

This essay will investigate the voyeurism act of twenty nineteen and the information into this piece of legislation. It will also look at the way the media has reported the campaign and it will also explain how they have used their personal bias to inform the public. It will include the theory of human motivation and how it has a link to this topic of the voyeurism act. At the end it will include a conclusion to summarise what information has been involved within this essay.

When it comes to the campaign it was done via website, not by a physical copy. This was because social media can reach a larger audience rather than the news or people standing around in the street to get physical signatures (BBC.2019).

The Voyeurism Act or as it's also known as the term upskirting is a very rude and in breach of one's personal space and safety. This act will involve a person more than likely to be a male from the statistics. This act will take place when someone will take a photo of a person's genitalia without their knowledge or consent. It can include a person who is wearing underwear or no underwear (GOV.UK.2019).

Upskirting can happen in any place or time, the local authorities such as the British Transport Police have seen an increase of upskirting on public transport within the United Kingdom (GOV.UK.2019).

This new form of legislation will stop and prosecute an individual where the aim of the negative behaviour trait is to gain sexual gratification, to embarrassment, or distress a person (GOV.UK.2019).

The Voyeurism Act, or also known as the Upskirting act was brought into effect on twenty first of June twenty eighteen, it came into practice on the twelfth of April twenty nineteen and it is still in effect within twenty twenty (GOV.UK.2019).

It is stated that when it comes to upskirting any gender male or female, can become a victim of this crime. The main push for the reform and creation of the legislation that is relating to upskirting, is the story of Ms Martin who is a female, she is twenty-seven years old. She was watching a band perform at the British Summer Time music festival in which is held in London's Hyde Park. within the month of July (2017) a male put his mobile phone between MS Martin's legs and took photographic pictures. Once Ms Martin informed the police, she was then surprised to discover, that upskirting was an offence before 12 April (2019) and her case was then filed away. A couple of days later she then wrote her story and contacted social media platforms and the media. Her social media post went viral within the feminist community, and with women who had similar personal experiences (Independent. 2019) (BBC.2019).

From this there was an online petition, that demanded that the United Kingdom police force to reopen and take a deeper look into the case. The petition had received fifty thousand signatures. The petition did not state how many men and women signed the document. Ms Martin wrote for a popular media company known as the BBC News to tell her story (BBC. 2019).

upskirting is a criminal offence within Wales and England. From this legislation Scotland has already legislation in place for upskirting, Northern Ireland does not have any legislation or policy in place to stop upskirting. If you are caught committing upskirting you will be placed into prison for the duration of two years or less. The new legislation will apply when a person will take pictures beneath someone's clothing to see their genitals and bottom. It does not matter if their genitals are covered or uncovered by underwear the offender has a motive of either gaining sexual gratification or causing humiliation, distress or alarm to the victim (GOV.UK. 2019).

When it comes to the voyeurism act twenty nineteen it will guarantee that that serious offenders, in which it would be for sexual gratification, will be made a

subject to the notification requirements in which is the sex offenders' register (GOV.UK.2019).

The person who gained the new law being created into British legislation is Gina Martin she wanted to make a difference within the law, she believed that it would make more people relaxed and more willing to report crime to police (BBC.UK.2019).

Women have always been victims of sexually crimes you can see this by the entertainment industry an example of this in a modern world would be Harvey Weinstein case. A brief overview of this topic is that Mr Weinstein was sexually exploiting his workers but the women in today's western world are feeling more empowered and able to talk in an open-minded environment and to report sexually crimes. From this Mr. Weinstein was convicted to time in prison for his actions (BBC.2020).

When it comes to the figures of upskirting there is not much information to go on this was not explained by the media or the local authorities. It was stated that ten males have been arrested and charged within the first year of the voyeurism act of twenty nineteen has been implemented. There has also been a one hundred and fifty-three reports have been made, from the information it was mostly women from different age groups, within England and Wales. Nothing was stated from Scotland and Ireland. The independent reported on this topic and it was stated that the police have found two hundred and fifty thousand indecent images have been found by the police of children (BBC.2020).

When looking up this topic from the top three different news sources such as the BBC, the guardian and the sun. They all used different language in their text, but the overall tone was the same. They all agreed that upskirting is a horridness act and they all brought up the fact that it should have been brought into legislation sooner, the guardian went into more depth this could be because the guardian aims at people who lean more to the left in politics and who resign in the middle

class system within British society (BBC,2019)(The Sun.2019). (The Guardian.2019).

When the BBC covered this story, they used the word could to describe a Statistics by using this word 'could' this give the reader a fake view and impression of this topic. If you compare this to the guardian, they used more informal language and text this gave a clear impression on the truth when it came to the statistics and the topic (The Guardian.2019) (BBC.2019).

The reason the media pick what words they use is because each news outlets have different demographic they need to reach out to. They also pick a native they believe that will sell and run with it, if they get the wrong information they are now legally have to admit they are wrong in the next issue, but they can pick when they publish the right response or apology in their next issue, they even chose the font size you can usually find this in the back or on the unpopular pages of a media outlet. This is not the same for electronic media sources such as the vast majority of media outlets now have an electronic version of their news outlets, even twitter and social media is reporting on the news in their own personal bias (Lull.J Hinerman.S 1997) (Pedro-Carañana et al., 2018).

This issue and its link to United Kingdom's legislation will have a direct impact on a person's safety needs level in the theory of human motivation within Maslow's A theory of human motivation. The safety needs level will include security such as police, laws and a government to protect the people's rights, legislation, law and stability. It will also have an impact on the esteem level of his theory, Maslow deemed this particular level to be dived into two different categories in which, esteem could be used for oneself this will include achievement, independence and dignity. The second category is the aim for a better reputation from a meso community. Because of the legislation from upskirting this has tried to give back the safety and esteem levels to the meso and macro of women and men who have been victims of sexual exploitation. By

creating a law to protect any future victims of upskirting (Maslow, Town & Town, Stephen, 2013).

To conclude that the voyeurism act of twenty nineteen has only been introduced for a small period within the United Kingdom. From this legislation to arrive it has had to have a multitude of victims since the camera for a mobile phone has been invented. This legislation should have been implemented much sooner in the United Kingdom. But it is growing in the number of reports since the legislation have been implemented. This could be because women are more willing to speak up in the case of sexually crimes, or women have always been at risk of this type of crime thought time, you can see this in our sexualized culture of today that empowers women but also makes them a novelty item for males to use.

The media have covered this topic such as the bbc, the guardian and the sun. they have reported on this topic much sooner. They could have also used better language this could have given the reader better information on the topic. From the United Kingdom should create legislation to stop the misleading of informational and to make the media accountable for the information the put in their respected outlets.

Women are speaking up more about sexually crime but in today's western world men and women need to work together to create a safer world for the future generations.

Reference list

BBC. 2019. *Upskirting now a crime after women's campaign*. available on: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-51061749> (Accessed on 05/03/2020)

BBC.2020. *Harvey Weinstein timeline: How the scandal unfolded*. available on: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-41594672> (Accessed on 05/03/2020)

BBC.2020. *Upskirting law: children among 150 victims, figures show*. available on: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-51061749> (Accessed on 05/03/2020)

GOV.UK. 2019. *Ministry of justice available on:*
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/790549/circular-voyeurism-offences-act-2019.pdf (Accessed on 05/03/2020)

GOV.UK.2019. Implementation of the voyeurism (offences Act 2019) (Accessed on 05/03/2020)

Independent. 2019. *What is upskirting and when did it become a criminal offence.* available on:
<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/women/upskirting-illegal-definition-crime-uk-sexual-harassment-a8864636.html> (Accessed on 05/03/2020)

Lull.J Hinerman.S 1997. Media Scandals.polity press. Oxford

Maslow, Town & Town, Stephen, 2013. *A theory of human motivation*, Floyd, Va.: Wilder Publications.

Pedro-Carañana et al., 2018. *The Propaganda Model Today: / Filtering Perception and Awareness*, London: University of Westminster Press.

The Guardian.2019. *Upskirting law comes into force in England and Wales cases rise.* available on:
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/12/upskirting-law-comes-into-force-england-and-wales-cases-rise>(Accessed on 05/03/2020)

The Sun. 2019. *NO MORE SKIRTING THE ISSUE What is upskirting and when did it become a criminal offence.* available on: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/5623843/upskirting-meaning-definition-photos-criminal-offence-uk/> (Accessed on 05/03/2020)