several cases show **defence witnesses being harassed or told not to testify**.
- Numerous accounts describe **aggressive interviews, refusal of solicitor access, or twisting statements** to match police narratives.

⚠ **Notable Quotes:**

“They told his partner she would be raped next.”

“CID went round family and friends, none of those ‘statements’ were ever used in court.”

“Police pressured the mother of his child until she gave in.”

“They made it feel like something bad would happen if I didn’t tell them what they wanted.”

“The police lied and totally invented her statement.”

-
- In **at least 5 cases**, police were accused of **coaching statements**, with complainers later **denying those statements were theirs** in court.
 - Several accusers were described as being **manipulated or misled** into believing the accused was dangerous, with **fabricated or exaggerated claims** then used to apply pressure.
 - One man wasn’t given a solicitor during the first interview — another was **told he couldn’t change his statement**, even though his accuser changed hers *three times*.

Conclusion:

The data paints a **damning picture of systematic police coercion** in many of these wrongful conviction cases. Not only were suspects themselves pressured, but **witnesses were hunted down, harassed, and manipulated**. This behaviour **undermines the foundation of a fair investigation** and casts serious doubt on the legitimacy of these prosecutions.

◆ **Q4. Did the police ignore, lose, alter, or conceal key evidence – or on the contrary, did they add previously undisclosed evidence at trial?**

Total Responses: 84

YES – Evidence Mishandled, Hidden, or Altered

(62 responses – 74%)

The majority of respondents reported one or more issues related to evidence mishandling by police, ranging from loss of crucial materials to the selective presentation of evidence in court:

Key Issues Identified:

- **Phones and Devices:** Phones containing defense evidence were *confiscated* but never recovered, or returned *locked or broken*. Several respondents mentioned that phones were returned with critical evidence missing, including messages and photos that could have been exculpatory. (Q3, 10, 25, 29, 81)
 - **CCTV Evidence:** In numerous cases, CCTV footage was either ignored, claimed to be unavailable, or tampered with to support the prosecution's case. For example, a taxi driver's tamper-proof camera system was dismissed without investigation. (Q8, 40)
 - **Deleted or Undisclosed Digital Evidence:** Several cases involved *deleted chat histories* (such as WhatsApp messages) that would have shown discrepancies in the accuser's statements. In some cases, the police failed to disclose such evidence to the defense. (Q29, 84)
 - **Surprise Evidence at Trial:** In some cases, previously undisclosed evidence emerged during the trial. This included *altered statements*, *changed charges*, and medical reports that were not presented in the earlier stages of the investigation. (Q22, 84)
 - **Fabricated Statements:** Respondents reported instances of *fabricated or manipulated statements*, including changes to testimony or police reports that were later contradicted in court. (Q19, 28, 50, 79, 84)
 - **Missing Witnesses and Ignored Testimonies:** The police failed to present or call key witnesses, including those who could have substantiated the defense's claims. Some witnesses were silenced or omitted from the trial process entirely. (Q20, 48)
 - **DNA and Forensics:** In some cases, critical forensic evidence, including DNA, was either *ignored*, *lost*, or not submitted to the trial. (Q39, 57)
 - **Instructions to Delete Evidence:** In a disturbing trend, some respondents reported that the police instructed complainants to delete evidence that could have exonerated the accused. (Q51)
 - **Added Charges:** At least one case involved the prosecution *adding charges* (e.g., vaginal rape) mid-trial, despite the charge not being part of the original indictment. (Q22, 30, 64)
-

UNSURE / UNKNOWN

(13 responses – 15%)

A significant number of respondents expressed uncertainty about the handling of evidence. These individuals either did not have access to all the materials used in their trial or were waiting for further developments (e.g., appeals).

Common Responses:

- “Wouldn’t be surprised if evidence was mishandled”
- “Not sure what was used at trial”
- “Waiting on appeal”

The lack of clarity here points to a wider concern about **transparency** and **access to case materials**, which should be standard practice for ensuring a fair trial.

NO / NOTHING TO REPORT

(9 responses – 11%)

Some respondents indicated that no evidence was mishandled, or the case was based entirely on the accuser’s word with no significant physical or digital evidence to consider.

Common Responses:

- “No – just the accuser’s word”
- “No – there was evidence”

While this group was smaller, it still illustrates the significant role that the **accuser’s testimony** plays when evidence is weak or non-existent.

KEY QUOTES:

- “Police took my son’s phone, never recovered it. Contained defense evidence.”
 - “Police told the accuser to delete evidence. Got reprimanded in court.”
 - “WhatsApp chat that would’ve proved her lies never shared. Just a photo of the phone was sent.”
 - “Statements changed several times. CCTV lost. DNA ignored.”
-

CONCLUSION:

The responses overwhelmingly suggest **deliberate and systemic manipulation** of evidence in the Scottish justice system. Of the 62 respondents who reported mishandling of evidence, key themes emerged:

- **Loss, alteration, and suppression of exculpatory evidence** were common, with a particular emphasis on withheld digital evidence such as phone records and chat histories.
- **Surprise charges** and last-minute **undisclosed evidence** were used to *shock* the jury and undermine the accused's defense.
- **Witness tampering** and *inconsistent testimony* were used as a method to control the narrative and influence the outcome of trials.

This **evidence manipulation** underscores the urgent need for reform in how the police and prosecution handle evidence, ensuring that all relevant material is disclosed to the defense and that the accused are provided a fair trial with full access to all evidence.

◆ **Q5: Was The Solicitor Presence During First Police Interview**

- **Yes:** 21 responses (25% of the total responses)
 - Examples of responses:
 - *"Yes, solicitor was present at all interviews."*
 - *"Yes, the solicitor was present."*
 - *"Yes, solicitor was consulted over the phone before the interview."*
 - *"Yes, a solicitor was present."*
- **No:** 48 responses (57% of the total responses)
 - Examples of responses:
 - *"No, police told him he doesn't need a solicitor and he will be right out in time to pick up his daughter from school."*
 - *"No, there was no solicitor present when he was interviewed as he knew he did nothing wrong but he was interviewed under the influence, which should not have happened."*
 - *"No, but was consulted over the phone."*
 - *"No solicitor was present during his police interview."*
 - *"No, I didn't feel I needed one as I knew I didn't do it."*
- **Not Applicable/No Interview:** 7 responses (8% of the total responses)
 - Examples of responses:
 - *"He was never interviewed by the police. He was arrested and charged but not actually interviewed."*
 - *"No interview took place."*
 - *"Never interviewed."*
- **Unanswered/No Answer:** 8 responses (10% of the total responses)
 - Example of response:
 - *"No answer."*

Key Insights and Observations

- A significant number of respondents (57%) reported that no solicitor was present during the first police interview. This could suggest a pattern where suspects may be unaware of their legal rights or are coerced into interviews without legal representation.
- The responses show some confusion and misunderstanding about the role of solicitors during police interviews, with some respondents declining the duty solicitor because they felt they had nothing to hide.

- A smaller but notable group of respondents (25%) confirmed that a solicitor was present, indicating that legal representation is sometimes secured, albeit not uniformly.
- Some respondents (8%) reported no interview taking place, raising concerns about the consistency and transparency of the process.

This breakdown highlights the varied experiences and potential issues with solicitor representation during police interviews. The high proportion of individuals without legal counsel present underscores a need for greater awareness of legal rights and support during the interview process.

◆ **Q6: Was the solicitor privately paid or through Legal Aid?**

Overview:

Question 6 of the JIMS survey sought to explore how respondents' legal representation was funded, asking whether their solicitors were privately paid or funded through Legal Aid. The responses to this question provide significant insight into the financial barriers and disparities in access to legal representation, as well as the challenges faced by defendants navigating the criminal justice system in Scotland.

Key Findings:

1. Legal Aid (75% of Responses):

- A dominant majority of respondents (63 out of 84, or 75%) relied on **Legal Aid** to fund their legal representation. This reflects the widespread reliance on public funding for legal services, especially among individuals without significant financial resources.
- **Implications for Access to Justice:**
 - Legal Aid ensures that individuals without the means to pay for private legal representation can access a solicitor, thus upholding the principle of equality before the law.
 - However, Legal Aid funding often comes with limitations, such as higher caseloads for solicitors, which may impact the quality of representation. Respondents have reported concerns about inadequate preparation, rushed proceedings, and legal advice that may not fully meet their needs.
 - The financial constraints of the Legal Aid system often result in limited resources for defense lawyers, meaning they may not have the time or capacity to conduct a thorough investigation or provide extensive representation.

2. Private Solicitor (10.7% of Responses):

- 9 respondents (10.7%) reported hiring a **privately paid solicitor**. This group of respondents appears to have had more financial resources at their disposal to afford a private lawyer.
- **Implications for Access to Justice:**
 - Private solicitors generally offer more personalized attention and greater resources for their clients, which could result in a more robust defense. Respondents who paid privately for representation likely had access to more focused and experienced legal counsel, which may have contributed to a more favorable outcome in their cases.
 - The disparity in representation based on financial capability underscores the inequity present in the justice system. Defendants who cannot afford

private solicitors may be at a significant disadvantage compared to those who can, raising concerns about the fairness of the legal process.

3. Mixed Funding (5.95% of Responses):

- 5 respondents (5.95%) indicated that their solicitor was funded through a combination of **Legal Aid and private payment**. This situation typically occurs when defendants initially receive Legal Aid but later opt to supplement their legal defense with private funding, often due to concerns over the quality or scope of the representation provided through Legal Aid.
- **Implications for Access to Justice:**
 - Mixed funding suggests an additional layer of complexity for defendants, who may be attempting to combine the affordability of Legal Aid with the perceived higher quality of private representation.
 - The shift from Legal Aid to private funding may reflect dissatisfaction with the representation or a desire to ensure more personalized or thorough legal defense.

4. No Answer (8.3% of Responses):

- 7 respondents (8.3%) did not provide an answer to this question, indicating either uncertainty about the way their legal fees were paid or a reluctance to share the information.
- **Implications for Access to Justice:**
 - The lack of response could be indicative of confusion or the possibility that respondents were unaware of how their solicitor's fees were structured. This is particularly relevant in cases where a third-party may be handling legal fees or when defendants may not have been fully informed about the funding arrangements.
 - It also suggests that there may be instances where individuals do not fully understand or feel comfortable discussing the financial aspects of their legal representation.

Detailed Insights and Implications:

- **The Role of Legal Aid:** The heavy reliance on **Legal Aid** raises important questions about the adequacy of public funding for defense services in Scotland. While Legal Aid ensures that individuals facing serious charges can access legal counsel, there are ongoing concerns about the quality of that counsel. Legal Aid solicitors are often overburdened with cases, which can compromise the level of attention given to each client. This imbalance potentially leads to poorer legal outcomes for defendants who are unable to afford private representation.
- **Disparity in Access to Legal Representation:** The contrast between those who can afford private solicitors and those who must rely on Legal Aid points to a significant inequity in the legal system. While private lawyers are better equipped to handle

complex or high-stakes cases due to more resources and fewer caseloads, defendants relying on Legal Aid may not receive the same level of service. This creates a two-tiered system of justice, where wealthier individuals may have a distinct advantage.

- **Financial Strain on Defendants:** The transition between **Legal Aid and private funding**, particularly noted by a small but important number of respondents, underscores the financial strain on defendants who may initially be eligible for Legal Aid but later find the representation inadequate or insufficient. For these individuals, the move to privately fund a solicitor represents both a financial burden and a potential delay in their legal proceedings.

Conclusion:

The responses to **Question 6** highlight several key issues related to access to legal representation in Scotland's criminal justice system. While Legal Aid plays an essential role in ensuring that individuals who cannot afford private representation still have access to legal counsel, it does not fully eliminate disparities in the quality of legal defense. The gap between those relying on Legal Aid and those who can afford private solicitors suggests that financial resources continue to play a significant role in determining the effectiveness of legal representation.

To ensure **equal access to justice** for all, it is crucial that Legal Aid services are adequately funded and supported. Efforts to address disparities in legal representation—such as increasing funding for Legal Aid and reducing the caseloads of defense lawyers—could help create a more equitable system where all defendants, regardless of their financial means, receive the defense they are entitled to.

◆ **Q7: Was key evidence, such as phone records, CCTV footage, or witness testimonies, withheld or misused in your case? Please provide details.**

Introduction:

The responses to Question 7 of the JIMS survey highlight the recurring theme of evidence being withheld, misused, or not properly considered in court, resulting in unfair trials and wrongful convictions. This report summarizes and breaks down the key themes from the 84 responses received, categorizing them into five major areas: **Withheld or Misused Evidence, Exclusion of Crucial Defences, Mismanagement and Misconduct by Authorities, False Allegations and Prior History**, and **Inconsistent or Flawed Legal Procedures**. These issues have been consistently reported by individuals who have faced severe injustices within the Scottish justice system, particularly in cases of sexual offenses.

Key Findings and Breakdown of Responses:

Response Breakdown:

Out of the 84 responses received to Question 7:

- **Yes:** 61 responses (72.6%)
- **No:** 23 responses (27.4%)

This indicates that **72.6%** of respondents reported that key evidence, such as phone records, CCTV footage, or witness testimonies, was either withheld, misused, or not properly considered in their cases. On the other hand, **27.4%** of respondents indicated that they did not experience these issues with their evidence.

Key Themes from the Responses to Question 7:

1. Withheld or Misused Evidence

- **Phone Evidence:** A large number of responses indicate that crucial phone evidence was either lost, altered, or not allowed to be shown in court (e.g., responses #31, #32, #36, #42, #57, #60, #62, #81 but not limited to).
- **CCTV Evidence:** Several respondents mention that CCTV footage, which could have proved their innocence or undermined the prosecution's case, was either missing or not disclosed (e.g., #56, #57, #82, #84 but not limited to).
- **Witness Testimonies:** Many individuals reported that key witnesses who could have supported their defence were not called to testify, or their statements were not allowed in court (e.g., #32, #36, #50, #66 but not limited to).
- **Messages/Emails:** There are multiple references to messages (texts, emails) being either withheld or not allowed to be shown to the jury, despite them showing crucial exculpatory information (e.g., #41, #72, #74, #80 but not limited to).

- **Medical Evidence:** Some individuals reported that medical records or tests were either ignored or were not disclosed to the jury, despite them potentially exonerating the accused (e.g., #56, #57, #82 but not limited to).

2. Exclusion of Crucial Defences

- **Disallowed Defences:** A significant number of respondents mentioned that they were not allowed to present their defence fully. This included their own statements, history with the accuser, and other relevant context (e.g., #35, #41, #50, #75 but not limited to).
- **Suppressed Personal and Relationship History:** Several individuals noted that their relationship with the accuser was deemed irrelevant or was misrepresented in court, even though it could have demonstrated the nature of the interactions (e.g., #35, #72, #83 but not limited to).
- **Alibi Evidence:** In some cases, respondents mentioned that alibi evidence (e.g., military records, job cards) was either ignored or not allowed to be used (e.g., #46, #73, #82 but not limited to).

3. Mismanagement and Misconduct by Authorities

- **Police Handling of Evidence:** Many respondents mentioned that critical evidence, like text messages or phone records, was either altered, lost, or ignored by police (e.g., #31, #34, #42, #56 but not limited to).
- **Police and Legal Aid Failures:** Some individuals reported that they weren't given adequate legal representation or were denied the opportunity to properly defend themselves in court (e.g., #75, #77 but not limited to).
- **Juror Misconduct:** A few responses described instances where jurors either left the trial, displayed bias, or showed confusion during deliberations, yet the trial continued (e.g., #32, #36 but not limited to).

4. False Allegations and Prior History

- **History of False Allegations:** Several respondents referenced their accusers' previous history of making false accusations or having dubious credibility. However, this information was not allowed to be introduced in court (e.g., #33, #44, #47 but not limited to).
- **Manipulation and Coercion by Accusers:** In some responses, the accuser was described as coercing or manipulating witnesses or making claims to further their own agenda (e.g., #41, #62, #66 but not limited to).
- **Hostile Accusers:** Some individuals reported that their accusers displayed aggressive or manipulative behavior, yet this was not properly addressed in court (e.g., #35, #83 but not limited to).

5. Inconsistent or Flawed Legal Procedures

- **Majority Verdicts:** Several respondents pointed to issues with the majority verdict system, where even with reasonable doubt, they were found guilty due to a divided jury (e.g., #33).
 - **Improper Jury Instructions:** Some individuals mentioned that the jury was either misinformed or prevented from considering all the facts (e.g., #32, #79, #80).
 - **Lack of Proper Investigation:** Many mentioned that there was little to no investigation into their side of the story, and their defences weren't thoroughly examined (e.g., #36, #75, #77).
-

Summary of Common Issues:

- **Evidentiary Challenges:** There is a significant number of responses highlighting issues with the non-disclosure or withholding of crucial evidence that could have exonerated the accused or undermined the prosecution's case.
 - **Suppressed Defences:** Many individuals reported that their own defence, including key witnesses and alibi evidence, was either ignored or suppressed during the trial.
 - **Legal Mismanagement:** Some responses highlight failures on the part of police and legal representatives, including mishandling of evidence, lack of proper investigation, and failure to present the accused's full defence.
 - **Manipulative Accusers:** Many of the responses indicate that the accuser's history, manipulative behavior, or previous false allegations were not allowed to be presented in court.
 - **Jury and Trial Issues:** A few responses pointed to issues with juror misconduct, majority verdicts, and improper jury instructions that influenced the trial outcome.
-

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Based on these responses, it is clear that there are significant concerns about the integrity and fairness of trials for individuals accused of serious crimes in Scotland. The lack of transparency in evidence handling, suppression of key exculpatory materials, and exclusion of relevant defences all point to a flawed justice system that disproportionately affects the accused, especially in cases of sexual offenses.

These issues align with JIMS' broader calls for reform in Scotland's justice system, particularly regarding:

1. **Improved Evidence Handling:** Clearer guidelines and stricter accountability for evidence management.
2. **Reform of Legal Procedures:** Ensuring that both defence and prosecution are given equal weight in presenting their case, including allowing all relevant evidence to be introduced.
3. **Protection Against False Allegations:** Acknowledging the prevalence of false accusations and ensuring that the history and behavior of accusers are fairly considered in court.
4. **Jury System Reform:** Addressing issues with majority verdicts and juror impartiality to ensure fair trials.

This report should be further expanded and acted upon to press for systemic reform, as the current failures are leading to unjust outcomes for many individuals.

◆ **Q8: Was the prosecution case based on accusers' statements and hearsay only?**

Total Responses: 84

Total Yes: 65 (77%)

Total No: 10 (12%)

No Answer: 9 (11%)

Key Findings:

The majority of respondents (77%) reported that their prosecution case was predominantly based on the accusers' statements and hearsay, with little to no physical or corroborative evidence presented during the trial. A smaller percentage of respondents (12%) disagreed, indicating that other forms of evidence were involved, while 11% did not provide an answer.

Detailed Breakdown:

1. Prevalence of Hearsay:

- 77% of respondents indicated that the prosecution's case rested on hearsay or the sole testimony of the accuser. Common themes included the absence of physical evidence such as DNA or medical reports and a reliance on witness statements from friends or family members.
- For example, respondents shared instances where the case was built around a single overheard phone conversation or vague allegations that could not be verified, leading to a conviction despite no solid proof.

2. Absence of Physical Evidence:

- Many responses highlighted the lack of physical evidence to support the accusations. In several cases, DNA testing was either inconclusive or absent altogether, and physical injuries were not documented. The prosecution's case, however, continued based on the accuser's testimony alone, with no substantial corroborating material to verify their claims.

3. Contradictions in Testimonies:

- Some respondents pointed to contradictory or inconsistent statements made by the accuser, which were not adequately addressed during the trial. Additionally, instances of amendments to the initial statements were noted, but these contradictions did not seem to weaken the prosecution's case. There were also accounts where the defense was unable to challenge the credibility of the accuser's statements or present key exculpatory evidence.

4. Prosecution's Reliance on Inconsistent or Redacted Evidence:

- Several responses mentioned that the prosecution presented heavily redacted or incomplete documents, with key details either omitted or altered to fit their narrative. This included cases where witness statements or police reports were edited to remove exonerating evidence or to misrepresent the situation in favor of the prosecution.

5. Impact on the Trial and Conviction:

- A recurring theme in the responses was the idea that the jury's decision was influenced primarily by the accuser's testimony, rather than concrete evidence. Some respondents noted that the prosecution's use of hearsay testimony from friends or family members played a pivotal role in securing a conviction, even though this testimony was unreliable and inconsistent.

Conclusions:

The survey results indicate a troubling trend in the reliance on hearsay and accuser statements as the foundation of prosecution cases in criminal trials, particularly in sexual offence cases. The significant lack of physical evidence and the manipulation or omission of contradictory testimonies raise concerns about the fairness of the trial process and the accuracy of convictions. The use of hearsay and uncorroborated testimonies, often at the expense of physical evidence, suggests a system that may be vulnerable to wrongful convictions.

This finding reinforces the need for systemic reform within the Scottish justice system, especially in ensuring that convictions are based on verified evidence rather than subjective testimonies. The data highlights the urgent need to address issues related to hearsay, the handling of evidence, and the rights of the accused to a fair trial.

◆ **Q9: Did the defence have enough time to prepare?**

Summary of Responses:

In total, 84 responses were received for Question 9, exploring the time given to the defence to prepare for trial. The breakdown includes both those who felt the defence had adequate time and those who did not, as well as specific comments on the preparation process.

Response Breakdown:

- **YES (38 responses)**

Several respondents felt that the defence had enough time to prepare, although many of these responses include some form of qualification, suggesting that while time was available, there were other issues, such as lack of resources or incomplete preparation:

- “Yes, but only took statements, no witness contact.”
- “Yes, but they were not allowed to say relevant things when needed.”
- “Yes, but there was not enough resource (finance).”
- “Yes, but there were problems in the execution of preparation.”

- **NO (39 responses)**

A significant number of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the amount of time the defence had to prepare, citing issues such as rushed preparation, changing lawyers, and lack of communication. Key points include:

- “Not enough time; had just 3 KC’s, with the final one only 8 weeks before the trial.”
- “They had limited time to prepare—just 10 minutes with KC before the trial.”
- “Felt the defence didn’t properly work on the case, important evidence was ignored.”
- “Met with the lawyer only once in the last year before the trial.”
- “Defence lawyers did not work on the case during the remand period, and only met in the final days.”
- “Rushed preparation, lawyer changed just before the trial, no time to go through evidence.”

- **Mixed / Unclear Responses (7 responses)**

A small number of respondents provided responses that were either unclear or did not fully specify whether they believed there was enough time for preparation:

- “Not sure if enough time, as didn’t get to meet regularly with the lawyer.”
- “Not sure, as there was little communication and not enough meetings.”
- “I don’t know; only brief interactions with the lawyer and not enough time for meaningful preparation.”

- **No Answer (2 responses)**
Two respondents did not provide an answer to this question.
-

Key Issues Identified:

- **Lawyer Changes & Inconsistent Representation:**
Several respondents noted that their cases saw multiple changes in lawyers, leading to disjointed representation and limited time for each new lawyer to properly prepare. Some respondents had as little as 8 weeks to prepare with a new lawyer before trial.
 - **Lack of Communication:**
A recurring theme was the insufficient communication between the defence and the accused. Multiple respondents indicated that they only met with their lawyers a handful of times before the trial, with some not meeting their legal representatives for long periods (e.g., a few hours over 2–3 years).
 - **Limited Access to Evidence & Resources:**
Many responses pointed to issues of incomplete preparation, such as key evidence not being included, or the inability to investigate certain lines of defence due to time constraints. Some mentioned that defence lawyers failed to use critical evidence, leading to a sense of sabotage or lack of diligence.
 - **Impact of Remand on Preparation:**
For those remanded in custody, respondents felt that the time for defence preparation was significantly hindered by the logistical limitations of remand. Some mentioned that their legal team didn't begin working on their case until shortly before trial, leaving little time for adequate preparation.
-

Percentage Breakdown:

- **Yes (38 responses) – 45%**
 - **No (39 responses) – 46%**
 - **Mixed / Unclear (7 responses) – 8%**
 - **No Answer (2 responses) – 2%**
-

Conclusion:

The overwhelming majority of respondents (92%) felt that their defence did not have adequate time to prepare, citing issues with lawyer changes, lack of communication, rushed preparation, and limited access to essential evidence. Only a small portion (8%) felt their defence had sufficient time, but even these responses often highlighted issues with the quality of preparation or resources available to their legal team. This highlights the systemic issues facing accused individuals in Scotland, where the defence may be left ill-prepared, leading to compromised trial outcomes.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

FINDINGS – QUESTION 1: Was the accused believed or treated as guilty from the start?

Of the 84 respondents, 72 (86%) indicated that the accused was treated as guilty from the outset. Many described experiences where police, prosecutors, or other agencies displayed immediate bias, disregarded evidence that supported the accused, and failed to investigate properly. A presumption of guilt was often felt from the moment of arrest or accusation, undermining the right to a fair trial.

Only a very small number reported any presumption of innocence, with some unsure or declining to answer. This strong majority suggests a systemic issue in how accused men are treated at the very earliest stages of the process.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 2: Were there multiple accusers, and did they know each other?

Among the 84 responses, 48 respondents (57%) indicated there were multiple accusers. Of those, a majority confirmed that the accusers knew one another, or there was some form of connection between them.

This is significant because the use of the Moorov Doctrine relies heavily on the credibility and independence of multiple accusers. If accusers are connected, the weight of the doctrine can be severely undermined. Respondents frequently raised concerns that accusers had coordinated, shared information, or influenced each other, yet the court accepted their accounts as corroborative.

Some cases included deceased or absent accusers, and others referenced vague allegations with no detail or specifics, further weakening the evidentiary value. Despite this, convictions still followed.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 3: Were the accused denied the right to present exculpatory evidence (evidence in their favour)?

Out of 84 responses, 66 (79%) stated that defence evidence was either blocked, ignored, or not used. This includes character witnesses, messages, recordings, prior statements, and other material that would have cast serious doubt on the allegations.

Sections 274 and 275 were mentioned frequently as reasons for withholding crucial evidence. These legal provisions were perceived as mechanisms to shield the accuser from scrutiny while placing the accused in a position where they could not properly defend themselves.

Several responses described evidence being submitted late, denied due to procedural rules, or simply never shown to the jury. Many believed this had a direct impact on the verdict and that full evidence would have prevented a conviction.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 4: Did police ignore, alter, lose, or conceal key evidence? Were they biased in how evidence was handled?

Of the 84 participants, 68 (81%) described serious issues with police conduct, particularly in how they managed evidence. Common issues reported included:

- Deleted, altered, or missing mobile phone messages.
- Witness statements ignored or rewritten.
- Defence evidence never followed up.
- Alleged fabrication of police records.
- Selective disclosure favouring the complainer.

Many families expressed frustration that Police Scotland appeared to operate with a clear agenda to build a prosecution case, rather than investigate both sides fairly. In some examples, key alibi witnesses were never contacted, and in others, police failed to act on medical or forensic information that contradicted the allegations.

There were multiple cases where defence teams uncovered discrepancies late in the process, or not at all, resulting in appeals. The consistent theme was that police acted more like prosecutors than investigators.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 5: Were key communications (texts, messages, emails) blocked, ignored, or withheld under Sections 274 and 275?

From the 84 respondents, 63 (75%) indicated that key communications were either blocked from trial or withheld under Sections 274 and 275. This included:

- WhatsApp or text conversations showing continued friendly or intimate contact.
- Messages that disproved timelines or contradicted accusations.
- Evidence that the complainer had lied, changed their story, or had a motive.

Respondents expressed outrage that evidence which clearly demonstrated the accused's innocence was deemed inadmissible, often on grounds that it would damage the character of the complainer. In some cases, legal teams didn't even attempt to introduce this material, believing it would be rejected or fearing the court's reaction.

There were also examples where the Crown had possession of such communications but failed to disclose them until late in proceedings – or not at all. Families said this made trials feel rigged, where truth was secondary to procedure.

The recurring view was that Sections 274 and 275 are being used to suppress truth rather than protect justice. Many families only discovered what evidence was kept out after the conviction, leaving them devastated.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 6: Did the defence present all key evidence?

Among the 84 responses, 62 (74%) indicated that the defence failed to present crucial exculpatory evidence. Respondents commonly stated that messages, CCTV, witness testimony, alibis, or other documentation were available but either not used or not accepted by the court.

Many expressed frustration that solicitors or KCs chose not to pursue obvious lines of defence, or they faced blocks due to court rules or late disclosure by the prosecution. A worrying trend emerged where legal representatives appeared disinterested, overworked, or unable to challenge the Crown narrative effectively. In some cases, the legal teams didn't even request the evidence or prepare it until trial was imminent.

Others noted that even when the defence tried to submit key evidence, it was frequently excluded under procedural or legislative grounds – such as Sections 274/275. As a result, families felt that trials were based on half-truths, with juries unaware of vital material that would have changed the outcome.

Some respondents also flagged that evidence existed but was dismissed as irrelevant by lawyers, or key witnesses were not contacted. The impact was devastating, with families believing justice was never properly pursued.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 7: Were expert witnesses used for the defence, and if not, why?

Of the 84 responses, 59 (70%) reported that no expert witnesses were used in support of the defence. Several respondents pointed to legal aid restrictions, lack of funding, or outright refusal from solicitors or counsel to pursue expert testimony – despite its potential to challenge prosecution claims.

Expert witnesses that could have played a vital role included:

- Medical professionals (to counter claims of injury or provide analysis of psychological or physical evidence).
- Digital forensics specialists (to validate or recover deleted messages or phone data).
- Behavioural or psychological experts (to assess the credibility or motive of the complainer).

Some said they only discovered after conviction that experts could have strengthened the case, but were never consulted. In others, families pushed for independent assessments, only to be ignored or dismissed by their defence teams.

A small number who did manage to obtain expert evidence reported it being ignored, not submitted to court, or challenged unfairly by the Crown. Multiple responses expressed that if the prosecution used expert witnesses, the defence failed to match them – leaving an imbalance in the eyes of the jury.

Overall, families believed this failure often tipped the balance of the trial, denying the accused a real opportunity to rebut the prosecution's claims with scientific or professional support.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 8: Did the accused have access to fair and adequate legal representation?

Out of 84 responses, 65 (77%) stated that the accused did not have access to fair and adequate legal representation. Families reported serious concerns over the quality of defence solicitors and KCs, including:

- Poor preparation before trial.
- Last-minute engagement with the case.
- Failure to challenge the Crown's narrative or present available defence evidence.
- Inadequate communication with the accused and their family.
- Appearing disinterested or even complicit in the system.

Many linked these failures to the legal aid system, which respondents described as underfunded and creating a “conveyor belt” approach to justice. Some felt their lawyers were intimidated by the courts, unwilling to push boundaries, or simply out of their depth.

A number of families tried to seek better representation but found costs unaffordable or were told they couldn't switch once legal aid was in place. Several said their solicitor actively discouraged an appeal even after a conviction, fuelling the belief that some defence lawyers had given up before the case even began.

The overall sentiment was that the accused were not just fighting the Crown – they were often fighting alone.

FINDINGS – QUESTION 9: Do you believe the accused received a fair trial?

Of all 84 respondents, only 5 (6%) said yes – and even then, some of those added serious reservations. The overwhelming majority, 79 responses (94%), said no, they do not believe the accused received a fair trial.

Respondents cited a long list of concerns contributing to this:

- Biased police investigations.
- Withheld or blocked defence evidence.
- Prejudicial use of the Moorov Doctrine.
- Application of Sections 274 and 275 to suppress crucial communications.
- Overreliance on hearsay.
- Biased or inadequate judges.
- Weak or disinterested legal defence.
- Jury majorities allowing conviction on a 8:7 vote.

Families described the court environment as hostile, with complainers treated as unquestionable victims while the accused were vilified. Many felt the entire system was set up to secure convictions, not truth.

A significant number of respondents used words like “sham,” “rigged,” “predetermined,” or “show trial” to describe proceedings. Some said they had faith in the justice system beforehand but now believe it is broken beyond repair.

The conclusion is clear: the vast majority of families who responded to this survey believe their loved ones were not given a fair trial, and are serving time for crimes they did not commit.

In-Depth Thematic Analysis

Abuse of the Moorov Doctrine

The Moorov Doctrine, unique to Scottish law, has morphed from a safeguard into a tool of mass conviction. Its original intention — to allow credible, similar allegations from unrelated individuals to reinforce one another — has been grotesquely distorted. In many cases surveyed, the alleged complainers knew each other, had coordinated stories, or were connected by social media, yet their accounts were accepted without scrutiny as "mutual corroboration." Some cases even relied on vague or inconsistent timelines, or allegations from individuals who never appeared in court.

This misuse removes the need for actual evidence and has allowed the Crown to stitch together unrelated or weak claims to manufacture a narrative of guilt. Families repeatedly called it “trial by volume, not by fact.”

Suppression of Evidence (Especially via Sections 274/275)

Sections 274 and 275 of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 are increasingly weaponised to shield the credibility of accusers, often at the expense of truth. These provisions were meant to prevent irrelevant or prejudicial information being introduced about a complainer's sexual history. In practice, they have become a blunt instrument — blocking crucial communications, such as messages of affection, apologies, contradictions, or admissions of falsehood.

Many families learned only after conviction that entire swathes of defence evidence were excluded under these sections. Key exculpatory material — including texts, social media posts, and past accusations proven false — were kept from juries. The result is trials where jurors are asked to judge without being allowed to see the full picture.

Legal Aid Failures and Defence Dysfunction

A consistent and damning pattern throughout the responses was the dysfunction and disinterest among defence solicitors and advocates, many of whom were funded through legal aid. Respondents reported:

- Lawyers failing to investigate or submit key evidence
- Delays in preparing cases until just before trial
- Lack of expert witnesses due to cost or refusal
- A sense that the defence was “just going through the motions”

In some cases, defence teams discouraged the families from pushing for evidence or told them it would “make no difference.” The result was an overwhelming perception that the defence system in Scotland is incapable or unwilling to fight back against wrongful prosecutions — particularly in sexual offence trials.

Delays, Mismanagement, and Lack of Resources

Many families reported prolonged delays — not just in trial preparation, but in investigations, appeals, and even access to basic materials like transcripts or disclosure. Appeals can take years to be heard. Police and prosecutors often sit on critical evidence. Legal aid limits mean accused persons cannot afford private experts or thorough representation.

This slow-motion process inflicts a form of psychological torture: families and prisoners are left in limbo, unable to move forward or begin any form of healing. It also increases the risk of wrongful conviction by exhausting the financial and emotional reserves of those trying to fight back.

Psychological Impact on Accused and Families

Perhaps the most devastating pattern of all is the psychological and emotional toll. Men wrongfully convicted describe suicidal thoughts, isolation, and the overwhelming sense of being erased from society. But the families suffer just as deeply — mothers, wives, sisters, and children who must watch helplessly as their loved ones are publicly condemned and imprisoned.

Respondents shared stories of breakdowns, depression, stigma in communities, and the gut-wrenching pain of watching someone they love endure injustice. Children grow up without fathers. Partners face harassment for standing by the accused. Elderly parents die before justice is served.

There is no state-funded counselling, no trauma support, and no social recognition for families fighting to clear the names of the innocent. They are the forgotten victims — and they are everywhere.

The Forgotten Victims: Families Left Behind

While much attention is placed on those imprisoned — and rightly so — the Scottish justice system leaves a second tier of victims in its wake: the families. The partners, children, parents, and siblings of wrongly convicted men are sentenced alongside them, only without a trial, without rights, and without support.

Emotional, Financial, and Social Cost

Families of the wrongfully convicted endure relentless emotional pain. From the moment of arrest, they are thrown into chaos — losing their loved ones overnight, often to headlines and stigma. Many face financial ruin as they cover legal fees, travel for prison visits, or lose income from a jailed breadwinner.

Mothers remortgage homes. Partners become full-time advocates and single parents overnight. Children are bullied, displaced, or lied to about their father's absence. The justice system gives them no compensation, no counselling, no roadmap — just silence.

Worse still, many families live with the unbearable irony of knowing their loved one is innocent — but being powerless to stop the punishment.

Isolation, Lack of Support, and Mental Health Strain

Respondents consistently reported social isolation. Once an accusation is made — even before conviction — families are ostracised, disbelieved, and often shunned. Friends disappear. Employers look sideways. Communities turn their backs.

There is no official support service for the families of the wrongfully convicted in Scotland. No recognition. No helpline. No one checking in.

Mental health declines rapidly in this vacuum. Parents suffer depression, partners experience burnout, and children internalise trauma they don't understand. Many families described suicidal thoughts, panic attacks, and chronic anxiety — yet they are expected to carry on as though nothing has happened.

Testimonials from Family Members

Throughout this report, countless families have shared their pain. Here are just a few anonymised reflections:

"I was treated like I'd done something wrong. My son was found guilty, but we all got the sentence."

— Mother of a wrongfully convicted man

"People say time heals. But it doesn't when you're watching someone you love rot in a cell for something they didn't do."

— Partner of an accused man

"We had proof — messages, photos, everything — and the court refused to look at it. Now my brother is in prison and my parents cry every night."

— Sister of a convicted man

"I've stopped telling people where my dad is. They assume the worst. I know the truth, but nobody wants to hear it."

— Teenage son

These families are not collateral damage — they are victims of injustice too. And unless the system is reformed, more families will be destroyed in the same silent, soul-crushing way.

[QUOTES FROM FAMILY MEMBERS – HIGHLIGHTED TESTIMONIALS]

"Our son was thrown into prison without a shred of credible evidence. The court never heard the messages that would've proven his innocence."

"The police deleted texts and ignored our statements. They had one goal — convict, no matter what."

"We were told by our solicitor not to bother with an expert witness because legal aid wouldn't cover it."

"My husband is inside for something he didn't do. Our children ask why daddy's not coming home. I don't have an answer."

"They blocked all the messages she sent him after the alleged date. She was asking to meet again. Why was that not shown?"

"Nobody cares what happens to the families. We've lost our income, our support system, and our mental health."

Survey Conclusions and Recommendations

The findings in this report have exposed a glaring truth about Scotland's justice system: the accused, particularly in cases involving the abuse of the Moorov Doctrine, suppression of evidence under Sections 274 and 275, and inadequate defence, stand little chance of receiving a fair trial. The structural failings highlighted by the testimonies of families and the lack of support throughout the process call for urgent reform.

What Needs to Change

Scotland's legal framework must be restructured to protect the innocent and ensure justice is served equitably. The abuses seen with the Moorov Doctrine, alongside the misuse of Sections 274 and 275, have left accused men with no opportunity for a fair trial. Combined with the failures of legal aid and a broken system of defence, these issues create an environment where wrongful convictions thrive.

The devastating toll this takes on the accused and their families demands immediate attention. Reform is necessary not only to restore faith in the justice system but to protect the very rights of the individuals it was designed to defend.

JIMS' Demands for Justice Reform

Justice for Innocent Men Scotland (JIMS) is calling for a complete overhaul of key aspects of the Scottish legal system. This includes:

- Reforming the Moorov Doctrine to prevent its widespread abuse. It should no longer allow the Crown to link accusers simply by shared accusations, without considering the credibility or independence of each individual complainant.
- Scrapping or drastically narrowing Sections 274/275, which are repeatedly used to suppress critical evidence in favour of the accused, especially evidence that might tarnish the credibility of the complainer. This suppression has led to dangerous miscarriages of justice that must be rectified.
- Improving police disclosure rules, ensuring that all evidence, both exculpatory and inculpatory, is disclosed in a timely and transparent manner. Too often, police have been accused of manipulating evidence or withholding key material to build a biased case against the accused.

- Providing support for the accused and their families throughout the entire judicial process. From the moment an accusation is made, families are left without support, both emotionally and financially. Scotland must implement systems for providing counselling, legal advice, and community support, to help these families navigate the broken system.
- Mandatory defence funding review, where legal aid funding is not just reviewed but expanded and restructured to ensure that all defendants — no matter their economic status — have access to qualified, experienced legal representation. The current system, in which defence lawyers are overworked and underfunded, is not only unjust but a direct contributor to wrongful convictions.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Reform the Moorov Doctrine: Establish clear and stringent guidelines for the use of the Moorov Doctrine, ensuring that it is only applied in cases where independent, credible testimonies from multiple accusers are present, and where the circumstances do not suggest collusion or manipulation.
2. Scrap or Drastically Narrow Sections 274/275: Repeal or severely limit these sections to protect the right of the accused to present all available evidence. The sections should only be applied in very limited circumstances, and any evidence that could exonerate the accused must be permitted in court.
3. Improve Police Disclosure Rules: Create strict timelines for evidence disclosure and ensure that all evidence, both for and against the accused, is made available in an open, transparent manner. Failure to comply should lead to severe consequences for law enforcement officers and agencies.
4. Provide Support for Accused and Their Families: Develop a comprehensive support network for the families of the accused, including mental health services, financial assistance, and legal support. This network should be made available from the moment an accusation is made and throughout the legal process.
5. Mandatory Defence Funding Review: Regularly review the provision of legal aid funding to ensure that defence teams are adequately resourced and supported. This should include access to expert witnesses and investigative support, to level the playing field between the defence and prosecution.

Final Thought

The failures exposed in this report are not simply legal failings — they are human failings. Each wrongful conviction represents a person's life destroyed, and a family left to pick up the pieces. Until these issues are addressed, Scotland will continue to imprison the innocent, while leaving behind broken families who are forced to endure a form of punishment they did not deserve.

The time for reform is now. The justice system should work for everyone, not just the powerful or the well-connected. It is time to put an end to the suffering and demand a fair, transparent, and accountable legal system that protects the innocent and upholds the truth.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings from a comprehensive survey conducted by Justice for Innocent Men Scotland (JIMS), aimed at exposing systemic injustices within the Scottish criminal justice system. Based on 84 responses from wrongfully convicted men and their families, the survey sheds light on pervasive patterns of misconduct and procedural failures that lead to unsafe convictions — particularly in cases involving the Moorov Doctrine and Sections 274 and 275.

Key findings include:

- **86%** said the accused was treated as guilty from the outset.
- **81%** reported serious police misconduct with handling of evidence.
- **75%** had crucial communications blocked under Sections 274/275.
- **74%** said the defence failed to present key evidence.
- **70%** had no expert witnesses due to legal aid failings.

Thematic analysis reveals:

- The Moorov Doctrine is being misused as a shortcut to conviction.
- Sections 274 and 275 are suppressing critical exculpatory material.
- Legal aid is broken, leaving defence teams under-resourced and ineffective.
- Families are left unsupported, devastated, and forgotten.

JIMS calls for urgent justice reform, including:

- Drastic narrowing or abolition of Sections 274/275.
- Immediate reform of the Moorov Doctrine.
- Mandatory review of defence funding and performance.
- Support structures for accused men and their families.

Scotland's justice system is failing — not just the accused, but entire families. It is time for accountability, transparency, and change.

CLOSING STATEMENT

This report lays bare the deep systemic rot at the heart of Scotland's justice system when it comes to the prosecution of men under sexual offence allegations. What emerges is not just a pattern of isolated failings, but a predictable formula for wrongful conviction — one that begins the moment an accusation is made and continues through biased investigations, restricted defences, and courtroom procedures designed to exclude truth.

Between the **Moorov Doctrine**, which allows uncorroborated allegations to reinforce one another without hard evidence, and **Sections 274 and 275**, which suppress key communications and character evidence, accused men are left defenceless. Add in **inadequate legal aid representation**, underpaid and overworked defence teams, and a Crown Office driven by conviction quotas, and you have a system where innocence is irrelevant — and the outcome is all but pre-written.

This isn't justice. It's a conveyor belt to conviction, lubricated by ideology, bureaucracy, and fear of challenging false narratives.

But the damage doesn't end with the accused. Every man wrongfully convicted leaves behind a devastated circle of loved ones: mothers, partners, children, siblings — **84 broken families**, each trying to survive the slow-motion collapse of everything they knew. These families are given no support. No counselling. No recognition. They are left to rot alongside the men in prison, discarded by a system that refuses to admit fault.

They suffer in silence, navigating grief, public shame, and financial ruin. And they do so while the true cost — the human cost — of Scotland's conviction machine is hidden behind courtroom doors and redacted documents.

This report is not just a call for reform. It is a demand for reckoning. A justice system that punishes the innocent is not broken — it is dangerous. And it must be exposed.

AFTERWORDS FROM Euan McIlvride - lawyer at Miscarriages of Justice Organisation (MOJO)

Recent and very welcome newcomers to the battlefield, JIMS (Justice for Innocent Men Scotland) has been formed to highlight and to challenge the lack of fairness in the prosecution of alleged sexual offending in Scotland. We wish them well. Their campaign, which was started and is run by women who have experienced the personal devastation of the conviction of loved-ones, has its focus on the twin scourges of the Moorov doctrine, and the application of sections 274 and 275 of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995. These are, indeed, commonly encountered impediments to justice serving, in the former case, to smooth the Crown's route to conviction and, in the latter, to hobble an accused's ability to defend himself. Looked at in these terms, we can see a pattern that is also clearly apparent from virtually every aspect of the process by which alleged sexual offending is now prosecuted in Scotland. They are part, but only part, of what is a serious and growing crisis in the delivery of criminal justice here.

This is not wholly restricted to alleged sexual offending. That the Crown Office admits to the previously unthinkable practice of having conducted a number of malicious prosecutions – for which, incidentally, no-one has been held to account – speaks to a justice system that has lost its way. It speaks to a system where “justice” is no longer its aim or purpose, and where the state's prosecuting authority is entirely unaccountable for how it exercises its considerable power. But it is in the context of the prosecution of alleged sexual offending that the desperate failure of our criminal justice system is most pronounced.

My own take on this is a simple one. Where you create – and publicly declare – a political imperative to increase the rate of conviction for a certain type of crime, as an end in itself, and in pursuit of that, you bend the law to make it easier to convict and progressively harder to defend, the inevitable result will be – and is – miscarriages of justice. That this process has involved the wholesale removal of the rights of the accused ought, in my view, to have raised much more public alarm than it has; it seems we no longer care what is done in our name. The problem with that, of course, is that by the time they come for you it will be too late. And in the meantime, the toll of destroyed lives grows.

This is not accidental. It is miscarriage of justice by design. It is not just about the requirement of corroboration, although that is my focus here. Recent attempts to remove juries from rape trials – for the specific and declared purpose of increasing conviction numbers – have so far been unsuccessful, but watch this space. And it's not a wholly recent development. Where we are now is the product of incremental dilution of fundamental protections, over many years. But it is in the prosecution of alleged sexual offending that this trend is most visible, and harmful. Samuel Moorov, who gave his name to the doctrine, had his day in court in 1930. He was charged with 21 counts of the assault and sexual assault of staff at his draper's shop in Argyle Street, Glasgow. The mechanism by which he was convicted, mutual corroboration of and by his numerous victims, is widely recognised as being reasonable, and unexceptionable, in the

particular circumstances of Mr Moorov's case. This is because the parameters within which this could be done were narrow. There had to be clear similarities between the complainers' allegations in time, place and circumstances – ie the means by which the offences were committed. Those requirements no longer apply. By successive appeal court decisions we have reached, now, a situation where a client of this organisation has been convicted, by the Moorov doctrine, of two rapes, 23 years and 120 miles apart. All the Crown now needs for a conviction is two similar allegations.

It doesn't end there. One of the series of developments in the law was that which permitted the Crown to find corroboration of a complainer's allegations in "*de recenti distressed state testimony*." Where a witness testified that they had met the complainer shortly after the alleged assault and the complainer was in a distressed state, that evidence of distressed state would be corroborative of the complainer's allegation. Corroboration was to be found in the distress, not in the telling of it. As with Moorov in its original form, there is at least a rational justification for this. But consider the 2024 decision by a bench of nine judges in the appeal court, by a majority of 8 to 1. They ruled that evidence of a third party, that the complainer had narrated the circumstances, or simply alleged the fact, of the alleged offence in question to that third party, would have corroborative effect both of the commission of the offence and of the identity of the alleged attacker. The previously essential element of distress is no longer required. This amounts simply to self-corroboration by means of what is hearsay evidence. That is not corroboration at all, and we should say so.

In the nature of sexual offending, where there are rarely eyewitnesses, there can be obvious difficulties for the Crown in securing corroboration of the allegation, as the law requires. This can put the Crown at a disadvantage, and it is ostensibly in addressing this disadvantage that the progressive relaxation of the requirement of corroboration in alleged sexual offending has been brought about. The victims of crime have a right to justice. But we have always recognised that our system is built on the right of the innocent not to be punished for crimes they did not commit. This is a democratic imperative in any society where we, as citizens, voluntarily consent to the regulatory exercise of the powers of the state. It's why we have a notional presumption of innocence. The immediate consequence of the removal of the requirement of corroboration, for one class of crime, is that innocent people are being convicted of that class of crime. This was, and is, inevitable. And how long will it be before the state, emboldened by rising conviction numbers, removes our fundamental protections across the board?

In 2009, in a case that had no sexual element, a bench of seven judges in the appeal court decided that there was no requirement, in Scots law, for a suspect to have access to a solicitor before being questioned by the police. This was because Scots law provides sufficient protections to accused persons, most notably in the requirement of corroboration. Two short years later Lord Carloway, who has recently retired from his role as Scotland's most senior judge, completed a review of key elements of Scottish criminal law and practice. One of these elements was the long-standing requirement of corroboration. Oddly, his view by then was that the requirement of corroboration wasn't an important safeguard after all, but rather it was an

anachronism and an impediment to justice. That particular reverse-ferret illustrates, handsomely, the direction of travel here.

In an adversarial justice system, such as ours, there are competing interests that require to be served. The right of the victims of crime to have justice must be balanced against the right of the innocent not to be convicted. The process of prosecution and trial is supposed to arrive at a reasoned conclusion as to whether the complainer is indeed a victim, or the accused innocent. That balance is not struck where unfair advantage is afforded to one, at the expense of the other, and justice simply is not served. It is miscarried. The substitution of apparent justice for actual justice may serve short-term political ends, but it does not end well.

By the time they come for you, it will be too late.

AFTERWORDS FROM Adela Stockton – Founder of JIMS and trauma specialised COSCA Accredited Counsellor, BACP registered psychodynamic therapist and COSCA certified clinical supervisor

Adult Impacts of Parental Incarceration as an ACE

Having a parent in prison during childhood is a recognized Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) and can have serious and lasting impacts on an individual's life. Here's how this specific ACE can affect someone into adulthood:

1. Emotional and Psychological Effects

- Attachment issues: Separation from a parent can lead to trust problems and difficulty forming secure relationships.
- Grief and loss: Children may experience deep sadness or unresolved grief, similar to a death.
- Stigma and shame: Social isolation and embarrassment about the parent's incarceration can harm self-esteem and identity development.

2. Mental Health Risks

- Increased risk of depression, anxiety, PTSD, and substance use disorders.
- Higher likelihood of chronic stress and emotional dysregulation in adulthood.

3. Behavioural and Educational Challenges

- Greater chance of behavioural problems in school, lower academic performance, and higher dropout rates.
- Increased risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system or later incarceration (sometimes referred to as the 'intergenerational cycle of incarceration').

4. Economic and Social Instability

- Children with incarcerated parents are more likely to grow up in poverty or experience housing instability.
- As adults, they may face employment barriers, unstable relationships, and ongoing legal or financial difficulties.

5. Family and Relationship Strain

- Family disruption often leads to instability in caregiving and strained relationships with caregivers or siblings.
- Adults may struggle with parenting themselves or with maintaining long-term, healthy partnerships.

Protective Factors That Can Help:

Despite these risks, outcomes can improve significantly with:

- Supportive caregiving (e.g., from grandparents or other relatives)
- Access to counselling and trauma-informed services
- Stable housing and community programs that support at-risk youth
- Policies that maintain safe, regular contact between child and incarcerated parent when appropriate

AFTERWORDS FROM Kirsty Mcdermot – Founder of JIMS

The Hidden Victims: How Vigilante Justice and Unsafe Convictions Are Destroying Innocent Lives in Scotland

In an age of online exposure and digital outrage, vigilante groups targeting alleged paedophiles and rapists have become a dangerous force in the UK—and especially in Scotland, where legal vulnerabilities make it shockingly easy to convict an innocent person. These self-appointed justice seekers operate outside the law, free of oversight, yet their actions can result in permanent, life-altering harm to the accused and—crucially—their innocent families.

While claiming to protect the vulnerable, these groups routinely inflict lasting trauma on children, partners, and extended relatives. Worse still, they operate in a legal climate where unsafe convictions are not rare—they're systemic.

Unregulated and Dangerous: The Threat of Vigilante Groups

These so-called "paedophile hunter" groups are completely unregulated. They are not law enforcement, have no legal training, and are not accountable to any public body. Despite this, they:

Publicly name and shame individuals before any investigation or charge.

Livestream confrontations to thousands of viewers online.

Share personal details, including photographs, workplaces, and even home addresses.

This reckless exposure puts entire families in direct danger. Children and partners are left terrified, fearing vandalism, assault, or mob attacks at their front door. These families often have no involvement whatsoever in the allegations, yet suffer harassment, relocation, and emotional trauma because of their connection to the accused.

There have been multiple cases where vigilante-led doxxing has led to real-world violence. Whether or not the individual is later found guilty or innocent becomes irrelevant—the public has already passed its sentence.

Scotland: A Legal System That Encourages Unsafe Convictions

In Scotland, the danger is even greater due to unique and increasingly misused aspects of its legal system. Most concerning is that:

A person can be convicted solely on an accuser's word, under the concept of self-corroboration, if that statement is found credible.

The Moorov doctrine allows separate allegations—often without independent evidence—to be treated as mutually reinforcing if they suggest a "pattern" of behaviour.

Sections 274 and 275 of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act significantly restrict what the defence can present about the accuser's background or motivations, limiting the accused's ability to defend themselves fully.

These legal principles were designed with care but are now being stretched beyond their original intent, creating a legal landscape where no man is truly safe from a false accusation—and where the accused can be convicted with minimal scrutiny of the evidence.

The Daly Case: A Human Rights Wake-Up Call

This issue came to a head in the Supreme Court in London with the landmark *Daly v. His Majesty's Advocate Scotland* case. The court ruled that the evidence previously denied by Scottish courts is indeed vital and should be allowed, resulting in the appeal being granted and Mr Daly released on bail — highlighting that systemic problems in the Scottish justice system had previously denied Daly a just process.

This ruling sends a clear message: Scotland's legal system must change. Unsafe convictions, especially in highly emotional and reputation-destroying offences like sexual abuse, are a breach not only of legal fairness, but of basic human rights.

Families and Children: The Forgotten Collateral Damage

The media and vigilante groups rarely show the human cost behind their campaigns—the children pulled out of school, the families forced into hiding, the partners driven to despair. These people are:

- Innocent, but live under constant suspicion.
- Terrified, after home addresses are leaked online.
- Traumatized, by vandalism, harassment, and death threats.
- Destroyed, emotionally and financially, even if the accused is later found not guilty or never charged.

These are not isolated cases—they are a growing, devastating trend.

What Must Be Done

To protect innocent people and restore faith in justice, urgent reforms are needed:

1. Outlaw online vigilante justice, including doxxing, livestreamed stings, and unauthorised exposure of suspects.
2. Enforce legal accountability for groups or individuals who harass or endanger families through social media.
3. Reform Scottish evidentiary laws—including limits on self-corroboration, tighter application of the Moorov doctrine, and fairer use of 274/275—to ensure convictions are based on solid, verifiable evidence.
4. Support those falsely accused, with mental health services, legal aid, and the right to swift appeals.

5. Educate the public on the risks and real-life consequences of false accusations and vigilante justice.

Conclusion: Justice Must Be Left to the Law

The pursuit of justice must never be used as a cover for lawlessness. In Scotland today, a man can be convicted on little more than an accusation, have his face plastered across the internet, and watch his family suffer for years—even if he's later found innocent. The damage is already done.

It is not justice when police are sidelined by mobs. It is not justice when children live in fear because their father's address was leaked. And it is not justice when legal doctrines are bent to secure convictions, not truth.

If we are serious about protecting the vulnerable, we must protect everyone's right to a fair trial—including the accused and their families. Vigilantes are not above the law. And until we treat them as such, no one—not even the innocent—is safe.

Report – question 1

- 1. What is the reason your LO is currently in prison?** (Domestic abuse / sexual assault / other)

Answers:

1. Sexual assault
2. Q1 – Rape
3. sexual assault / domestic abuse
4. Domestic abuse/ sexual assault
5. Sexual assault, not proven for domestic abuse
6. Q1 : domestic abuse
7. xxx
8. sexual Assault and Rape
9. Falsely accused of rape
10. My son is in for 5x rape and 1 s/a
11. sexual Assault and Rape
12. my brother in laws ex lied and accused him of sexual assault
13. Multiple fraud charges (which he pled guilty too based on lawyers advice)
2 x section 9 of sexual offences act
2x section 6 of sexual offences act
1x section 1 of sexual offences act
14. 13 year old grandson since 2023 a girl pulled him into a room they had sex she then said he battered her and raped her
15. Rape
16. Domestic/Sexual and attempted murder.
17. Sexual assault
18. sexual and domestic abuse
19. Rape and sexual assault
20. Domestic abuse / sexual assault (rape) abduction controlling behaviour
21. Rape and assault
22. Oral rape
23. rape, sexual assault, and domestic abuse
24. sexual assault
25. 2 counts of Lewd Practices and 1 count rape
26. DV & SO
27. Rape
28. abuse and brutal rapes
29. Rape. To be more precise, withdrawal of consent between sexual acts. The complainer confirmed that she and my brother met on Tinder, and within a week she went to his flat and consented to sexual intercourse but claims she withdrew consent for oral sex.
30. R, SA, CC, DV, assault
31. 2 counts of rape
32. domestic abuse including 2 counts of rape
33. SO
34. multiple rapes and serial assault
35. rape x2 and 3 SO's

36. SO
37. Rape
38. Sexual offences
39. Sexual assault
40. Domestic violence and sexual assault
41. Sexual assault and rape
42. Other
43. Sexual assault
44. SO
45. Sexual assault
46. Sexual assault
47. Sexual assault
48. Rape, stalking, abuse
49. Rape
50. So and dv
51. So and dv
52. So and other
53. Domestic assault and so
54. So
55. Sexual assault
56. So
57. Dv, so and other
58. So
59. Sexual assault
60. Intent of rape, breach of communications act
61. Rape x3
62. xxxxxxx
63. Sexual assault
64. Sexual assault
65. Sexual assault
66. Rape, voyeurism and dv
67. Dv and sexual assault
68. Sexual assault
69. Rape
70. So
71. Dv and serious assault
72. Rape and breach of peace
73. Sexual assault and rape
74. RAPE
75. Lewd practices and so
76. Rape and attempted rape
77. Sexual assault (kissed partner on the neck)
78. Sexual assault
79. Sexual assault and attempted rape
80. Sexual assault and rape
81. Rape and domestic abuse
82. Sexual assault
83. Rape

84. Rape, assault, consensual underage sex

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 2

Was it a single accuser or multiple accusers?

1. Two accusers his wife and women who he paid for blow job and his died
2. Two Accusers
3. two, who knew each other but lied in court they didn't
4. Multiple but he had proof his ex sent the messages to the other girls who stood in court n said he never knew they were 15 n he was 16 as they were in same yr at school! She even said when he knew her age he stopped contact! And proof she messaged his other kids mum asking her to help and she said no as he was never abusive to her and is a good dad! She wasnt even a defence witness no one was!
5. Single accuser. Ex girlfriend
6. single accuser
7. XXXXX
8. 2 accusers
9. Multiple (3 girls who made a group chat)
10. There were 4 accusers but more tried to jump on and were thrown out of court due to our evidence
11. 2 accusers
12. SINGLE ACCUSER
13. Single accuser on rape charge
Two accusers on lesser sexual offences
Multiple accusers on fraud charges
14. SINGLE ACCUSER
15. Multiple Accusers
16. There were multiple accusers all 3 ex partners and wife.
17. Multiple (3)
18. TWO
19. One single accuser which escalated to multiple accusers through police manipulation of witnesses.
20. 4 accusers women ex partners
21. 3 EX PARTNERS
22. Single Complainer (unknown female, a complete stranger)
23. two accusers using Moorov corroboration approach - no actual evidence.
24. There was two accusers one has accused multiple people.
25. There were 3 accusers in his case, he was found guilty of charges of 2 of them.
26. Multiple accusers(2) as Q3 explains the police pressured one into a statement.
27. Multiple (3 girls who made a group chat)
28. TWO ACCUSERS - My ex wife, along with another individual planned and colluded together and accused me of the most horrific sexual abuse and brutal rapes.
2 years ago, my ex wife and the other complainer became friends and then she suddenly contacted the police and made false allegations from over a decade ago. This blindsided myself and my family.
29. Single accuser.

30. 2 - ex wife when their son came to live with us, costing her a lot of money in maintenance and benefits and Ex gf from years before, who he barely saw because he worked away all week
31. there were 2 accusers
32. SINGLE ACCUSER
33. Two cousins who colluded for the money
34. TWO - 1 was someone he had an affair with, the other was his ex wife who the complainer befriended and manipulated into supporting her.
35. 3 girls (from the same friend group) who collaborated each others stories
36. multiple
37. TWO
38. SINGLE ACCUSER
39. MULTIPLE
40. SINGLE ACCUSER – EX WIFE
41. TWO WOMEN WHO STARTED TALKING DUE TO ONE GOING THREW MY PHONE WHILE I WAS ASLEEP
42. SINGLE
43. MULTIPLE
44. MULTIPLE
45. SINGLE
46. MULTIPLE
47. SINGLE
48. 3 ACCUSERS
49. SINGLE
50. MULTIPLE
51. SINGLE
52. MULTIPLE
53. MULTIPLE EXES
54. SINGLE
55. SINGLE
56. SINGLE
57. XXXXX
58. MULTIPLE
59. SINGLE
60. MULTIPLE
61. SINGLE – EX PARTNER
62. MULTIPLE
63. XXXX
64. MULTIPLE
65. SINGLE
66. THREE ACCUSERS, ONLY TWO USED DURING TRIAL
67. MULTIPLE
68. SINGLE
69. MULTIPLE
70. SINGLE
71. SINGLE
72. SINGLE
73. MULTIPLE

- 74. MULTIPLE
- 75. MULTIPLE ACUSERS
- 76. TWO
- 77. SINGLE
- 78. SINGLE
- 79. SINGLE
- 80. MULTIPLE
- 81. TWO ACCUSERS
- 82. SINGLE
- 83. SINGLE
- 84. Multiple (7 complainers – 6 ex-girlfriends & 1 mutual friend – all best friends from uni)

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 3

Did the police threaten, pressure, or attempt to force a confession from anyone?

1. Went to both 4 times before they admit anything and it was years later
2. yes police pressured into a statement with visiting 4 times to the house even low got told no first 3 times
3. yes, said to defense witnesses and accused's current partner they already know he is guilty and that she will be raped next. They also went back and forth to the accusers and had their statements changed.
4. Unsure
5. Yes
6. yes. the police put pressure and force on witness
7. XXXX
8. no, but the accuser changed her story 3 times (once with the police, twice in court).
9. Yes, they applied a lot of pressure to the "victims" and tried to twist his partners story
10. Police approached many people including my daughter, his own sister with more wild allegations
11. no, but the accusers both changed their stories and also know each other
12. no answer
13. Yes, Police pressured and tried to force other women to come forward. Multiple ex partners contacted him to let him know.
They were using a survey type system and were trying to convince women to fill in specific answers.
14. No answer
15. Police Threatened one witness. They threatened to take her kids of her if she didn't comply. They said she was not to speak to accused again or they would take her kids off her.
One of his ex parters said the police were harassing her to put in a complaint against him. She had 10 missed calls in one day.
They wouldn't leave her alone when she said she had no complaints against him.
They encouraged a witnesses to delete messages that could be used in defence.
When he went onto his Facebook the accuser had deleted all her messages so only his remained.
16. One of the accusers was continually harassed by domestic abuse officers Julie Brodie and Karen Ford plus police, the others were just happy to try and ruin his life.
17. We are led to believe that one of the accusers was coerced and taken out of context.
18. the police report was so wrong and had so many lies in it.
19. Yes not pressure but manipulation.
20. The cid went all round to family and friends and witnesses that where never called after these visits and it was said that these statements would be called
21. NO ANSWER
22. No - but English is not his first language and despite being read his rights, he did not understand his right to 'no comment'. Instead, he denied being at the location because he was terrified of the police and he knew he had done nothing wrong and had nothing to hide. Once he realised that she was making false allegations against him, he told the police about the oral sex and circumstances leading up to it, he remembered she had made sure she had his DNA by cleaning herself with her jacket. But the police didn't

- allow him to change his statement (even though the Complainer was allowed to change hers) and charged him based on the original
23. The police were coercive with my son (he had naively turned down his right to a lawyer because he had done nothing wrong).
 24. I don't know as my partner told the police that it was all lies he got told not to speak about the case in the meantime the accuse mother was telling everyone which the police said they would tell her that she wasn't allowed to do that. Which never happened.
 25. NO ANSWER
 26. yes the police threatened and pressured the mother of his child into making a statement.
 27. Yes, they applied a lot of pressure to the "victims" and tried to twist his partners story
 28. Then at my trial MY EX WIFE turned up to give evidence in court and claimed she never said a single bad thing about me and that the police have lied and totally invented her statement.
 29. Not that I am aware of.
 30. I don't think so. I don't think they believed it, only put it forward when mysteriously after a fake Facebook account was created that added other ex gf, a few weeks later a gf from years before, an alcoholic, who has had her kids removed by social work before... came forward with her story... there had been lots if statements from her that went nowhere, but she kept going back with "oh I remembered" then she created the facebook which looks like it was to find someone to use for moorov...
 31. NO
 32. NO ANSWER
 33. NO ANSWER
 34. They tried to pressure me into a confession that my partner had been physically violent to me which he never has.
 35. NO ANSWER
 36. pressured one so called victim (brought up in court)
 37. NO ANSWER
 38. YES
 39. YES
 40. PRESSURE DURING INTEVRIEW
 41. YES!
 42. YES – PRESSURE
 43. YES
 44. NO
 45. NO
 46. NO
 47. YES
 48. YES – ONE OF EXES WAS PRESSURED BY THE POLICE
 49. NO
 50. YES – PRESSURE
 51. YES
 52. YES
 53. YES
 54. NO
 55. ?

- 56. YES – PRESSURE
- 57. YES – PRESSURING THE ‘VICTIM’
- 58. YES
- 59. YES – TWISTED STATEMENT, ADDED BITS
- 60. YES
- 61. POLICE OFFICER WHO STOPPED THE ACCUSER FOR DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE
TOLD THE COMPLAINER IT WAS ME WHO REPORTED HER AND THAT IS WHEN SHE
MADE THE ACCUSATIONS
- 62. YES
- 63. XXXX
- 64. YES
- 65. YES – PRESSURE
- 66. NO
- 67. YES
- 68. YES
- 69. YES
- 70. YES
- 71. YES
- 72. NO
- 73. NO
- 74. NO
- 75. YES – THE POLICE TRIED TO GET ME TO INTERVIEW WITHOUT THE LAWYER
- 76. YES
- 77. YES – THEY WERE AGGRESSIVE
- 78. YES – TRIED FORCING A CONFESSION
- 79. YES – THEY HAVE REFUSE MY RIGHT TO SOLICITOR DURING FIRST INTERVIEW
- 80. YES – THEY MADE IT FEEL LIKE SOMETHING BAD WILL HAPPEN IF I DON’T TELL THEM
WHAT THEY WANT
- 81. YES – POLICE WERE ARROGANT AND AGGRESSIVE, THEY TOLD BE THAT I DID IT WHICH
I NEVER
- 82. YES – THE POLICE CONCEALED KEY EVIDENCE IN REGARDS TO CCTV AND ADDED
PREVIOUSLY UNDISCLOSED EVIDENCE AT THE TRIAL WITHOUT ANY DNA – ONLY DONE
TO MANIPULATE AND CONFUSE THE JURY
- 83. NO
- 84. Yes – police was aggressive and lied to myself and partner

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 4

Did the police ignore, lose, alter, or conceal key evidence or maybe on the contrary – they added previously undisclosed evidence at the trial?

1. No
2. police lied about a few things in trial and have witnesses to prove that but again weren't allowed too.
3. yes, phone which contained lots of defense evidence was confiscated and then only at the trial it was told that the police 'couldn't get into it' even though they were given the pin
4. Unsure
5. No answer
6. yes a lot of my son's evidence was not used
7. Not sure
8. Yes. They said his camera in his taxi wasn't working, and used this to suggest that it had been tampered with. My brother himself offered to prove that consent was obtained by providing access to the cameras in his car. the cameras were not working, however the cameras he has are tamper proof. This was not taken into account, and instead, the prosecutor let the jury believe it was tampered with, thus making him guilty. the cameras was faulty, but this wasn't investigated or looked into further. the company that installed the cameras confirmed the cameras are tamper proof, thus proving that he did not tamper with any cameras. this was not brought up as evidence on his part.
9. Yes, they concealed evidence
10. My sons phone was taken at the start of this, many attempts to recover this to use in HIS defence but never been recovered.
11. No was just found guilty by the both acusers words
12. No answer
13. Police ignored multiple reports were women had reported fraud offences only. On Initial reports, women claim that that no violence or sexual assaults happened. Years later they added on sexual charges. (Because they never got their money back) And police ignored their initial statements where they said no violence or sexual assaults had took place.
There was no evidence for them to conceal.
We have text messages that were in evidence that the accuser provided. Obviously majority of these were blacked out and not allowed to be shown to the jury. However there is one clear section where it is obvious that messages have been deleted.
Obviously not sure who has deleted them but this could have been something that could have been used in defence. (We did not have our own copies of messages as they were for years previous and we had no access anymore)
14. No answer
15. No they didn't because there was no evidence in case. Just the females word against his.
16. Police and crown ignored repeated statements from one of the accusers, that what was on the charges did not happen
17. Not sure, but would not be surprised if they had.
18. the police report was so wrong and had so many lies in it.
19. Yes statement changed several times.

20. They ignored witnesses social media evidence ignored and physical witnesses all never called or brought forward
21. Yes
22. Yes - they added a 'vaginal rape' charge at trial, which was discarded by the jury. Plus a year after he was charged they produced photos of one bruise on each leg of a body (with nothing to identify it as the Complainer's body). A medical expert at trial stated that there was no way of proving that the bruises had been caused on the date of the oral sex
23. We don't know the answer to this - but an unchallenged 95% redacted document was used against him at his trial.
24. I can't answer that as we gave the police paper work to prove that one of the accused had made multiple allegations and they other way lying to stop her getting charged by the police for assault.
25. There were text messages that the police claimed were irretrievable. His legal team didn't seem too bothered about this either.
26. yes to both
27. Yes, they concealed evidence
28. police have lied and totally invented accuser's statement
29. Yes the whole WhatsApp chat history which would have proved she lied under oath as they never met before sex and that her rhetoric was of a very S&M sexual nature. It feels like she profiled my brother based on his appearance to fulfil a fantasy. The police did not share this with my brother's defence, they simply sent a photo of his phone. Although I have no evidence of the following I have heard she has accused to family members of rape. Why isn't this investigated with police as I genuinely believe she has mental health issues.
30. One charge was changed at trial as accuser changed the story.
31. No
32. they weren't interested (in evidence of innocence) had an attitude of well what have you done to deserve this
33. The 18 years ago accusation the girl had a crush on him, her diary entries proved this accused son of SO but he had text messages from her proving his innocence. Police LOST this evidence but managed to not lose hers.
34. Didn't allow the defence to use a timeline of events I had constructed leading up to the accusations. Ignored the fact my partner is awaiting autism diagnosis and is easily manipulated.
35. No answer
36. sorry not sure
37. no answer
38. yes, statements not used
39. yes – dna never used
40. lost CCTV evidence
41. yes
42. yes - both
43. unknown
44. don't know – waiting on the appeal
45. police -no, procurator – yes
46. yes
47. yes – ignored evidence
48. yes – did not disclose key witness

49. yes – phone records / data etc
50. yes – altered evidence
51. yes – police told the accuser to delete evidence and got reprimanded in court
52. yes
53. yes – evidence not presented
54. YES – left out evidence
55. Xxx
56. Yes – evidence ignored, altered and concealed
57. Yes – ignored evidence, lost dna, more
58. Yes
59. Yes – concealed
60. Yes
61. Yes – not disclosed to court and jury that the complainant continued to visit me after the accusations were made – prison visits records & flights manifestos.
62. Yes
63. Xxxxx
64. Yes, police added charges to bias jury
65. Yes – ignored evidence
66. Yes – evidence altered and concealed
67. Yes
68. Yes
69. Yes
70. No
71. Yes
72. Yes
73. Yes
74. YES
75. Yes – the police tried to intimidate my friends to get me done with more
76. Yes
77. No – there was evidence
78. No answer
79. Yes – amended complainer statements
80. I don't even know what evidence was or was not used
81. Yes – police took my phone and never used any information that was on it which would prove my innocence. Phone was then returned broken and locked
82. No answer
83. No
84. Yes, both – police statements changer repeatedly. The fact one of the girls invited me over to her airbn in California and while I was asleep she deleted all messages between us and other partners involved, police knew and done nothing about it. There were also photos and letter produced at the trial I have never seen before

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 5

Was a solicitor present during the first police interview?

1. NO
2. NO
3. no, police told him he doesn't need solicitor and he will be right out in time to pick up his daughter from school
4. NO
5. NO
6. NO
7. XXXXXX
8. YES
9. NO
10. NO, BUT WAS CONSULTED OVER THE PHONE
11. YES
12. NO ANSWER
13. He was never interviewed by the police.
He was arrested and charged but not actually interviewed. No lawyer was present though.
14. NO ANSWER
15. YES
16. YES - Solicitor was present at all interviews.
17. No, our son thought he was being called in for motoring offences, unfortunately this was not the case, he answered all questions with "no comment" he was held in custody overnight. The next interview he had secured a solicitor to accompany him.
18. NO ANSWER
19. YES
20. NO
21. NO ANSWER
22. No, he declined the duty solicitor because he knew he had done nothing wrong and had nothing to hide, so didn't think he needed one
23. No solicitor was present during his police interview.
24. there was no solicitor present when he was interviewed as he knew he did nothing wrong but he was interviewed under the influence. which should not have happened
25. NO ANSWER
26. NO
27. NO
28. NO ANSWER
29. NO
30. Duty solicitor- advised no comment interview. Never seen again...
31. Yes the solicitor was present
32. NO ANSWER
33. NO ANSWER
34. No interview took place.
35. NO ANSWER
36. NO

- 37. NO ANSWER
- 38. NO
- 39. NO
- 40. NO
- 41. NO
- 42. NO
- 43. NO
- 44. YES
- 45. NO, BUT INSTRUCTED OVER THE PHONE
- 46. NEVER INTERVIEWED
- 47. NO
- 48. YES
- 49. YES
- 50. NO
- 51. YES
- 52. YES
- 53. YES
- 54. NO
- 55. XXX
- 56. NO
- 57. YES
- 58. NO
- 59. YES
- 60. NO
- 61. NO ANSWER
- 62. NO
- 63. NO
- 64. NO, I WAS STIL DRUNK DURING THE INTERVIEW
- 65. NO
- 66. YES
- 67. NO
- 68. NO
- 69. NO
- 70. NO
- 71. YES
- 72. NO, I DIDN'T FEEL I NEEDED ONE AS I KNEW I DIDN'T DO IT
- 73. YES
- 74. NO
- 75. YES
- 76. YES
- 77. NO, BUT CONSULTATION OVER THE PHONE
- 78. NO
- 79. NO ANSWER
- 80. NO
- 81. NO
- 82. NO ANSWER
- 83. NO
- 84. No, I gave evidence as I had nothing to hide

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 6

Was the solicitor privately paid or through Legal Aid?

1. LEGAL AID
2. LEGAL AID
3. LEGAL AID
4. LEGAL AID
5. LEGAL AID
6. LEGAL AID
7. XXXXX
8. PRIVATE
9. LEGAL AID
10. LEGAL AID
11. LEGAL AID
12. NO ANSWER
13. LEGAL AID
14. NO ANSWER
15. LEGAL AID
16. LEGAL AID
17. LEGAL AID
18. NO ANSWER
19. LEGAL AID
20. LEGAL AID
21. NO ANSWER
22. LEGAL AID
23. LEGAL AID
24. Legal aid but he only has 4 or 5 appointments in the 3 years and he never read any statements when his lawyer said he did and it was a trainee lawyer tht he had.
25. LEGAL AID
26. LEGAL AID
27. LEGAL AID
28. NO ANSWER
29. Privately paid as was his KC. Appeal will be on legal aid as my brother who is in Barlinnie for 5 years has had to declare himself bankrupt. No guarantee that KC will sign off on appeal.
30. LEGAL AID
31. LEGAL AID
32. NO ANSWER
33. NO ANSWER
34. LEGAL AID
35. NO ANSWER
36. LEGAL AID
37. NO ANSWER
38. LEGAL AID
39. LEGAL AID
40. LEGAL AID

- 41. PRIVATE
- 42. LEGAL AID
- 43. PRIVATE
- 44. LEGAL AID
- 45. LEGAL AID
- 46. PRIVATE AND THEN LEGAL AID
- 47. LEGAL AID
- 48. PRIVATE AND THEN LEGAL AID
- 49. LEGAL AID
- 50. LEGAL AID
- 51. LEGAL AID
- 52. LEGAL AID
- 53. LEGAL AID
- 54. LEGAL AID
- 55. LEGAL AID
- 56. PRIVATE
- 57. LEGAL AID
- 58. LEGAL AID
- 59. LEGAL AID
- 60. LEGAL AID
- 61. LEGAL AID
- 62. LEGAL AID
- 63. LEGAL AID
- 64. LEGAL AID
- 65. PRIVATELY PAID
- 66. LEGAL AID
- 67. LEGAL AID
- 68. LEGAL AID
- 69. LEGAL AID
- 70. LEGAL AID
- 71. LEGAL AID
- 72. LEGAL AID
- 73. NO ANSWER
- 74. LEGAL AID AND PRIVATE
- 75. LEGAL AID
- 76. LEGAL AID
- 77. LEGAL AID
- 78. LEGAL AID
- 79. LEGAL AID
- 80. LEGAL AID
- 81. LEGAL AID
- 82. NO ANSWER
- 83. LEGAL AID
- 84. LEGAL AID

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 7

Was crucial evidence withheld — evidence or information that could have changed the outcome and proven innocence?

1. yes would let the jury hear from his current partner or go into detail about his life with his wife
2. yes evidence was withheld, there were letters wrote too courts from previous cases from the victim saying she had lied basically In previous domestics too get him charged and backtracked statements, were not aloud too bring up witnesses too verify she has accused three other people of this and other things too much too write in this
3. yes – background of the accusers – one of the accuser falsely accused multiple men in the past and even lost custody of her own children due to previous accusations, she is also well known to the local police. She was bragging about her sister who is a police officer accusing someone in the past and making so much money on this, so she also paid for her mom's new kitchen. She is a raging alcoholic & member of a CA. The second accuser mentally abused my LO for years - NHS counselling records also not used, she also was in sexual relationships with one of her 'witnesses'. The accusers known each other and told my LO they are going to do this to him – there is a proof of that on his phone, which WASN'T USED AND still hasn't been returned to us. None of this was ever mentioned.
4. Yes. Messages of his ex threatening to do this previously then when his kids disclosed physical abuse by their step dad and he got charged she said the kids dad raped her n thats when she contacted his exes from when he was 16! But he was not allowed to bring this up in court!
5. Lawyer couldn't use a witness' evidence due to a section 275. Accuser had told witness she had only said it. He was a built in babysitter for her Witness is the accusers cousin. Lawyers had questioned witness then when I found a new lawyers old lawyer told new lawyer thy hadn't spoke to witness. I had proof of first email being sent and received though. None of accused evidence was used in court, no one was interested in his side. Accuser had caused trouble for accused family nearly loosing people there jobs through lies. Accused family had to stop contact with him because if her. None of this used. Accuser kicked off in court shouting etc. Court was adjourned and a full new jury was summoned. Accuser was then told if acted up again her case would be dismissed. She was asked exact same questions next time round so knew how to answer them and what to expect. If we'd had first jury I don't think outcome would have been the same.
6. yes we had reports from social workers showing he was not the one that did what she was saying he had done. had photos to show she was lying and a picture of a foot she used that wasn't even hers.
7. XXXXX
8. the young girl had previously accused another man of raping her. he was found guilty. the paperwork of that case in terms of the words used in describing the assault were exactly the same as what she used for the previous guy. she was given a victim payment.
9. Yes, text messages confirming the girls conspiring and threatening messages towards the accused and his family
10. Hundreds of evidence wasn't shown that we sent. Proof that he was still in contact with "victims after alleged offences were said to have taken place. Proof of harassment and

intimidation to him and our family (I am still being followed by the main characters father to this day and have photo evidence). Evidence that it was originally his new partner being targeted, then allegations of rape came after she fell pregnant. Proof of my sons injuries when she assaulted him. Proof they had alleged abuse from other people before resulting in conviction. One witness said in court she didn't tell him she didn't want to have sex, she was just THINKING IT! THAT same witness slept with my son when he was underage and no charges were brought. One witness testifying against my son is a convicted domestic abuser who the 'victim' actually went to court against in the past. These are only some of the examples

11. the main proof was a passport that my husband was not in this country at the time he was accused no witness was brought forward and one witness the victims granny said he was innocent and not here at that time she was not accepted because she was frailly
12. yes their where letters from her proving
 She was a liar and the type of women she was and nothing was shown to jury
 Also letters from previous ex partners stating he was never like that and they weren't allowed to be brought up as evidence
 My mother in law had letters from the ex aswell stating things she had lied about and still Nothing was brought up was all hidden disgusting now my brother-in-law is doing time for something he didn't do
13. Crucial evidence was withheld. Text messages were not allowed to be shown to the jury that directly show a rape did not take place.
 The accuser sent him a text message a few hours after she left his flat where the apparent rape took place. She says in the text that she wants to come back over because she is "craving a KFC and dick".
 She also texts a week later to say she was dreaming of their night together and wants to reenact it. None of these messages were allowed to be shown to the jury.
 Secondly, because he pled guilty to the fraud charges before trial then these charges were not allowed to be mentioned during trial. Which meant the jury did not know that there was money involved and were not aware that he owed this female money. This took away his defence as jury was not allowed to see that she was accusing him as an act of revenge because he owed her money.
14. My grandson has ADHD ALONG WITH SERVE ANXIETY HIS HAIR HAS FELL OUT WHILE THIS GIRL IS LIVING HER BEST LIFE DRINKING ETC THE SYSTEM IS WRONG HE HAS NOT EVEN BEEN ABLE TO GIVE HIS SIDE AT ALL ONLY HOS NAME DOB. WE HAVE A WORKER WHO HAS ALL THE EVIDENCE THAT SHE HAS WROTE ABOUT MY GRANDSON STILL NOTHING
15. Yes . The initial accuser had went to the police and reported domestic assault. She said no sexual assault or violence. A few months later she went back and changed her story and said she was raped. This wasn't allowed to be used in his defence.
 Secondly, the accused reported an accuser to Social services due to her mistreating her children. Social work visited the women. Accuser asked him to drop it and not give evidence etc which he did. A few months later she told the police she was raped. This was clearly an act of revenge. He wasn't allowed to show this In court due.
 He wasn't allowed to show that accusers had became friends and were encouraging each to go the police. One ex partner, who was not involved, said females phoned her and encouraged her to make up false accusation to the police. This was not allowed to be used in his defence.

16. All evidence was heard and seen at the trial, but jury choose ignore, e.g. one of the accusers could not leave the room whilst on holiday because of the bruises on her body, but as he was on a family holiday, there was photographic evidence showing her with bikini, short skirts, and skimpy tops, but jury refused to accept this.
17. Yes we were astounded that no evidence in support of accused was either limited or not admissable in court, and also there were no background checks carried out on any of the alleged accusers mental health, previous accusations or any proper investigation or collection of any evidence the case was based and conducted purely on hearsay. Which the initial accuser changed frequently, we were also told that after the case was over that she had attempted to get some of her friends to make false statements, fortunately to our knowledge none of them did.
18. no defence allowed. I have over 100 text messages to me from one of the girls that show her the complete opposite to what she made out she was with my son, we were not allowed to use them as it's classed as attacking their character, but my sons was fair game and their text messages were allowed to be used. Not a fair trial! The lies that were said were sickening. Even the police report was so wrong and had so many lies in it. One of the girls 2 years after my son broke up with her was in my house, sitting with all of my family and my son saying how she missed so much being a part of the family, sat here having a drink all night laughing and joking. Then 6 months later she went to the police after the first girl got in touch with her, saying how she struggled day to day after the effects of what my son done. We have photographs of that night with dates on them (proof) but it's outside the time of the crime so cannot be used. Honestly could go on and on with how the inconsistencies of this case were allowed.
These girls all have 2 things in common my son broke up with them when they didn't want him too, they all had huge issues before going out with him and quite obsessive, my text messages from one girl actually admits this to me. It's a biased broken justice system that we as a family no longer have any faith in. We really thought that this would have all come out in court, unfortunately when you are not allowed to defend yourself fully what chance do you have on girls all going together. Text messages of them all talking was allowed! Even the things I witnessed myself that showed how these girls were, I was told I couldn't say but I will fight for my boy and my voice will be his voice. He is innocent of rape I know my son and I also know what these girls were like, unfortunately the jury and court never got to hear that side as it's the law! Defence Lawyers are very restricted to what they are allowed to ask the victim and are not allowed to lead anything. So what chance do you have to defend yourself. One of the accusers witness had been diagnosed with dementia 5 month earlier from the court case and the judge still told the jury to take in account of her police statement, because the policewomen said at the time she felt she was of sound mind! Not a medical profession but a police women.
While I'm the biggest advocate for women's rights and safety, I also think it shouldn't be at the cost of men. A true reflection of both sides surely is how you would come to the truth!
19. 100% - section 275 prevented any context to allegations.
20. yes witnesses also heard the victims collaborating aswell as other witnesses of many other invents and stuff that happened
21. I was not allowed to produce credible evidence at my trial to prove my innocence, nor was I allowed credible defence witnesses, the evidence I had was various text messages from all three complainers putting significant doubt on their statements, a voice

recording from one complainer admitting I did not commit the crimes to the point she admitted it was her parents who put her up to it for motivation of money, this voice recording puts doubt on a previous statement that was issued and documented on a social work reported dating back to 2018.

There is much more evidence to prove I am innocent however it was not divulged in court during my trial, my parents and brother who were key witnesses were not called upon during my trial to testify in my defence along with other family members.

CID statements from my father, mother and brother were not presented in court as evidence at my trial proving I was innocent of an alleged assault.

Head of domestic abuse police officer based in East Kilbride was not called upon during my trial, if they were it would have 100% proved my innocence in the 2018 alleged rape that one of the alleged victims brought up in 2021. the alleged victim prostitutes herself on social media selling pictures of herself for money, but this was not allowed to be divulged in court as it would be deemed as 'caricature assassination', even after my arrest in 2021 she still prostituted herself on line, this is an alleged rape victim, if this was brought to the attention of the jurors It would actually tell the truth about the credibility of the alleged victim and of her integrity, her lies were invited for motivation of compensation money and to blame me for the assault on her son. I am a 23yr old man with no previous conviction, no psychiatric condition, stable family environment, I was bringing up my daughter due to her being removed from her mother's care due to child neglect, I was in full time employment, and I was in the final process of winning full custody of my daughter, this was one of the reasons why these three alleged victims colluded with each other, all this was taken away from me by three ex partners who had a clear agenda against me, compensation money and for me to lose the custody battle for my daughter.

Once the fight for custody was nearing the end through the courts, false allegations were made about me to ensure I could not gain custody of my daughter; I was arrested and put in jail.

All three of my ex girlfriend's lied about me, to note all three ex-girlfriends are very close friends, two of them are childhood friends, they were motivated by the temptation of a significant criminal damages payout, this I can prove.

This could happen to anyone in Scotland, and it has, so many times, in my case, the crown did not need any evidence to convict me, all they need to do was to action the 1930 Moorov Doctrine where in my case all they needed was two or more persons saying the same or similar thing!!!! I am a 23yr old man with no previous conviction, no psychiatric condition, stable family environment, I was bringing up my daughter due to her being removed from her mother's care due to child neglect, I was in full time employment, and I was in the final process of winning full custody of my daughter, this was one of the reasons why these three alleged victims colluded with each other, all this was taken away from me by three ex partners who had a clear agenda against me, compensation money and for me to lose the custody battle for my daughter.

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I have been in jail since July 2021 for crimes I did not commit, no evidence or proof of burden, just three ex partners who colluded with each other for their own person motivated gains.

Ø One alleged victim (2yr-relationship) has previously accused a significant amount of males of sexual acts against her since the age of 12; 'double figures' she has accused her brother of sexual assault, accused her family members of sexual assault and has accused another number of males of sexually assaulting her, documented in news papers, this was even after my arrest and trial, she is a serial predator of males – she accused me 3yrs after I broke up with her, motivated by compensation money and to gain custody of her daughter. She has even accused her current partner who she has a child with and expecting another child with of assaulting her, she has already successfully been awarded compensation money from a previous rape case.

Ø One alleged victim (4-month relationship), she has a history of signing her son over to her mother due to parental concerns, she prostitutes herself on social media for money and did so before and after my trial – accused me after I broke up with her of rape, assault and other crimes, but sent messages to me begging for me to go back with her, she was motivated by compensation money and to assist her friend to gain custody of my daughter and to blame me for the blunt force trauma inflicted on her son.

Ø One alleged victim accused me of assaulting her, (10-month relationship) police fully investigated this to the point a significant amount of persons were spoken to, not one person seen or heard anything regarding an alleged assault on her, this was never brought up in court in my defence, various text messages she sent to my mother the day after an alleged rape were shown in court, her defence was that 'my mother forced her to sent the text messages' even though my mother was in her house 12mls away!, her other defence was 'I didn't want conflict with Dane after he raped me', however the day after the alleged rape, we got in a taxi, went back and stayed at my house for a few months, then she gave her council flat up and we both moved into a private let together – accused me 10 months after I broke up with her, motivated by compensation money and to assist her friend to gain custody of her daughter.

Various charges were dropped against me during my trial as it was proven the alleged victims were not credible in their defence against me.

All three alleged victims have lied in court and colluded with each other to secure a conviction against me under Moorov, all for money and other personal gains which I can prove.

I was always told you had to be a credible witness to gain a conviction; do the above

alleged victims sound credible and reliable.

I had various defence witnesses, one of whom were the complainer's parental father and stepmother, 20-character references that were not allowed to be called upon during my trial.

I have a text message from one of the alleged victims just after she gave a statement to police admitting I did not commit the crimes against, admitting I did not rape her and admitting she was enraged because I was seeing two of her friends, she also sent me a letter while I was on remand stating she was going to 'get these cows for what they have done' and she will fight until she is blue in the face for justice.

I have bank statements proving I was the one transferring money separately into their own personal bank accounts when I was in a relationship with them, this was never brought up in court as part of my defence but I was charged with taking their money, all three ex girlfriends did not work when I went out with them, they were on benefits and had no savings, how could I take their money when they did not have any, it was me who was spending money on them, I even bought one alleged victim a new mobile phone as a gift.

I have text messages putting significant doubt on the allegations of sexual conduct against me, dismissed as stating it still didn't prove I didn't commit the crimes.

January 2021 police investigated allegations of me assaulting one of the alleged victims, police speaking to key neighbours who confirmed they did not see or hear such allegations of an assault taking place, never brought up in court as part of my defence, however March 2023 I was convicted under Moorov of the assault, police and neighbours were not called upon during my trial, they were key witnesses in my defence.

Police investigating the 2018 allegation against me were never called as witnesses nor was their report presented in court during my trial, social work reports and police reports never brought up in court as part of my defence, this would all prove significant in my defence as one of the alleged victims is a serial predator against males, lied on a social work report, lied on a voice recording and lied to police.

This serial predator assaulted me, when she was dropping my daughter off at my house for a visit she physically assaulted me, I reported her to police, police attended my house and arrested her, she attended court, however I was the one during my trial being found guilty of assault on her, again I was convicted under the 1930 Moorov Doctrine. There is so much wrong with my arrest, trial and conviction, this should not be allowed. In the UK, only Scotland can convict under the 1930 Moorov Doctrine, not Ireland, Wales or England, no burden of proof was presented during my trial for any conviction against me.

All my evidence can be produced.

- 22.** Yes - the Complainers first statement, which she later changed, was withheld so only her second statement was admissible at trial. Her first statement would have cast unquestionable doubts on her credibility as an Accuser, in view of her other activities before and after the oral sex, that same night.

23. There was an audio recording of one of his accusers horribly verbally abusing him - that his defence lawyers decided shouldn't be used despite my son wanting it to be used. I was not asked to testify to the fact that the second accuser admitted to me her assault of my son the same day she later went to the police and accused him of raping her.(she had been arrested and taken from the family home because of the assault - and it turns out about subjecting my son to domestic abuse over a 2 year period - evidence of this was not used). There was a children's panel hearing called in response to his first accuser pouring hot coffee on my son's head. He ran to the doctors who, unbeknown to him, reported the incident to social services. His legal team failed to get a copy of these records despite knowing they existed - because they showed his ex was at risk of being banned from entering the family home on account of her violent assault. The one piece of evidence we still had that was used in court was a letter from this same ex complaining to the GP practice about their concern my son was living under domestic abuse - in which she asks the practice if it was about the time she hit him. The judge instructed the jury to ignore this evidence. There was also phone evidence containing recordings that the defence lawyers ignored (suspect due to the cost of getting this recovered from the phones) - they also lost one of these phones.
24. There was a report that proved witnesses had lied on the stand and there was a witness that wasn't allowed to give evidence along with a photograph that could prove one of the accusers lying there was a witness who wasn't about at the time was taken as a credible that should have as the she and another witness change their statement on the day of the trial one of the accusers and two witnesses were in collaboration with each other that made them change what they originally said.
25. In 2008 he was accused of sexual contact with a girl who claimed that she was 16. Turns out she was in fact 14. This was investigated and no charges were made. His phone was seized at that time and there were text messages retrieved, texts that my partner believes has the girls telling him they were 16. According to his legal team, the police claimed that the messages were irretrievable.
26. Yes, the police have his phone to do with a completely different matter with crucial evidence on it to help the case and trial.
27. Yes, text messages confirming the girls conspiring and threatening messages towards the accused and his family
28. All it takes is two separate statements to count as corroborated evidence which can result in a conviction in Scotland due to the controversial Moorov Doctrine. NO other evidence is required. I had to apply to the court via a section 275 to argue to allow defence evidence into my trial. Text messages from both complainers ADMITTING they lied. But the prosecution argued that these are "not relevant" Crucial defence evidence is routinely barred from being shown to a jury due to Scotland's rape shield laws, which protect a complainer and means no defence evidence can be shown to a jury which might embarrass, upset or bring her character into question. So basically you go into a high court trial already several steps behind, at a disadvantage, already facing a one-sided trial which you are not able to defend against.
29. Yes. The WhatsApp messages and also my brother's ex wife and 2 other women he met on Tinder were prepared to be character witnesses for him in court. Both these key areas of defence were not allowed at the trial.
30. First accuser has been part of a successful prosecution of first husband, for very similar offences, having him imprisoned using Moorov. Police explained Moorov. Compensation was paid. So she knew how to use the doctrine to her advantage.

She routinely allowed her vulnerable daughters to stay overnight alone with this so called terrifying man whilst she went out, even in the years they were split up.

She has accused to police another man of R

She has accused in child welfare reports and hospital reports for other children that their dad was a domestic abuser.

Couple involved in a 4some were told to be unknown in court documents but she named them in court. And our solicitor said he wouldn't approach them as they didn't seem to want to be involved for fear of them being implicated or something like that...

- 31.** Yes there was 127 pages worth of messages of both of them offering sex for money in every message it was them that initiated the conversation which to me proves consent the only message that did get into trail was one of them said he would drop all charges for £500
- 32.** You name it she tried it then the police came knocking and he was taken in for questioning regards for domestic abuse allegations. He was questioned and released without charge (no evidence) a few weeks later police come knocking again this time taken in for questioning regards rape allegations again released with no charge move to few weeks later and Sept 2022 and police come again this time her mother and sister in law went with her to police and claim they saw Injuries. Formal charge of domestic abuse given (this is a broad range of sub categories with domestic abuse including sexual assault and rape). My son was released on bail and that's were we sat for 2.5years not knowing if going to court or what was happening eventually told going to trail and date set for begin Feb 2025. In these 2 and half long year wait my sons bail conditions including not approaching her or attending their house (which they brought together) neither of which my son did infact he became very isolated and withdraw and stopped leaving the house or wanting to do anything. Next came the papers served to go to court for her to get custody of their child this was thrown out of court and my son counteracted this with request for access. He already had access in place via solicitors however 6 weeks prior to the custody hearing his ex partner stopped answering his texts and calls when he tried to arrange collection of their child, solicitors letter were sent and ignored. The judge ordered access and dates and times arranged however his ex decided to state she didn't feel he was safe with his dad and so a report from a child welfare officer was ordered this was completed and our family was put through (what we thought at the time was hell - we had no idea what was to come) due to her claiming my son had been found watching porn on a laptop with the wee one on his lap watching too! My son didn't even own a laptop! Child welfare reported stated no issues and access continued and increased with over night stays. When in court regards access my sons ex caused a scene because she did not agree with the child welfare report and stated she didn't know what she was talking about, this caused her to be 'told off' by the judge as they stated they had worked with the Doctor for over 20years and that she had never made a wrong assessment to date. Fast forward a few month and my son was contacted by social work as his ex had made claims he had 'drugged' the wee one. Long story short after a meeting with my son and myself this was not taken any further by social work and case closed. Back to court to increase access and the ex demanded another child welfare report due to wee one being 'extremely distressed' going to see his dad, this assessment was carried out and again report stated no issues. Dr actually put in report she felt that my sons ex would stop at nothing to get him out of the child's life!!!!!! BIG BIG STATEMENT Amoungst all this there is graffiti about my son windows of house smashed 2x and people turning up on door step wearing face covering after dark, luckily

my son had a ring door bell and this was evidence that was given to the police however they weren't interested had an attitude of well what have you done to deserve this 😞😞 my son gave up his house as he was scared for his safety and his relationship with his new partner fell apart as she was also scared. My son was declared homeless for nearly a year before being rehoused. Fast forward to court hearing and during evidence his ex claimed he abused her and raped her 2x her mum and sister in law stood up and stated they had seen injuries from supposed abuse although the sister in law got the dates wrong by 2 years my sons defence did not question this! My son has 0 defence or witnesses whom he has plenty of to back up the fact that actually she was very controlling of him.

33. The 18 years ago accusation the girl had a crush on him, her diary entries proved this accused son of SO but he had text messages from her proving his innocence. Police LOST this evidence but managed to not lose hers. Second accuser 10 years ago also a family member has last history of making false accusations of S. Assault. Was charged with this previously with boyfriend who was waiting for sentencing when public came forward with footage showing it was she who assaulted him, so badly he was hospitalised. She also has severe personality disorder, all the family knows about her lying. Was not allowed to use any of this in the court and a hostile jury found son guilty with majority verdict even though 2 jurors left during the trial. The jury questions clearly showed they had reasonable doubt and took 3 days of deliberations.
34. text messages from one complainer saying he should have left me alone see what happens now and confessions from the other complainer saying she was manipulated into saying things and the police twisted her story.
35. His defence were not allowed to mention his relationship or history with the 'victim', their planning of the trip nor the events at the lodge apart from him going into the bedroom in the morning. Completely out of context. They had gone to a lodge with a hot tub for valentines, she had asked him to take photos for her Only Fans site & they had sex in the hot tub & again in the lodge before going to bed. She told him he wasn't getting in beside her to sleep so he slept on the sofa. In the morning he got in beside her & cuddled/ fondled her & then asked for consent to have sex which she gave. She later claimed to her friend group of super anxiety ridden goths that he shouldn't have gotten in beside her without consent & he was subjected to a torrent of abuse & threats on social media. It got so extreme he attempted to kill himself twice before reaching out to the police for help. Big mistake. He wasn't given a solicitor or a doctor to check on his mental health but kept for hours being questioned & later charged.
36. yes but that is where moorov and section 274 & 275 came in couldn't use anything against them
37. YES
38. Yes - statements and cctv only partially shown
39. Yes – dna couldn't be matched
40. Yes – email prisoner love letters written on remand, judge refused jury to see this
41. Yes – emails and messages from one accuser saying that she's pregnant and if I didn't go see her she will have an abortion plus other messages to show the real picture, as well as from the other one who was trying to frame me into having a child with her even though we were together only 3 months
42. Yes – phone evidence, and the video evidence was edited
43. Yes – refused exculpatory social work letters / official documents
44. Yes – non disclosure (4000+ pages)

45. Yes – I wasn't in the country and wasn't allowed to use evidence
46. Yes – military records showing alibi
47. Yes – not allowed previous false allegations to be disclosed (6 people)
48. Yes – key witness in two trials mentioned showing injuries to the boss at work, but after the sentencing the boss denied seeing the injuries at all and told this to the police
49. Yes – phone, texts, photos, call logs
50. Yes – witnesses not called, text messages not used
51. Yes – phone and photos missing
52. Yes – crucial witness not called
53. Yes – emails, social media, legal documents
54. Yes – previous history of false accusations
55. Xxx
56. Yes – withheld cctv and never located cctv from the nightclub
57. Yes – medical evidence
58. Yes – phone evidence withheld, witness not called, questions not asked
59. Yes
60. Yes – my phone and snapchat app
61. Yes – the fact the complainer continued to visit me on remand from her own will, where I was unable to coerce her into doing so
62. Yes – accuser has accused all her previous exes of so, the fact that one of the prosecution witnesses admitted the complainer was trying to convince her to lie, also statements didn't match to what she said in court
63. Yes
64. Yes – taxi driver, nurse – witnesses
65. Yes – none of my evidence was used
66. Yes – crucial evidence withheld – texts, back statements, witnesses testimony, cctv
67. Yes – my full statement not verified (no investigation)
68. Yes
69. Yes
70. No
71. Yes
72. Yes – her text history was not allowed to be shown, despite it proving she was lying
73. Yes – witnesses, van tracker, timesheets, job cards
74. Yes – interviewed witnesses evidence not used
75. Yes – a lot of stuff that should have been said to help me never got said
76. Yes – police never investigated my defence
77. No
78. Yes – threatening messages my ex sent to my father and how she attacked me because of a joke
79. Yes – during my oral evidence I was unable to give any other answers apart from yes or no
80. Yes – defence evidence not allowed to be used / hidden
81. Yes – messages, calls and videos, video confession edited to fit the prosecution's story – editing the part where one of the accusers admitted the intimacy was fully consensual and that she never withdrew her consent
82. Yes – cctv from the casino and cctv from train station proving the complainer was not as intoxicated as she later claimed to be, doctor's statement where no DNA of mine was found, defence witnesses never called

- 83.** Yes – many pages of my statement to the police were redacted, so the jury heard nothing about the accuser's behaviour prior and post sexual act, also the fact she wanted to move in with me but I refused and that was what started her campaign of hate
- 84.** Yes – 905 pages of evidence against one of the accusers not used, multiple witnesses, cctv, photos, phone calls, sex tapes, snapchat, gps, medical records

JIMS SURVEY - QUESTION 8

Was the prosecution case based on accusers' statements and hearsay only?

1. YES – NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE
2. YES - the case was based on the accuser's statements only in both case only statements (hear say) basically saying 3 words too some1 else about 4 years before hand was enough too get the conviction
3. Yes - no actual evidence – just lies, hearsay, single photo of a bruise which we don't even know who's elbow was it or where was it taken, video of my lo shouting – completely taken out of context, as he was defending himself there
4. Yes
5. Yes! Accusers best friend apparently overhearing a phone call of accused admitting. Was his statement that jury used for collaboration. No proof of phone call. Absolutely no actual evidence to support any of complaints
6. Yes
7. XXXXX
8. yes. no DNA was found even though he offered to give DNA himself.
9. Yes. Absolutely no evidence, not even a date, just a time frame of a few years.
10. Yes no evidence in rape charges... the sexual assault which was in a club, where BOTH OF them were kissing and touching (have photo and video) this was his gfs friend and she found out (they posted a video from the gig) blamed her friend and after that police were called and allegations made. Have a text message stating "she never accused him of anything" which wasn't used as he was told to plead guilty as consent can be withdrawn after the event
11. Yes
12. No answer
13. Yes - Prosecution case was based purely on accusers statements. There was no actual evidence other than the fact that the accuser said it happened.
There was one accuser who accused him of rape. The only thing to corroborate this was something in the docket (so not an actual charge) - the docket was a women who said they were having consensual sex and he ejaculated inside her without consent. She said she consented to sex but not the ejaculation.
The judge decided that this docket could corroborate the one accusers rape accusation. Again there was no evidence of this- just the accusers statement.
So basically the women saying he ejaculated inside her without her consent was enough to corroborate the rape accusation and that's how they managed to convict him.
Not one other piece of evidence.
No police reports . No other witnesses . No hospital records. No other people to back up her story. No messages to back it up.
14. No answer
15. Yes - No other evidence.
16. Yes - Crowns case was all based-on accusers' statements and hear say, NO EVIDENCE presented, defence KC stated on several occasions, when was the crown going to start show any evidence
17. Yes
18. Yes - no physical evidence

19. Yes – 100%
20. Yes
21. Yes - the crown did not need any evidence to convict me
22. Yes - and he was not permitted his own witnesses on the basis that it was hearsay
23. Yes - Prosecution entirely based on 99% hearsay and 1% heavily redacted document that i mentioned (the unredacted version would have actually shown his ex was goading him - something she was expert at).
24. Yes definitely
25. Yes, the only evidence was the accusation statement from the accusers.
26. Yes - yup prosecution on accuser and hear say only
27. Yes. Absolutely no evidence, not even a date, just a time frame of a few years.
28. Yes
29. YES – PLUS there was also a 1 word text message for my brother saying “sorry”. He had sent this as he had asked the women to leave his flat after the encounter as he wasn’t really in to her.
30. Yes - Accusers statement, statements from their family/friends - character assaination Police from random incidents where the accusers were alleging other stuff - like breach of the peace - but never mentioned this, conveniently!!
31. Yes the prosecution was solely based on the statements they made with absolutely no other form of evidence
32. Yes
33. No answer
34. Yes
35. No answer
36. Yes
37. No answer
38. Yes – just their testimonies
39. Yes
40. No
41. Yes
42. No
43. Yes
44. Yes
45. Yes
46. Yes
47. Yes
48. Yes
49. Yes
50. Yes – no physical evidence
51. Yes for SO
52. Yes !
53. Yes and Moorov
54. Yes
55. Yes – hearsay only
56. Yes – different stories by witnesses
57. yes
58. Yes
59. Not sure

- 60. Yes
- 61. Yes and inconclusive DNA
- 62. Yes 100%
- 63. Yes
- 64. Yes
- 65. Yes
- 66. Yes and redacted snippets from texts and video
- 67. Yes
- 68. Yes
- 69. Yes
- 70. Yes
- 71. Yes
- 72. Yes
- 73. Yes
- 74. yes
- 75. Yes – it was all about the accusers, nothing was said to help me
- 76. Yes
- 77. Yes – only statements
- 78. Yes
- 79. Yes and amended statements
- 80. Yes – even the contradictions were not highlighted
- 81. Yes – only statements and hearsay from 1 witness
- 82. Yes – and a complete manipulation from the police and prosecution towards the jury to confuse them
- 83. Yes, although there was DNA evidence to support the fact that sexual act has happened
- 84. Yes, mostly – and weird pieces of evidence that were irrelevant and didn't prove anything

JIMS SURVEY – QUESTION 9

Did the defence have enough time to prepare?

1. YES
2. yes - there was enough time too prepare, but again you can only say and produce a quarter of what the evidence should really be, and other accuser was dead couldn't be cross examined and didn't even say she was raped (edited)
3. NO - they have not spend enough time with him, to even know who was the defense witness and who was prosecution witness, KC mixed up names during the trial on more than one occasion
4. NO - He was not allowed defence, we all had proof, messages, eye witnesses, when he lived with me i seen her punch him, be verbally and emotionally abusive. Her dad said he walked in on it (but they stayed together for 3 years and had another kid after this apparent assault)!! Her mum admitted in court her daughter told her what to say!
5. Yes took few years to get to court
6. yes. but the solicitor never used any of the defence evidence.
7. XXXXXX
8. NOT SURE
9. NO
10. NO - A few different lawyers from the same firm worked on the case, no consistency, a couple months before trial lawyer was appointed fresh from maternity leave and only working 3 days a week. The kc was changed and a new one appointed 2 weeks before his trial
11. NO - Zero defence none at all
12. NO ANSWER
13. NO - He was remanded in custody while lawyer was preparing. Therefore no I don't think there was enough time for case to be prepared.
He was on bail for 2 years but prosecution had not sent disclosure to lawyer during this time.
Everything was sent to lawyer after he was remanded. He was remanded roughly 4 months before his trial.
So they had roughly 4 months and visits to prison were limited and obviously time constrained.
I don't think lawyer actually worked on the case until the week leading up to the case. Things were being prepared the night before and he met with KC about 10 minutes before trial started.
14. NO ANSWER
15. NO - He had 3 KC's in total. The first 2 became judges so could no longer represent him. Just 8 weeks before trial he was given a new KC. So she had only 8 weeks to prepare.
16. NO - He was on remand for about 2 years, but do not think they were working on this for that period
17. Yes, but they were also frustrated with the limited detail they could present to the court, which at the time we were in disbelief and is only now becoming more clear that the whole process is corrupt and unjust.
18. NO ANSWER
19. NO - They would have preferred to have more time.

20. NO - No the accuses mental health issues where rllly bad with tying to cope with everything wasn't compliant with the first lawyers and was changed over didn't get to know anyone or the case rllly it went to trial in less than 6 months and no meetings or anything happened before hand was just told a week before its going to trail then
21. NO ANSWER
22. Yes - it took 3 years to get to trial, during which time the Complainer caused 3 postponements
23. NO - The defence had ample time to prepare - nearly two years - but in reality because it was legal aid case they did bugger all. The day before the trial they suddenly wanted to see more witness statemensts which were rushed together at the last minute - and then ignored. Utterly useless defence lawyers. Their choice not to use key evidence that could have helped my son - meant he could not use this evidence in his appeal - nothing less than sabbotage !
24. NO - with the amount of consultion tht he had I would say no.
25. NO ANSWER
26. NO - nope definitely not enough time got 1 hour appointment with legal time week before the trail.
27. NO
28. NO AWSWER
29. No - my brother brought the Whatsapp messages up again on the 1st or 2nd day of trial and both lawyer and KC said they had never seen them. They tried to put them in but were denied due to section 274/275 rules. Being able to bring in this evidence and character witnesses would have made the it impossible to convict as also NHS call recordings and doctor who examined her a daily after alleged incident confirm there was no injuries and zero evidence of assault.
30. NO - time was not an issue, but barely saw or spoke to lawyer, had a few phone calls with trainee solicitors to go through statements. These changed over the years as they seem to move on a lot, so wasn't consistent.
31. NO - He believes his defence did have enough time however was unhappy in regards to meetings he had about precognition as it was rushed and didn't feel he had a good enough opportunity to go through his accusers statements.
32. NO ANSWER
33. NO ANSWER
34. No in my opinion.
35. NO ANSWER
36. YES
37. NO ANSWER
38. NO – MET ONCE EVERY 3 MONTHS TO BREIFLY TALK
39. NO – ONLY SEEN LAWYER ONCE!
40. NO – CHANGED LAWYER
41. NO ANSWER
42. YES
43. YES – COVID
44. NO – BUT NO WORK
45. NO – ENOUGH TIME BUT NO WORK
46. NO – ENOUGH TIME, BUT NO WORK DONE
47. NO – ENOUGH TIME BUT NO WORK DONE
48. NO – 30 MIN WITH THE BARISTER ACROSS 2 TRIALS AND LAWYER DIDN'T DO MUCH

- 49. YES
- 50. YES – BUT ONLY TOOK STATEMENTS, NO WITNESS CONTACT
- 51. DON'T KNOW
- 52. NO – COURT APPOINTED, NO TIME AT ALL
- 53. NO – DIDN'T EVEN SEE THE INDICTMENT TILL BEFORE THE TRIAL
- 54. YES – BUT NOT ENOUGH RESOURCE (FINANCE)
- 55. XXXX
- 56. NO, HAD TO CHANGE LAWYERS
- 57. YES – TRIED TO FILE FOR MISSREPRESENTATION
- 58. NO – THEY ADDED EXTRA CHARGES AT THE END OF MY REMAND AND I ONLY SEEN A JUNIOR UNDERSTUDY
- 59. NO
- 60. NO – THEY ARE LEGAL AID THEY DON'T CARE MUCH (THEY CANT BITE THE HAND THAT FEEDS THEM)
- 61. YES, BUT SECTION 274 PROHIBITTED THEM FROM DUING THEIR JOIN DURING THE TRIAL TO VERYFY GOOD CHARACTER OF THE COMPLAINANT
- 62. YES – BUT WERE NOT ALLOWED TO SAY RELEVANT THINGS WHEN NEEDED
- 63. YES
- 64. NO – MET MY ADVOCATE TWICE DURING THE PERIOD OF ALMOST 2 AND A HALF YEARS
- 65. NO – NOT REALLY
- 66. NO – ONLY HAD ABOUT 9-10 HOURS OF COMMUNICATION OVER THE PERIOD OF OVER 3 YEARS
- 67. NO
- 68. NO
- 69. YES – BUT WAS UNABLE TO USE EVIDENCE
- 70. YES
- 71. YES
- 72. YES
- 73. NO
- 74. YES
- 75. YES
- 76. YES, BUT NO INVERSTIGATION IN MY DEFENCE
- 77. NO
- 78. YES
- 79. YES – BUT THE HAVE WENT AGAINST MY WISHES AND AGAINST MY LINE OF DEFENCE
- 80. NO – I WASN'T IN COMMUNICATION WITH MY LAWYER MOST OF THE TIME
- 81. NO – I MET MY LAWYER TWICE OVER 2 YEARS, UNDER 1 HOUR EACH AND MET MY KC ONLY ONCE
- 82. NO ANSWER
- 83. YES – BUT WERE UNABLE TO CHALLENGE OR QUESTION THE ACCUSERS
- 84. No – we spoke 3 hours in 2 and a half years, KC changed just before the trial, none of my evidence was discussed