

Intimidation, threats and violence by trans-rights activists

A chronological list of incidents affecting gender-critical women in the UK



In this timeline, Sex Matters has collated all the incidents we know in which transactivists harassed, attacked or assaulted women who defend sex-based rights. This is *not* a list of all violence and threats against women in general. Between two and three women are murdered in the UK each week, [overwhelmingly by men](#), and approximately [800,000 women are raped or sexually assaulted each year](#) in England and Wales, again overwhelmingly by men. This list concerns **transactivists intimidating, threatening and assaulting women**.

We do not know of any incidents in which gender-critical women intimidated, threatened or assaulted transactivists. We have never heard of women threatening to decapitate transactivists, intimidating venues hosting events for trans people into cancelling bookings or punching trans people who are holding peaceful rallies. We have never heard of a trans rally or event suffering bomb threats, having smoke flares let off outside or having to pause proceedings because the noise made by protestors means speakers cannot be heard. We do not know of a single occasion where transactivists have had to call police to ensure their safety in the face of mobs of women screaming sexualised abuse and death threats.

To the best of our knowledge, this campaign of abuse and violence is all in one direction. This is not a story of “both sides”.

60-year-old woman assaulted

13th September 2017, London

When Venice Allan decided it was time to talk about gender and the UK’s proposed reforms to the Gender Recognition Act, she tried to organise a meeting with views on all sides. She contacted over 20 transactivists, asking them to speak at the event but none accepted. After the first venue pulled out a new one was found, the Women’s Club in Audley Square. In an effort to keep attendees safe and avoid further threats and harassment, the location was kept secret. Attendees met at **Speakers’ Corner** to find out where to go. A small group of transactivists turned up with placards saying “TERFs not welcome” and taunted and chanted at the women. Maria MacLachlan was taking photographs when one of the transactivists grappled with her, snatched her camera and smashed it on the ground. Another joined in and hit her several times. The second assailant, Tara Flik Wood (also known as Tara Wolf), a trans-identifying man, was convicted of assault by battery.

[Report in Feminist Current](#)

[Maria MacLachlan’s account](#)

Woman mobbed and intimidated at book fair

26th October 2017, London

Helen Steel visited the London Anarchist Bookfair and expressed support for two women who had been distributing gender-critical leaflets. She was surrounded and intimidated by a group who verbally abused her calling her “ugly TERF, fucking TERF scum, bitch, fascist”. She said: “I saw a man’s hand moving towards my face and when it was within inches of my face I blocked it and pushed his arm away. He then started shouting that I had assaulted him and I should be thrown out.”

[Helen Steel’s statement](#)

Meeting disrupted by aggressive activists

2nd February 2018, Glasgow

When Venice Allan organised an event to discuss the Gender Recognition Act in Glasgow, trans-rights activists pressured the Mercure Glasgow City Hotel to cancel the booking at the last minute. A protest to intimidate attendees was organised outside the substitute venue, the Grand Hotel, and two male activists, including one trans-identified man, infiltrated the meeting and tried to disrupt it by screaming about “transphobic TERFs” as soon as the first speaker, **Kate Graham**, began her talk. They were removed by hotel security and police, and the meeting continued.

[Live feed video](#)

Women intimidated outside feminist meeting

14th February 2018, Edinburgh

Woman’s Place UK held a meeting in Edinburgh. There was an intimidating protest outside with protestors banging pots and pans throughout. Women entering the meeting were called “fascists”. After the meeting, the venue was targeted on social media with negative reviews and accusations of transphobia. The protest was intimidating and women were escorted out by the police.

[Article in the *The National*](#)

[Report by Edinburgh Sisters Uncut](#)

Siege at a public event

19th April 2018, Bristol

Venice Allan organised a We Need to Talk event at the **Jam Jar** community arts centre in Bristol to talk about the Gender Recognition Act. Black-clad activists in balaclavas forced their way into the building and blocked the stairs so that women could not get in or out. The meeting required a heavy police presence to go ahead.

[Report in the *Bristol Post*](#)

[YouTube video](#)

Woman hounded off picket line

8th March 2018, London

Trades-union official **Paula Lamont** was hounded off a picket line on International Women’s Day. She said the incident was “completely one-sided and unprovoked” and left her “really shaken”. Footage shows her surrounded by protesters, shouting: “Terf! Terf! Terf! Get her out of here, she’s a Terf!” Lamont says she felt so intimidated she had to leave the picket for her own safety. She believes that the attack was connected with her being recognised as having attended a meeting held by Woman’s Place UK.

[Report in the *Morning Star*](#)

Woman abused for holding a banner

1st May 2019, London

At the **May Day March**, feminist **Lesley Woodburn** was attacked and racially abused for holding a banner displaying the definition “Woman: Adult human female”. She said that while she was walking on the march the group shouted “Black scum,” “Transphobe” and “Terf”. She alleges that a man tried to grab her banner from her, saying it was “transphobic”. She says he pulled on the banner and deliberately let go. She fell to the ground and injured her back.

[Report in the *Morning Star*](#)

Lesbians intimidated at Pride

22nd June 2019, Edinburgh

A small group of lesbians attended **Edinburgh Pride** with banners proclaiming “Lesbian Visibility”, “Lesbian, Not Queer” and “Transactivism Erases Lesbians”. They were blocked in by some very tall people wearing trans and non-binary flags draped over their shoulders – “quite literally and intentionally making us and our ‘Lesbian Visibility’ banners invisible”. Others on the march had bells rung and whistles painfully blown in their ears and had juice bottles thrown at them. An angry young person grabbed a placard from one of the lesbians and tried to rip it up, shouting “TERF!” in her face. MSPs gave speeches calling gender-critical voices “transphobic hatred and bigotry”. Encouraged by this, people started shouting about “Getting the TERFs out”. The lesbians left the march feeling unsafe. As one said: “It was obvious this would happen. The marchers had been well and truly whipped up into a ‘righteous’ anger by our MSPs and others who spoke from that open-top bus at the pre march rally.”

[Jackie Mearns’s account for WPUK](#)

Security guards restrain man to prevent assault

5th June 2019, Edinburgh

Joseph “Cathy” Brennan, an American trans-identifying man who had tweeted “I think there should be more Speaker’s Corner type incidents” and “British TERFs need to be made afraid”, attempted to assault journalist **Julie Bindel** after she took part in a panel event at Edinburgh on women’s rights. Bindel recounts that on leaving she saw a man wearing a long skirt waiting for her. “He screamed I was scum, I was a c***, I was filth... He was shouting and ranting and raving, ‘You’re a f***** c***, you’re a f***** b****, a f***** TERF’.” Bindel said that Brennan lunged at her with raised fists and a security guard restrained him. Brennan was investigated by the police and accepted a fiscal fine (a form of deferred prosecution agreement in Scotland issued as an alternative to prosecution).

[Report by Women are Human](#)

Bomb threat at women’s meeting

19th June 2019, Hastings

Two local women decided to host a **Woman’s Place UK** meeting in Hastings. As soon as they started asking around for venues they faced resistance, with an email sent to their local council urging it not to host the event. On the day of the meeting, a bomb threat was made on Twitter. Sussex Police confirmed that the threat was being taken seriously and officers were investigating.

[Report in the *Sussex Express*](#)

[Woman’s Place UK report](#)

Lesbians intimidated by mob

1st June 2019, Bradford

A group of lesbians attended **Bradford Pride**. While they were waiting for the start of the event they were approached by two police officers responding to a complaint that had been made about one of their placards, which read "Lesbian = female homosexual". The officers said it had been alleged that the placard was transphobic. Later, when they were standing with their banners, a trans-identified man came to shout at them and call them "transphobic" and "TERFs". The same person spoke from the stage, calling them "bigoted" and saying that they had no place at Pride. A group of males then joined in to physically intimidate them and cover their banners with flags. There was a police officer within 100 metres throughout who did nothing to intervene.

[Written evidence given to Parliament by Lesbian Strength](#)
[Report in the *Telegraph & Argus*](#)

Lesbians spat at during Pride event

22nd June 2019, Lancaster

A group of lesbians attended **Lancaster Pride** with banners bearing messages including "Lesbians are female homosexuals" and "Lesbians don't have penises" and stood on the steps of the town hall. A crowd surrounded them, chanted over them and held up flags to block their signs from public view. Some protesters grabbed at their banners. They were spat at and some protestors screamed in their faces. One man attempted to wrestle their megaphone away. The police did not control the situation and did not keep a buffer zone between the two groups. Robert Mee, CEO of Lancaster Pride, shouted at them: "Fuck off you fucking dogs."

[Report by Fair Play For Women](#)

Mob kick at windows of feminist meeting

23rd September 2019, Brighton

When **Woman's Place UK** organised an event in Brighton to coincide with the Labour party conference, the first venue cancelled the booking a few hours before the meeting, saying it could not guarantee the security of the meeting. WPUK moved to an alternative venue. Around **100 trans activists**, many masked, blocked both entrances and tried to intimidate attendees. Despite a police presence, the protestors were allowed to stand close to the entrance, blocking it and the pavement. A splinter group of protestors went to the back of the building where they were permitted by the police to kick and bang on the windows of the meeting room for two hours. As one attendee describes it: "The noise was deafening and I feared the windows would shatter and we would be sprayed with glass. Why the police allowed this level of harassment to go on and on is a subject for citizens of the UK to take up with their government. But I will say I felt afraid for the safety of everyone in that room."

[Report in the *Daily Mail*](#)
[Report by WPUK](#)

Professor needs a security guard at work

January 2020, Oxford

In January 2020, death threats were made against academic **Selina Todd** by trans activists on an online student network. The university investigated these threats and found them credible enough to arrange security for Professor Todd for the remainder of the year.

[Report by BBC News](#)

Smoke bombs set off at foot of Grenfell Tower while women meet

10th March 2020, London

Women arriving for a meeting held by Labour Women's Declaration near the foot of [Grenfell Tower](#) were greeted by masked protesters shouting abuse and letting off smoke flares. Police were called to escort attendees safely from the event.

[Report in the Morning Star](#)

[Report by Women Are Human](#)

Women taunted, threatened and attacked at Reclaim These Streets event

27th March 2021, Portsmouth

At a Reclaim These Streets event in Portsmouth to protest against male violence against women and to campaign for female safety, two young feminists were threatened, taunted and physically attacked. The two women stood on the Guildhall steps, holding a flag with the dictionary definition of the word "woman". "They charged towards us on the guildhall steps," one said. "We were pushed, shoved, while we clung for dear life to the meaning of what we are. I shouted 'The definition of what a woman is is in our curriculum'. They shouted back, 'White supremacy is in our schools'. Councillor Claire Udy encouraged the crowd to shout 'Terf scum out!'. The crowd did not find it chilling to see men aggressive towards women at a protest against male violence. Young feminists applauded this moment." When the women were eventually forced from the steps, [the crowd taunted them](#), made threatening gestures and shouted "Fuck off, c*nt!" as they walked away. [Feminist, lesbian and survivor Sally Jackson](#) was also harassed and bullied at the Portsmouth event.

[Graham Linehan report \(by JL\)](#)

Porn tweeted into timeline of children's author

May 2020

JK Rowling launched Ickabog, a book for children, by inviting children and their parents to send her drawings of the characters, with the best ones to be included in the finished books. Transactivists tweeted porn into her timeline in reply to posts where she had tagged in teenagers and parents of young children. A Twitter user later accused her of ignoring "porn tweeted at children" in her posts. Rowling replied: "I reported every bit of porn so-called trans allies tweeted into Twitter threads where children were sending me artwork for the Ickabog. I didn't respond or retweet it because I didn't want more kids to see it."

[Report by Newsweek](#)

Author receives hundreds of death threats

2020 to 2023

Since JK Rowling began tweeting about sex and gender, she has been subjected to [hundreds of rape and death threats](#) online. She says she has received enough death threats to paper her home. Signs saying "Kill JK Rowling" and "Rot in Hell JK Rowling" were displayed at Pride in London in June 2021. In June 2023 [Police Scotland](#) launched an investigation after Rowling was threatened online by a man who said he wanted to kill her with a hammer due to her opinion on gender self-ID. He had published a voice note where he threatened her life. Rowling reported that the same man had publicly advocated for a car to be driven into a rally organised by women's rights campaigner Posie Parker, and had posted recordings saying he wanted to kill Rosie Duffield MP with a gun.

[Report in The Telegraph](#)

[Report in the Scottish Daily Express](#)

Man screams “Witch” in woman’s face

2nd September 2021

At a rally outside the Scottish Parliament organised by For Women Scotland to protest against the Gender Recognition Reform Bill, counter-protesters confronted women. Footage of the event shows a trans-identified man chanting “witch” at the protesters. At one point, the man approaches a woman and screams “Witch! Witch! Witch!” directly into her face. Police can be seen standing between the protest and the counter-demonstration.

[Report by EdinburghLive](#)

[Videos on Twitter](#)

Obscene signs and threats outside feminist conference

16th–17th October 2021, Portsmouth

Trans activists protested against FiLiA, Europe’s largest feminist conference, which covers topics including rape and domestic abuse and involves women from around the world. They held up signs threatening sexual violence and featuring misogynistic slurs such as “Suck my dick you transphobic cunts”. Protesters also chalked obscene pictures and messages, such as “Transphobes can suck on my pink strap” around the front of the building and on the pavement where a femicide vigil was due to be held to commemorate women and girls killed by men.

[Statement by FiLiA](#)

Trans-identified men shout racist, misogynist abuse at women

21st October 2021, London

When Woman’s Place UK held an event at the QEII conference centre, a small but extremely aggressive group protested outside. It included several men dressed as women, who shouted abuse indiscriminately at women attending the WPUK event, attendees at an unrelated black business event, and at venue staff and WPUK volunteers. Taunts included “[Shut the f*ck up, you c*nt](#)” shouted into the face of a steward; “[Call Weightwatchers](#), your body’s not doing it”; “[Your hair is minging, buy a weave](#)”; “Your breath smells like you’ve been eating ar*e, have you been eating her a*se?”; “Are you a lesbian? No man would want that”; “Your breasts are on the floor, buy a bra and some hair dye too”; “You fucking bald b*tch”; “You’re a stuck-up b*tch”; “I have a better body than you. Like, you have no bum. How do you sit down? What kind of man would want you? A blind man?”; “We don’t want pensioners. We don’t want dinosaurs like all you lot. You are not going to be around in 40 years. Well, 40’s a push”; “You call yourself a woman? DIE! DIE! DIE!”; “You call yourself black people?”; and “Why are you here? Are you supporting these Nazis? Are you supporting neo-Nazis?”

[WPUK open letter to the SWP](#)

[Videos on Twitter](#)

Academics threatened with violence

June to November 2021, Cardiff

After a group of Cardiff University academics [signed an open letter](#) calling on the university to review its participation in a Stonewall Diversity Champions scheme, activists began to distribute leaflets featuring an image of a woman aiming a gun alongside a list of their names and photos with the text “ACT NOW” and “Destroy the TERF menace”. The document warned signatories of “repercussions”. Violent rhetoric was posted to the Cardiff University LGBT+ Society’s official Facebook group. One member threatened to kneecap a signatory “manually with a 2x4”; another detailed the “urge to throat punch people when they’re being racist / transphobic / homophobic”. Other comments included suggesting a “petition to make punching transphobes not only legal but rewarded”. The window of a car belonging to one of the signatories was smashed. Threats

against the academics continued throughout November, as stickers with a woman holding a gun and reading “Not gay as in happy, but queer as in f*ck you” were posted around campus. Police declined to investigate.

[Report in Reduxx](#)

Female academic told to stay away from campus for own safety

October 2021, Sussex

University professor Kathleen Stock was warned by police to stay away from campus and teach classes online when students protested against her because she went public, both online and in her academic work, about her belief that people cannot change biological sex. She was advised to install CCTV at her home. Masked protesters put up posters around campus calling for her to be sacked. She eventually resigned from her university post.

[Report in the Daily Mail](#)

Girl shouted, screamed and spat at in school

A sixth-former at a girls' school respectfully disagreed with a visiting speaker who made assertions promoting gender ideology. Later she was surrounded by more than 50 pupils who shouted, screamed and spat at her. She escaped and then collapsed, unable to breathe properly. The following day she found her desk covered in printouts of trans flags and signs saying “Trans rights are human rights”. The day after, other sixth-formers staged a scheduled “Trans Day of Visibility”, with some coming to school dressed in pink, white and blue, the colours of the trans flag. Teachers were initially supportive of her, but withdrew their backing after the other girls accused her of transphobia. The school ended up apologising for not maintaining a “safe space” in the sixth form. The teenager returned to school a few times but was told she would have to work in the library if she said anything provocative in lessons. She experienced further bullying and accusations of transphobia.

[Report in The Times](#)

[Report in UnHerd](#)

Woman assaulted by masked men occupying Suffragette statue

16th May 2022, Manchester

At a [Standing For Women event](#) organised by Kellie-Jay Keen at St Peter's Square in Manchester, men in masks and hoods tried to intimidate attendees and to [disrupt the meeting](#) with loud music. Determined not to allow the women to get close to the statue of Suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst, the men occupied it and physically assaulted one woman, grabbing and pushing her. The *Mail* reported that “one woman with a suffragette flag was attacked by the masked mob, described online as men and trans men, who tried to pull her down off a wall and grabbed her by the arms – but she clung on to her flag throughout.”

[Report in the Daily Mail](#)

Women intimidated at rally and blockaded in pub

19th June 2022, Bristol

A [Standing For Women event](#) in Bristol was protested against by aggressive activists, primarily males associated with the Bristol Anarchist Federation, who were dressed in black and had face coverings to obscure their identities. In one video, two black-clad males can be heard screaming at the women: “Go home, get in the sea, die out! You're dinosaurs! You're going to die out! You are fossils!” and “You're all abusive f*cking scumbags!” Other videos show the activists having to be physically restrained by police officers to stop them advancing on the women. After the event, the protestors followed the attendees to a pub and blockaded the premises. The pub was forced to close and the women needed a police escort in order to leave.

[Report in *The Telegraph*](#)

[Report in *Reduxx*](#)

Trans activists stage dirty protest outside EHRC

2nd September 2022, London

Trans activists left more than 60 bottles of urine outside the offices of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) to protest against the government watchdog's [policy on trans access to public facilities](#). Masked representatives of the anonymous group Pissed Off Trannies (POT) delivered the urine to the EHRC offices in Westminster, London by pouring it into the revolving doorway and leaving it in bottles around the perimeter, and then staged what they described as a "piss-in". One member, wearing a rubber mask and a translucent dress through which his genitals were clearly outlined, urinated on himself and poured bottles of urine over himself and onto the pavement outside the building, all the while shouting: "The EHRC has blood on its hands and piss on its streets."

[Report in *Vice*](#)

Lesbians harassed at event

17th September 2022, Leeds

The Lesbian Strength march in Leeds was disrupted by transactivists, most of whom were male and many of whom were masked. The organisers of the event said: "This is harassment of lesbians on the basis of sexuality... We are being targeted because we are women and because we are exclusively same-sex attracted." Security concerns meant the organisers had to hold a rally instead of a march.

[Video on YouTube](#)

Trans activist brings a knife to protest against women's rally

18th September 2022, Brighton

A Standing For Women meeting in Brighton was protested against by activists who threw smoke bombs into the crowd. Three trans-rights activists were arrested. [Police told *The Brighton Argus*](#): "A woman and two men were arrested: one on suspicion of assault, one on suspicion of obstructing a police officer and one on suspicion of sexual assault by touching." One of the male activists arrested was found to be carrying a knife.

[Report in *Brighton and Hove News*](#)

[Report in the *Daily Mail*](#)

Two women harassed by mob while drinking in a pub

22nd October 2022, London

Following the LGB Alliance Conference at the QEII Centre, Maya Forstater and Helen Joyce went to the nearby Westminster Arms pub. Before long around 20 protesters turned up outside, having broken away from the main group outside the conference centre. Several wore masks or balaclavas. They stood outside the entrance to the pub chanting slogans for around 40 minutes until the women were able to get a police escort to leave.

Attendees at a university talk intimidated

25th October 2022, Cambridge

When **Helen Joyce** was invited to speak at **Gonville and Caius College** (part of Cambridge University), the Student Union LGBT+ Campaign responded with public statements of outrage and calls for the college to reconsider its decision to permit the talk to go ahead. Professor Arif Ahmed, who hosted the event, reported that several students told him they felt afraid to attend: "This was not necessarily because they were frightened of violent protests. In a way it was worse than that. They were afraid of ostracism by their student peers, and even by academic staff." On the night of the talk around 150 protesters gathered outside chanting and banging pots and pans. A breakaway group found its way inside and disrupted the event by seeking to drown it out with noise. Professor Ahmed reported: "There was chanting, screaming and banging outside the hall. Some people were banging on the door."

[Report by Sex Matters](#)

Man assaults woman to stop film screening

14th December 2022, Edinburgh

Students attempted to stop a screening by Edinburgh Academics for Academic Freedom of a film about gender politics. Students occupied a lecture theatre that was due to show the *Adult Human Female* documentary. **Susan Dalgety**, a journalist who attended, told the *Scottish Daily Express* that attendees were met by "a group of aggressive young men who stopped us from going to the event. They intimidated women old enough to be their grandmothers, jostling and shouting at them in a very aggressive way". The protestors succeeded in stopping the screening. **Robyn Woof**, a trans-identifying man, was later charged with assault.

[Report of event in the Scottish Daily Express](#)

[Report of criminal charge in the Scottish Daily Express](#)

Online threat to women protesters

9th January 2023, Glasgow

In advance of a Let Women Speak rally in Glasgow, a man tweeted a threat directed at the organiser **Kellie-Jay Keen** (aka **Posie Parker**): "I would sure HATE it if someone took their car to glasgow green on the 5th of february and hit p*sie p*arker and friends with their car! what an awful thing that would be! that I would hate! ... me watching the country's leading defenders of women and girls exploding like bin bags full of baked beans on your windshield: oh no!" **Kellie-Jay Keen** tweeted that she had been advised that she needed personal security.

[Tweets](#)

Protesters hold up a sign "Decapitate TERFS"

21st January 2023, Glasgow

At a transactivist rally in Glasgow to protest against the UK government's decision to [block Holyrood's Gender Recognition Reform \(GRR\) Bill](#) from being signed into law, a protester held up a placard which said "Decapitate TERFs" and showed a picture of a guillotine. Scottish National Party members **Kaukab Stewart MSP**, **Kirsten Oswald MP**, **Stewart McDonald MP** and **Alison Thewliss MP** were photographed and videoed in front of the sign. A party spokesperson said the politicians were unaware of the placard at the time.

[Report on Sky News](#)

Convicted kidnapper yells abuse outside feminist conference

3rd February 2023, London

Woman's Place UK hosted a feminist conference at University College London. About two dozen protesters gathered outside including convicted torturer and attempted murderer [Sarah Jane Baker](#), a trans-identifying man, who yelled abuse at the women, calling them "c*nts". The activists circled the building banging on the windows. One of the women attending the conference was assaulted. Kate Worley, aka DJ Lippy, told *The Telegraph* that she was filming the trans activist protesters chanting outside the conference venue. "A hooded gentleman came up to me, said 'Stop filming me!' and then grabbed my phone, wrestled it out of my hand and threw it over a wall. He pulled both of my thumbs back, which are now bruised and hurt... He tussled with me and ran down the street and disappeared."

[Report in Reduux](#)

Women assaulted at feminist vigil

12th March 2022, Manchester

Manchester Feminist Network held a male violence against women vigil. It was interrupted by a man shouting "Transwomen are women". When the vigil resumed a glass bottle was thrown at the women. Some left immediately, fearing for their safety and that of their children. [Belstaffie](#), a prominent local radical feminist and lesbian, was hit on the back of the head by a milkshake. Witnesses described "a man with pink hair wearing a dress" fleeing the scene. He later returned to grab and destroy a sign carried by two women who were accompanied by children, to throw liquid at two other women and to attack [Belstaffie](#) a second time. Another of the women attacked was [Gemma Aitchison](#). She said that the man threw a milkshake in her face and then started a violent scuffle with another woman. She tried to get between them, was punched and fell to the ground. Transactivists on Twitter responded to the incident with messages such as "TERFs are scum, Throwing milkshakes at them is a moral necessity". On 4th July 2023 Erin Phoebe Dawson pleaded guilty to a Section 39 assault against a woman at vigil. He was sentenced to an 18-month conditional discharge, £100 compensation to the woman and £85 court costs.

[Graham Linehan report \(by JL\)](#)

[Manchester RadFem Network report](#)

Violent criminal sends explicit violent threat to female writer

20th March 2023, online

A trans-identified man with a conviction for violence tweeted at [Helen Joyce](#) that he wanted to rip her eyes out, cut her hands off and carve up her face. He is being investigated by the police.

[Report in The Telegraph](#)

Film screening stopped by aggressive protesters

26th April, 2023, Edinburgh

The second attempt at screening the *Adult Human Female* documentary at the university was called off after doorways were blocked by masked protesters. Although barriers were put up to provide a space for protestors, they were allowed to move around freely and were not kept away from attendees. Attendees were subject to degrading and dehumanising treatment from protesters. One individual who performs as Cabaret Against The Hate used amplification to make various derogatory comments about the women over the course of around an hour, based on their sex, age and beliefs. He referred to them as "terfs", including saying "Stay away from the terf, she smells bad". University security staff refused to intervene to keep the protesters away from the attendees because of the risk of physical confrontations and opted instead to cancel the screening. There was one minor scuffle outside the theatre after two audience members tried to push through to the entrance, but were held back by security staff.

[Report in The Guardian](#)

Trans activists return to EHRC with suspicious bottles

23rd May 2023, London

It was reported that the “Pissed off Tranny” protest group that had staged a dirty protest at the EHRC’s offices in September 2022 came back. Videos show masked men again leaving bottles of yellow liquid around the building. Police had to cordon off the area and do a controlled explosion on a suspicious bottle with a device inside.

[Twitter report](#)

Protestors disrupt debate

30th May 2023, Oxford

Professor Kathleen Stock was invited to debate at the Oxford Union. Trans-rights protesters gathered outside. They distributed leaflets saying “Kathleen Stock is not welcome here. Terfs are not welcome here. ” Professor Stock had to be brought into the building by a back route with security guards. The talk was disrupted by a group who unfurled banners and shouted slogans and had to be removed by security staff. The talk went ahead with a police presence. One protester glued herself to the floor next to Stock’s chair. Once she had been removed, Stock spoke over the noise of the mob outside the building.

[Report in *The Guardian*](#)

Man sends female MP death threat

12th June 2023, online

Mx Vivian Wulf tweeted about Joanna Cherry MP “I’d kill her with my bare hands if I ever saw her”. *The National* reported that the Met Police had decided that this did not meet the threshold for a crime.

[Report in *The National*](#)

Violent criminal tells crowd to punch women in the face

8th July 2023, London

Trans-identifying activist Sarah Jane Baker told a crowd at London Trans+ Pride, “I was gonna 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](#)”. He was cheered loudly by the crowd. In a Facebook post before the event, Baker announced a plan to attend and speak, encouraging followers to arm themselves. Police initially told a complainant that it was not in the public interest to pursue the case as the call for violence was “hypothetical” and allowed under free speech laws. Eventually Baker was arrested and charged with intentionally encouraging the commission of the offence of assault by beating. He was acquitted. Baker also protested outside the launch of the Lesbian Project on 25th March 2023 in Camden and the Woman’s Place UK event at [University College London on 4th February 2023](#) and was associated with signs saying “Be Trans Do Crime” and “Kill JK Rowling” at Pride in 2021.

[Report by Sex Matters](#)

[Report by BBC News](#)

Man punches woman

July 2023, Aberdeen

Women's rights group, [Women Won't Wheesht](#), hosted an event at Duthie Park in Aberdeen that attracted transactivist protestors. One of the women attending the event, [Julie Marshall](#), was seriously assaulted by a male activist who tried to steal a sign. When Julie ran after him, he struck her full in the face, still holding the sign, causing her glasses to fly off. He then punched her in the arm. Julie suffered a black eye and severe bruising and was in a great deal of pain. He was let off with a warning.

[Report in UnHerd](#)

Mob follow women down the street shouting abuse

10th September 2023, Manchester

On leaving a Sex Matters event at the People's History Museum on 10th September, [Maya Forstater](#), [Helen Joyce](#) and other participants at the event were surrounded and followed down the street by activists shouting "TERFS off our turf", "Maya is a liar and an enemy to feminism" and "[F**k Helen Joyce](#)". Forstater, Joyce and Emma Hilton needed to be taken away from the scene by a police car to get away from the mob. A crime report has been filed.

[Report by Helen Joyce](#)

Lib dem delegate verbally abused

September 2023, York

Liberal Voice for Women is a group that aims to protect and advance the rights and interests of women and girls from within the Liberal Democrat party. It got a debate scheduled at the Lib Dem Spring Conference, but at the scheduled time the Chair tried to move to next business although there was no more business for the day. Dr Zoe Hollowood was given just two minutes to make the case for the debate going ahead. As she spoke shouts of "Bigot!" were hurled at her from the floor. Later Liberal Democrat councillor Sean MacLeod [tweeted "F**k the terfs"](#).

[Zoe's speech](#)

[Liberal Voice for Women report](#)

Man threatens violence at event

8th October 2023, Liverpool

At the Let Woman Speak event in [Liverpool](#) a trans-rights activist expressed his intention to "batter" the women attending if the police were not there to protect them. The man stood in front of a female steward trying to make her feel intimidated. He was filmed having a confrontation with another female steward asking her why the police were there and saying it was to "prop up the fascist state" and "We'd batter you if they weren't here... Bunch of scum, you're scum".

Men grab women's legs to try to stop them attending a book launch

12th October 2023, Edinburgh

Attendees of a book launch about gender politics at [Edinburgh University](#) described being intimidated and assaulted by trans-rights demonstrators. The activists attempted to block access to the lecture theatre: some sitting on the ground by a security barrier attempted to prevent people entering the building by grabbing their legs.

[Report in The Times](#)

Man intimidates women

25th October 2023, London

Trans-identified man **Freda Wallace** secured an invitation to speak at a debate at the **Institute for Economic Affairs**. He arrived inebriated and continued to drink throughout, so much so that his debate partner tried to stop him. He was dressed in a way that exposed part of his groin to the audience when he was seated. He repeatedly insulted the only female speaker on the panel and responded to questions with outbursts about "f**king men with my female penis at fetish clubs". Later that weekend he visited the Standing For Women event at Hyde Park and encircled the group of women with "Police: caution" tape while playing a recording of Sarah Jane Baker shouting "If you see a TERF, punch them in the fucking face".

[Report by Helen Joyce](#)

This list has been compiled with thanks to everyone who has organised these events, stewarded them, and documented them. If there are any incidents in the UK we have missed please let us know at info@sex-matters.org.