# Man sentenced for exploiting young girls in Birmingham's prostitution scene



In a significant legal development highlighted by Birmingham Mail, Paul Doyle, aged 65, was sentenced to six-and-a-half years in prison on 8 April for exploiting young girls in Birmingham's prostitution scene during the 1990s. Doyle’s conviction stems from his role in living off the earnings of prostitution, particularly involving a victim who was just 14 years old at the time of her exploitation.

Doyle operated escorting and stripogram agencies from a taxi base in Digbeth, Birmingham, and preyed on vulnerable young girls living in care homes. His modus operandi involved grooming them, including a victim known as Rebecca Leach, who has bravely come forward to recount her harrowing experiences. During her statement at the Birmingham Crown Court, she reflected on her traumatic past and the abusive relationships that ultimately led her into prostitution.

In an unexpected twist, a woman, who had remained silent about her past but had managed to rebuild her life by 2017, decided to report her experiences after watching BBC’s drama "Three Girls." The show, based on the real-life grooming scandals in Rochdale, triggered her memory and prompted her to contact the police about the sexual abuse she suffered at the hands of a man known as 'Raj', who introduced her to prostitution. “I realised I was not to blame for what happened to me,” she stated, speaking to Birmingham Mail about her decision to go public.

Doyle's violent and predatory behaviour was noted during the investigation. A distinctive scar from hernia surgery helped identify him as a perpetrator. The victim detailed her experiences of being taken to see clients and the transactional nature of her exploitation, with Doyle well aware of her age.

Also implicated in the case was Anthony Bayliss, aged 78, who was sentenced to nine-and-a-half years for his conviction of raping Leach. Both men were prosecuted by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) as part of an investigation by West Midlands Police, specifically targeting organised child sexual abuse. Specialist prosecutor Claire Brinton remarked on the severe nature of the crimes, stating, “The victims in this case were vulnerable children who had their innocence cruelly stolen by adults who exploited them for sex and money.”

In her statement to the court, Leach expressed that she felt a sense of closure after being believed and heard: “I have a small bit of justice. A little bit of good has come out of something bad.” However, she also recounted the emotional toll that revisiting her past took on her, describing how the process triggered flashbacks and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Despite these challenges, she highlighted her resilience, noting her betterment in life, including raising her own children.

Superintendent Wes Martin from West Midlands Police characterised the crimes as "deplorable and inexcusable," emphasising the exploitation of vulnerable young girls. Both he and the CPS extended their gratitude to the victims for their courage in bringing their stories to light, underscoring the ongoing commitment to hold perpetrators of such abuse accountable, regardless of the passage of time.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)