# BBC presenter exposes systemic failings after abusive relationship with undercover Met officer



A BBC presenter has come forward with harrowing allegations of being manipulated into an abusive relationship with an undercover Metropolitan Police officer, revealing deep systemic failures in the policing and accountability mechanisms meant to protect civilians. Jackie Adedeji, 31, detailed her traumatic experience, which has left her questioning her safety and trust in law enforcement.

Adedeji met the officer, who had assumed the name 'Dan', shortly after moving to London for university. During a night out in Shoreditch, their initial interaction gave no hint of the disturbing reality. Disguised as a police officer, ‘Dan’ initiated a romantic relationship that lasted over two years, during which he exerted significant control over her actions and thoughts. In her account, Adedeji recalls his manipulative tactics, including deleting their text exchanges and coercing her into sending explicit photos. "He stripped me of my innocence and preyed on my naivety," she explained. These revelations echo the descriptions of coercive control identified in the government’s recent reviews on domestic abuse legislation, which aims to tackle predatory behaviours precisely like those exhibited by the officer.

When Adedeji discovered that ‘Dan’ was not only using a fake identity but was also married with a child, the shock triggered a deep emotional crisis. She described collapsing on the floor upon the revelation, a moment that marked the end of their relationship but also initiated a painfully long process of seeking justice. Her subsequent report to the police, lodged in 2023, uncovered that the officer had already been investigated for misconduct, and had face serious allegations related to a previous encounter with a 17-year-old girl—a troubling indication of a pattern of behaviour.

Adedeji's frustrations deepened when the officer's shift records became mysteriously unavailable, complicating her efforts for a criminal investigation. The case highlights alarming issues within the police system, particularly regarding how deeply embedded misconduct can go unchecked. Adedeji expressed her disillusionment with the police following comments from the officer assigned to her case. "I felt like I couldn't challenge him," she noted, referring to a meeting where the officer suggested she could reveal her story in a “Me Too” moment online, rather than pursuing formal channels.

This scenario isn't unprecedented in law enforcement circles, where reports of misconduct and abuse of power remain troublingly common. Former Scotland Yard detective Jackie Malton has pointed out the pervasive “culture of fear” within the Metropolitan Police, which has led to hesitancy amongst officers to discipline one another for fear of being subject to similar scrutiny. This context adds nuance to Adedeji's experience, suggesting that her case is part of a broader systemic issue affecting trust in the police force.

The Metropolitan Police has been under increasing scrutiny as they grapple with multiple allegations of misconduct. A recent case outlined by BBC News detailed an officer who faced eleven separate allegations, yet remained on duty. This culture of impunity has prompted calls for an overhaul of officer vetting procedures, with around 100 officers removed after failing to meet necessary standards.

As Adedeji continues to engage with the investigation process, which has experienced significant delays, she has sought support from external advocates. Claire Waxman, London’s Victims' Commissioner, has joined her in pushing for accountability. Despite the ongoing dialogue about reforms, the two years since her initial report have left Adedeji feeling vulnerable and unsupported. She described her mental health struggles as deeply intertwined with the trauma of her experience, sharing her journey to reclaim her voice after years of feeling silenced.

Her situation reflects wider societal discussions surrounding the accountability of both public figures and law enforcement agencies. It raises important questions about how institutions handle claims of misconduct, whether in policing or media, and the capabilities of such institutions to protect the vulnerable from those who abuse their positions of power. Adedeji’s story, filled with personal anguish, serves as a catalytic reminder that systemic change is crucial to restoring trust and ensuring justice for all victims of abuse.

For help or support, individuals are encouraged to reach out to organisations such as the Samaritans, who provide resources for those in distress.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11: [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14715477/BBC-star-accuses-Met-cop-false-identity-coercive-relationship.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
2. Paragraphs 2, 4, 5, 6: [[4]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/09/20/met-police-prime-suspect-misconduct-scotland-yard/)
3. Paragraphs 5, 6, 7: [[5]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-63278266)
4. Paragraph 8: [[3]](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/jul/11/met-police-bbc-pause-investigation-suspended-presenter)
5. Paragraph 9: [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/jul/10/bbc-presenter-allegations-met-police-fresh-inquiries)
6. Paragraph 10: [[6]](https://news.sky.com/story/metropolitan-police-assessing-information-after-bbc-meeting-over-presenter-claims-12918621)
7. Paragraph 11: [[7]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1789480/BBC-presenter-scandal-Met-Police-investigation)

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14715477/BBC-star-accuses-Met-cop-false-identity-coercive-relationship.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/jul/10/bbc-presenter-allegations-met-police-fresh-inquiries> - The Guardian reports that the Metropolitan Police are conducting fresh inquiries into allegations involving a BBC presenter who allegedly paid £35,000 over three years for explicit images from a teenager. The police are assessing whether a criminal investigation is warranted, following a meeting with BBC representatives. The presenter has been suspended from appearing on screen pending the outcome of these inquiries.
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/jul/11/met-police-bbc-pause-investigation-suspended-presenter> - According to The Guardian, the Metropolitan Police have requested the BBC to pause its internal investigation into a suspended male presenter. This request comes as police specialists determine if there is sufficient evidence to launch a criminal inquiry. The BBC's director general, Tim Davie, confirmed the suspension and the pause in the corporation's investigation, emphasizing the need for thoroughness and due process.
4. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/09/20/met-police-prime-suspect-misconduct-scotland-yard/> - The Daily Telegraph reports that former Scotland Yard detective Jackie Malton has highlighted a 'culture of fear' within the Metropolitan Police. Officers are reportedly hesitant to instruct junior recruits due to fears of misconduct allegations. Malton, who inspired the character DCI Jane Tennison in 'Prime Suspect,' noted that even minor complaints are leading to misconduct proceedings, creating a 'cannibalistic' environment within the force.
5. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-63278266> - BBC News details a case where a Metropolitan Police officer faced 11 separate allegations of misconduct, including harassment, assault, and fraud. Despite these allegations, the officer continued to serve on the force after being arrested over a 'sexual offence.' The report highlights systemic issues within the force, including a high number of officers facing multiple allegations and a low rate of dismissal for gross misconduct.
6. <https://news.sky.com/story/metropolitan-police-assessing-information-after-bbc-meeting-over-presenter-claims-12918621> - Sky News reports that the Metropolitan Police are 'assessing information' provided by the BBC regarding claims that one of its male presenters paid a teenager for explicit images. The police are conducting further inquiries to determine if any criminal activity occurred, following a meeting with BBC representatives. The presenter has been suspended from on-air duties pending the outcome of these investigations.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1789480/BBC-presenter-scandal-Met-Police-investigation> - The Daily Express covers allegations that a BBC presenter paid a teenager £35,000 over three years for explicit images. The teenager's mother reportedly saw a picture of the presenter on her child's phone, leading to a complaint to the BBC. The family expressed frustration over the presenter's continued on-air presence despite the allegations, prompting further investigation by the Metropolitan Police.