# Co Tyrone man admits public sexual acts in multiple high street shops amid rising indecency concerns



A man from Co Tyrone has recently admitted to performing sexual acts in public, notably in several well-known high street shops, including Dunnes, Sports Direct, and TK Maxx. His actions were part of a series of troubling incidents that have raised significant concern regarding public decency in retail environments across Northern Ireland.

The accused, whose activities came to light during court proceedings, was captured on CCTV while exposing himself in various locations. Notably, he was charged with indecent exposure at the Rushmere Shopping Centre prior to his admission in court. This particular shopping centre incident occurred on 2 May, followed by further allegations just two days later in stores in Belfast. His case is pending further legal proceedings at Craigavon Crown Court, where he is expected to be arraigned.

This case isn't isolated; it reflects a worrying trend in public spaces where similar incidents have been reported elsewhere. For instance, another individual, David Douglas, was jailed for a year after subjecting young girls to lewd behaviour at Dundrum Town Centre in Dublin. He had a longstanding history of such actions, having targeted women before shifting his focus to minors. Reports indicate that Douglas would engage in an "eye-contact game," attempting to provoke a response from his victims while behaving inappropriately.

Across the UK and Ireland, several other alarming incidents have occurred in retail outlets. A 27-year-old man in Bolton was arrested for masturbating in a TK Maxx store, causing damage to merchandise in the process. Police described the incident as one of public indecency, highlighting the severe ramifications such behaviour can have on shoppers, especially families and children. Similarly, in Limerick, another man was apprehended after performing similar acts in Dunnes Stores, where shoppers, including minors, witnessed his indecent exposure.

The growing frequency of such incidents necessitates a dialogue around public safety and the protection of communities, particularly children, in public spaces. These cases have not only legal ramifications but also implications for community standards and expectations. The psychological underpinning of such behaviour is concerning, prompting courts to order psychological evaluations for offenders, aiming to address the underlying issues that drive such public misconduct.

As the legal process unfolds for the man from Co Tyrone, it sheds light on the critical need for robust measures to deter public indecency, foster a safe shopping environment, and protect vulnerable individuals in our communities.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/sunday-life/news/shopping-centre-pervert-admits-performing-sex-acts-in-public/a149993506.html), [[2]](https://www.northernirelandworld.com/news/courts/co-tyrone-man-accused-of-indecent-exposure-at-rushmere-shopping-centre-and-three-belfast-stores-is-sent-for-trial-to-craigavon-crown-court-5066673)
* Paragraph 2 – [[3]](https://www.carlow-nationalist.ie/news/national-news/man-travelled-to-dublin-shopping-centre-to-masturbate-in-front-of-children_arid-11198.html), [[5]](https://www.limerickleader.ie/news/home/289409/man-accused-of-engaging-in-masturbation-at-limerick-supermarket.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.irishmirror.ie/news/weird-news/tk-maxx-shopper-damages-10-5870265), [[6]](https://www.thejournal.ie/man-charged-masterbate-ms-toilet-5489614-Jul2021/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[7]](https://www.irishmirror.ie/news/irish-news/man-caught-masturbating-dublin-marks-28620787)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/sunday-life/news/shopping-centre-pervert-admits-performing-sex-acts-in-public/a149993506.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.northernirelandworld.com/news/courts/co-tyrone-man-accused-of-indecent-exposure-at-rushmere-shopping-centre-and-three-belfast-stores-is-sent-for-trial-to-craigavon-crown-court-5066673> - A 34-year-old man from Coalisland, Co Tyrone, has been accused of indecent exposure at various shopping centres and stores across Northern Ireland. The charges include exposing himself at Dunnes Stores in Rushmere Shopping Centre, Craigavon, on May 2, and at Sports Direct, Matalan, and TK Maxx on the Boucher Road in Belfast on May 4. The case involves significant footage and multiple complainants. The defendant has been released on continuing bail and is expected to appear before Craigavon Crown Court for arraignment on May 22.
3. <https://www.carlow-nationalist.ie/news/national-news/man-travelled-to-dublin-shopping-centre-to-masturbate-in-front-of-children_arid-11198.html> - David Douglas, a 65-year-old man formerly of Bangor, Co Down, was jailed for a year after admitting to masturbating in front of young girls at Dundrum Town Centre in Dublin. The incidents occurred on March 24 and 27, 2022. Douglas admitted to playing an 'eye-contact game' during which he would attempt to make eye contact with young girls while masturbating outside his clothing. He stated that he had been engaging in this behaviour for about 20 years, initially focusing on women before targeting young girls.
4. <https://www.irishmirror.ie/news/weird-news/tk-maxx-shopper-damages-10-5870265> - A 27-year-old man was arrested at a TK Maxx store in Bolton town centre after allegedly masturbating on the shop floor, damaging 10 T-shirts in the process. Officers were called to the store after staff noticed the man 'gratifying himself' in the middle of the store at 11:40 am. The man was arrested on suspicion of outraging public decency and criminal damage and taken into custody. The incident highlights concerns about public indecency in retail environments.
5. <https://www.limerickleader.ie/news/home/289409/man-accused-of-engaging-in-masturbation-at-limerick-supermarket.html> - A 47-year-old man, residing at Mount Trenchard Direct Provision Centre in Foynes, was charged with masturbating at Dunnes Stores on Harvey’s Quay in Limerick. The incident occurred on a Friday morning when the accused was observed pulling down his pants to engage in masturbation in front of shoppers, including minors. The store manager witnessed the act, leading to the man's arrest. The case was heard at a vacation sitting of Limerick District Court, where the accused was charged under Section 45 2(c) of the Criminal Law Sexual Offences Act.
6. <https://www.thejournal.ie/man-charged-masterbate-ms-toilet-5489614-Jul2021/> - Jonathon dos Santos, 36, was charged with performing a sex act in the public men's room of a Marks & Spencer department store in Dublin. The incident occurred on June 6, 2021, when dos Santos was observed masturbating in the men's toilets at the Mary Street store. Gardaí had set up a surveillance operation following reports of similar incidents in the same location. Dos Santos made no reply when charged under the Sexual Offences Act. The case was adjourned until September for a probation report.
7. <https://www.irishmirror.ie/news/irish-news/man-caught-masturbating-dublin-marks-28620787> - Gerard McVeigh, 43, from Clondalkin, was found guilty of exposing himself and masturbating in front of an undercover garda in a Marks & Spencer public toilet in Dublin. The incident occurred on June 16, 2021, when McVeigh was observed engaging in the act by plainclothes officers. He was arrested and claimed to be urinating at the time. The case followed a Garda operation set up after reports of men using the toilets for public masturbation and offensive conduct. McVeigh's sentencing was adjourned pending a probation report.