# Convicted grooming gang rapist complains about incarceration in prison call



A convicted grooming gang rapist, Irfan Khan, 37, from Batley in West Yorkshire, has been recorded complaining from prison about his incarceration, asserting his innocence and criticising the jailing of offenders like himself as “really unfair.” Khan was sentenced last year to 12 years in prison, with an additional five years on extended licence, after being found guilty of three counts of rape and making threats to kill.

Khan was part of a larger group of more than 20 men who were convicted as part of West Yorkshire Police’s Operation Tourway, which uncovered the systematic rape, abuse, and trafficking of eight young girls in the North Kirklees area—including the towns of Batley and Dewsbury—over a period spanning from 1999 to 2012. The 24 men involved collectively received sentences totalling 346 years in prison following trials at Leeds Crown Court between 2022 and 2024.

The abuses brought to light through Operation Tourway have been described by police as “abhorrent in the extreme.” Detective Chief Inspector Oliver Coates of Kirklees Police praised the bravery of the women who came forward to testify about their experiences. He said, “Their bravery in coming forwards and identifying their abusers has allowed us to take action against men whose offending and behaviour can only be described as abhorrent in the extreme.”

The issue of Khan’s prison phone call gained renewed attention following its inclusion in a Channel 4 documentary titled Groomed: A National Scandal, which is set to air on Wednesday 30 April at 9pm. The programme aims to highlight the perspectives of five women affected by grooming gangs over the past two decades. Two of these women have waived their anonymity to speak publicly.

The recording featured Khan’s sister, Samira Khan, who runs a campaign group called Fighting For Fair Trials. The group advocates on behalf of individuals they believe have been wrongly convicted for child sex offences. During a TikTok livestream session, Khan called his sister from prison, and his voice was audible to viewers. In the clip, Khan expressed frustration, stating: “Since I’ve been inside there's been so many come inside all of a sudden – it's been like a domino. Half of Dewsbury’s inside. And it's really unfair – you know, it’s just unfair. I’ve done nothing wrong and I've sat here for 15 months.”

Responding to suggestions from the documentary that Khan may have violated prison rules by accessing a mobile phone, Samira Khan told MailOnline, “My brother didn't have a mobile phone. He called from a prison landline. He called me on my mobile phone. I was online at the time – it was a coincidence. I told him I was on TikTok.” She also reiterated her belief in her brother’s innocence: “I'm not saying abuse doesn't happen – it does happen and it shouldn't happen. But there are a lot of men who are falsely convicted.”

The documentary and police investigations into grooming gangs come amid growing public and political scrutiny. Earlier reports, including a 2022 Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse, have characterised the sexual abuse of children as a widespread crisis affecting tens of thousands. A Home Office study in 2020 found that such offending gangs were most often composed of white men, although many high-profile cases in certain regions have involved men of Asian heritage.

In the town of Rochdale, a 2023 report revealed that young girls were left vulnerable to grooming gangs for years due to numerous failures by police and local authorities between 2004 and 2013. Multiple investigations were launched over the years but were deemed insufficiently resourced to address the scale of organised exploitation in the area.

The Home Office conveyed to the makers of Groomed: A National Scandal that “The grooming scandal was one of the greatest failures in our country's history,” confirming that a rapid national audit has been commissioned to determine the full extent of grooming gangs in the UK, including considerations of the ethnicity of offenders.

The forthcoming Channel 4 documentary has been positioned as an opportunity to amplify the voices of victims of grooming gangs, shedding light on a difficult and complex issue that spans many years and involves multiple communities across the country.

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

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