

Sadiq Khan  
Mayor of London  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE1 2AA

10th July 2023

Dear Mr Khan,

On Saturday, at Trans Pride in London, in a speech at Trafalgar square, a speaker incited a cheering crowd to violence against women and girls, shouting: "If you see a TERF, punch them in the fucking face."

Attached are a briefing on the facts of the case, a background note on the speaker, Sarah-Jane Baker, and a response from an acting sergeant of the Metropolitan Police to a complaint by a member of the public.

We wish to raise serious concerns. Baker is a violent convicted male criminal who is subject to licence conditions from his most recent custodial sentence. The evidence suggests that his public advocacy for violence presents a clear risk to women and girls. We are deeply concerned that his offending is escalating, and we have written to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis. As London Mayor, you occupy the role of Police and Crime Commissioner. We wish to raise serious concerns with you regarding this matter in that capacity and in your wider capacity as Mayor.

As Mayor of London, you gave the Trans Pride event your unstinting endorsement, tweeting that "as your Mayor, I will always be on your side."

In your Violence Against Women Strategy, you rightly say: "Far too many women and girls now feel unsafe going about their daily lives in London and across our country." We urge you to give those words practical meaning by clearly and unequivocally condemning Baker's open call to violence against women and girls.

In response to what happened on Saturday, a spokesman for you made a general statement against violence, while emphasising that you are a "a proud LGBTQI+ ally" and

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Directors: Michael Biggs, Rebecca Bull, Julia Casimo, Naomi Cunningham, Maya Forstater, Emma Hilton

clear in your “support for the trans community”.

This is inadequate, as it does not recognise the specific threats and intimidation faced by gender-critical women meeting in London. We call upon you to make an unequivocal statement about the incident at Trans Pride and about the violence and threats against gender-critical women, and to do everything in your power to ensure that the police urgently investigate this matter.

Given your support for this event, we, together with other gender-critical women, request a meeting with you so you can better develop an understanding of the hostility and threats of violence that women and girls in your city face.



Maya Forstater  
Executive Director



Helen Joyce  
Director of Advocacy

# Incident of incitement to violence at Trans Pride

At Trans Pride in London on July 8th 2023, a speaker was seen addressing the crowd using a PA system. He said: "If you see a TERF, punch them in the fucking face."

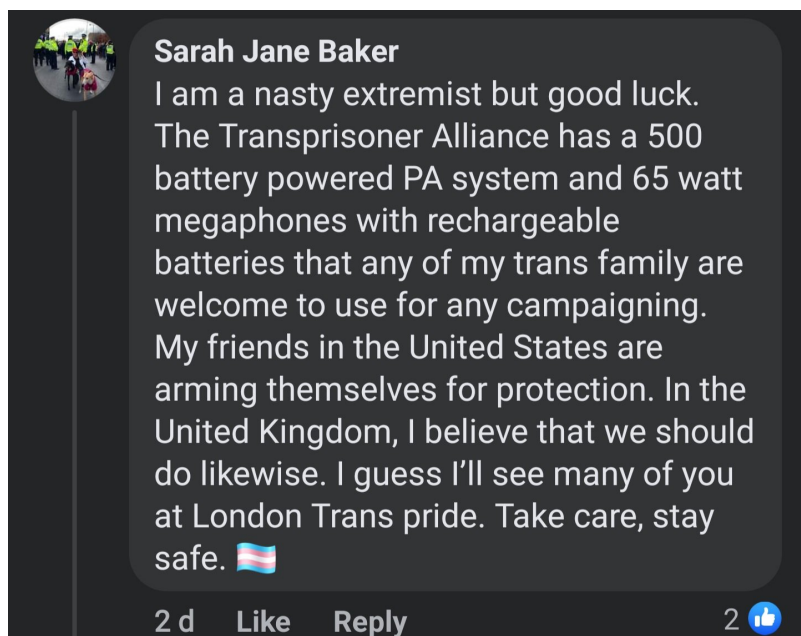
"TERF" stands for "Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist" and is a term of abuse generally directed at women who stand up for women's rights and who do not accept that men can be women. It is often associated with threats of violence.<sup>1</sup>

The speech was captured on video by Dazed, and re-posted on the Pride in London Instagram. It has been widely shared on Twitter.<sup>2</sup>

The speaker was Sarah Jane Baker (formerly Alan Baker), a trans-identified male with convictions for torture, kidnapping and attempted murder who was released on licence in 2019.

## A premeditated threat

Not only did the speech incite violence; it appears to have been premeditated. In a Facebook post before the Trans Pride event, Baker announced a plan to attend and speak, encouraging followers to arm themselves.



In the preamble to the speech at the event, Baker said: "I was going to come here and be really fluffy and be really nice and say yeah, be really lovely and queer and gay... nah. If you see a TERF, punch them in the fucking face."

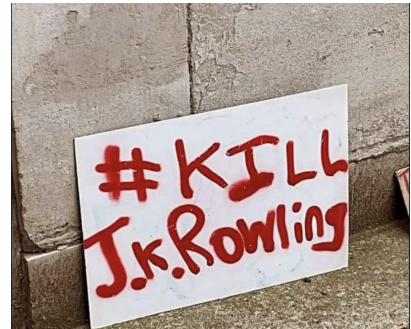
<sup>1</sup> [www.terfisaslur.com](http://www.terfisaslur.com)

<sup>2</sup> <https://twitter.com/JammersMinde/status/1677959763873628161>

## A pattern of escalating behaviour

Barker is a frequent protester against women's-rights events, for example outside the launch of the Lesbian Project on 25th March 2023 in Camden, and outside the Woman's Place UK event at University College London on 4th February 2023.

Barker has previously been associated with signs saying "Be Trans Do Crime" and "Kill JK Rowling" at Pride in 2021.



Barker appears to be able to act with impunity, for example on 24th July 2021 marching topless down Whitehall,<sup>3</sup> and on 26th February 2023 unlawfully using a PA in Hyde Park.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>3</sup>

<https://www.newsflare.com/video/443699/topless-trans-woman-sarah-jane-baker-marches-ahead-of-reclaim-pride-march-in-london>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.mumsnet.com/talk/womens\\_rights/4751462-let-women-speak-sunday-26th-feb-23](https://www.mumsnet.com/talk/womens_rights/4751462-let-women-speak-sunday-26th-feb-23)

## Metropolitan Police response

According to a Mumsnet user who reported the latest incident to the police, she received the following response:<sup>5</sup>

I have reviewed the matter you reported to us which relates to a Sarah Jane BAKER stating if you see a TERF you should punch them in the face.

TERF: trans-exclusionary radical feminism.

This is not a hate crime. A TERF is not a protected characteristic under the legislation. A TERF would be a person's opinion, whether this opinion is viewed as discriminatory in itself or not.

The female is suggesting (inciting) members of the crowd to punch individuals who act on this belief. This is not targeted at an individual, this is in a hypothetical situation. The crowd that were being spoken to were there for PRIDE day in London and were there for the purposes of expressing their support for LGBTQ+ members.

I believe the most appropriate offence may potentially be a PO s5.

I do not believe that this is proportionate to progress any further. We need to take into account article 10 of the ECHR – freedom of expression:

Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Human Rights Act 1998 reproduces article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which provides for the freedom of expression.

10(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers.

I am closing this report without further investigation given the circumstances described above.

If you wish to speak with me further about this please do contact me.

Many thanks,

Daniel Warner  
A/PS 263802  
1141AW  
Metropolitan Police  
Charing Cross Police station  
ERPT-B

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[https://www.mumsnet.com/talk/womens\\_rights/4844898-if-you-see-a-terf-punch-them-in-the-fucking-face-speech-at-trans-pride-london-8-july-2023?](https://www.mumsnet.com/talk/womens_rights/4844898-if-you-see-a-terf-punch-them-in-the-fucking-face-speech-at-trans-pride-london-8-july-2023?)