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Violent Women In The News



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By Alexander Baron

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Men are and always have been far more violent than women. The good news is that the gap between the sexes is narrowing; the bad news is that the women are catching up.

Not only that, the ladette culture is seeing women getting just as boozy as men, and if they're not getting wasted, waking up in bed with a man they don't know, then crying rape, they're attacking strangers. That is what happened in Hull after three young women, one of them a teenager, became *giddy* after a visit to the fair. Olivia Jennison, the alluringly named Pagan Clegg and the unnamed 17 year old were riding home on a night bus when they decided to **attack other passengers**. The incident happened last October, but has only recently come to court.

Of the three, Jennison found herself in the most serious position because she was in breach of a suspended sentence for of all things a robbery. All three were spared gaol after pleading guilty to a single count of affray. They were also each placed on a 3 month curfew from 9pm to 6am, which may not keep them sober but should keep them at home, failing which there will be dire consequences.

Far more disturbing than three dumb young women getting tanked up after a visit to the fair then exhibiting the usual anti-social behaviour is a bus driver who jumps a red light then jumps out of her cab and **attacks a young woman** who has or she believes has, filmed her traffic violation. The victim, apparently a graduate of a London university, was wrestled to the ground and nearly choked by her stockily built attacker who demanded she delete the incriminating evidence. Two men intervened, and if they hadn't, it beggars belief what might have happened next.



Olivia Jennison and Pagan Clegg attacked bus passengers after they spent the night at Hull Fair

The driver has now been sacked, but she needs to be prosecuted as well. This may well be classed as a road rage attack, something that appears to date from at least the 1980s but is especially a Twentieth Century phenomenon. Usually such incidents arise out of frustration due to the traffic, but the motive for this was far more concrete, and should not be tolerated.

From a serious assault to something truly bizarre, and as usual, only in America. In May of last year, a 12 year old Wisconsin girl was lured into woodland and stabbed repeatedly, almost to death; one of the blows actually hit her heart but by some miracle missed the artery, which according to the surgeon who operated on her, would have been fatal. Her life was saved by the proverbial Good Samaritan, in this case a cyclist who helped stop the bleeding and summoned the emergency services. The victim, who has been identified as Payton Leutner, has now made a remarkable recovery, although it remains to be seen if she will ever recover psychologically.

At the time, there was concern for her two friends who had gone missing with her; the immediate suspicion in cases of this nature is that they had been kidnapped or more likely murdered. They were found safe, but the really shocking news was to come: the girls were carrying the would-be murder weapon in a bag, and were covered with blood. They were charged with attempted murder, and the State was seeking to try them as adults. They were **back in the news** recently when one of them, Morgan Guyser, was found mentally incompetent to stand trial. This will probably come as no surprise to anyone involved in this terrible case because of their motive for the attempted murder. They were trying to appease Slender Man, a character who exists only on-line, and apparently in their minds. They believed this wraith lived in a mansion in the woods, and that by killing their friend they would gain entry into his magical kingdom. They are due back in court on August 1.

Finally, from attempted murder to actual murder, **Jodi Arias** is back in the news. A judge has ordered her to pay the family of her victim Travis Alexander \$32,000 restitution. It is considered unlikely that she will be able to pay more than a fraction of that, but if nothing else this order should prevent her from profiting from her crime. Her supporters are still trying to raise money for a futile appeal. One supporter has gone even further, Kareem Williams has written a rap for her, which is far from the first song in this vein, but all the others are less flattering, and deservedly so.

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