

RADiANT Case Presentation

“...poor, infirm, weak and despis’d...
...More sinn’d against than sinning...” ??

Dr Helene Barclay
Speciality Doctor in Psychiatry
Whitlingham Ward
Hellesdon Hospital

helene.barclay@nsft.nhs.uk

30th April 2021

Summary

Female, early 30's

Diagnoses: autism spectrum condition (diagnosed age 28)
EUPD – borderline type

Section: 45A

Date of admission: 14/05/2020 (S38)

Difficulties in attachment

2 relationships > 2 years in length

Registered blind (age 26)

Offence: 17 counts of sexual offences against minors including

- assault by penetration
- inciting child prostitution or pornography

How is she now?

Eating and drinking

Disturbed sleep pattern

Poor self care

Distress demonstrated by facial expression, wailing, crying

Rocking

Hits head on floor, wall, door frame

Hits head with fists

Reporting negative, disparaging voices

Expressing self-loathing: “I’ve broken them...I need to die”

Requesting medication to help

Legal encounters

- 2007 Reported raped – became pregnant
- 2017 Police interview about (2nd) reported rape (by ex-partner A)
- May 2018 Detained by police at railway station – suicidal
Interviewed about multiple offences against children
- 2016 – 2018
Male co-defendants
Bailed
- Sept 2018 Caution for criminal damage and trespass on railway property
- Oct 2018 Charged and remanded into custody

Psychiatric reports

08/01/ 2019	Defence report Dr A: fit to plead, not fit for trial Diagnoses EUPD, ASC
21/01/2019	Defence addendum Dr A: not fit to plead or for trial Diagnoses EUPD, ASC
11/02/2019	Prosecution report Dr B: fit to plead, fit for trial Diagnosis EUPD, no evidence ASC
04/03/2019	Defence report Dr C: not fit to plead or for trial Diagnoses ASC, EUPD, BPAD, anxiety
15/03/2019	Prosecution addendum Dr B: EUPD only

Psychiatric reports

- 10/05/2019 Prosecution addendum Dr B: fit to plead, fit for trial
Diagnosis EUPD only
- 15/05/2019 Defence addendum Dr A: not fit to plead or for trial
- 15/08/2019 Defence report Dr D: fit to plead, not fit for trial
Diagnoses ASC and EUPD
Recommends hospital disposal

Psychiatric reports

Dec 2019 Guilty plea
 Convicted

Jan 2020 Recommendation for S38 (by Dr E)
 Diagnosis EUPD, ASC likely
 Hospital assessment appropriate
 Unsure about hospital order

May 2020 S38 Interim Hospital Order
 Admitted Whitlingham women's blended secure service

Sentence

Jul 2020 Sentence
18 year custodial term, extended licence period 1 year
S45A

Sexual Harm Prevention Order

Life story

Identical twin

Born at 32 weeks gestation

Developmental milestones upper limit of normal

- Walked at 18m
- 2y 7m “...language immature for age...shy...”
- Glue ear > T&As, grommets

Myopia & squint in toddlerhood

Life story

Age 3y 2m “...normal development except limited language...”

Mainstream primary school

Mainstream secondary school – bullied ++
“...boggle...retard...freak...4 eyes...”

College

Life story

- Feb 2008 1st child born
Primary MH Gateway Worker – no input needed
- 2009 Moved into own home with eldest child
- 2010 Pregnant by 1st partner (Mr Y)
- 2011 2nd child born
- 2012 3rd child born
Vision deteriorated

Life story

2012 Late booking in 4th pregnancy
 4th child born

Feb 2013 Low mood, tearful, difficulty coping
 Problems with damp in the house
 Partner reports: "...normally sensible with money, but
 started to spend erratically..."

However...

Relationship said to have become controlling and abusive, verbally
and physically

Life story

- June 2013 “...feeling hopeless...suicidal thoughts...hearing voices telling her to kill herself...”
- Oct 2013 “...bipolar mood...auditory hallucinations...”
- 2014 Children placed on Child Protection Register
Retinitis pigmentosa diagnosed
- 2015 Re-referred to mental health services

Life story

- June 2015 “Emotionally unstable traits...cyclothymia...? Asperger’s”
Prescribed quetiapine
- Jul 2015 PD service referred to autism assessment service
Prescribed sertraline
Report that partner had taken over finances
- May 2016 Seen in autism assessment clinic
Adult Asperger Assessment Score = 15/18
Social Care assessment

Life story

Oct 2016 Child Protection Social Worker involved
Referred to Adults with Autism Team

“...want to stay in bed, start crying a lot, other times I could go on a spending spree...”

“...independent psychologist stated significant learning disability...”

Nov 2016 Registered blind
Support from Rehabilitation Services

Life story

- Jan 2017 Poor mental health, hearing voices, very anxious, low mood, stress
- Mar 2017 Mental health referral closed as no contact
- Nov 2017 Referred to Victim Support
- Dec 2017 Interviewed about historic rape by ex-partner: “...became distressed...tended to withdraw into herself and talk in a childlike manner...”

Life story

Jan 2018 Re-referred to mental health

“...high anxiety triggered by things people say, memories, sounds...”

May 2018 S136 – thoughts of jumping under a train at a station

June 2018 Pulled off level crossing by a member of the public
Stating she wants to die

Threatening to jump out of a window at her home

Attempt to jump off upper storey off car park

Life story

Sept 2018 “...reported being coerced into sexual activity with [child]...

“...thoughts of ending her life...

“...highly naïve and vulnerable to domination and abuse...”

Oct 2018 Remanded into custody, seen by L&D team

“...high pitched childlike voice...simple vocabulary...makes noises at times rather than speaking...”

Life story

Jan 2019 Fluoxetine 40mg OM
Mirtazapine 45mg ON
Quetiapine 300mg BD

Dec 2019 “...mood up and down...trouble sleeping...bad thoughts,
hears voices...wants to die...felt like it most of her
life...”

“...increasingly in touch with intense levels of shame or disgust...”

Life story

- Dec 2019 Ongoing voices, “...negative and disparaging...”
Reports feeling “noodly”
Has sensory items and toys, ear defenders
- May 2020 Transferred to Whitlingham ward
- Jul 2020 Drawings of stick people equivalent to child aged 5
- Sept 2020 WAIS-IV attempted
Could not complete non-verbal subtests (visual impairment)
“...difficult to engage...hypervigilant and wary...”

**“...poor, infirm, weak and despise’d...
...More sinn’d against than sinning...” ?**

Oct 2020

Permission to appeal against sentence denied

- No arguable error

“...an appropriate ultimate sentence...the Judge gave appropriate weight to mitigation and your vulnerability...”



 nsft.nhs.uk

 [@NSFTtweets](https://twitter.com/NSFTtweets)

 [NSFTTrust](https://www.facebook.com/NSFTTrust)