

Daily Mirror

Complaint

Mrs C Addams of Conwy complained that an article which reported a 'happy slapping' victim who "slapped back" was inaccurate and misleading since the incident was staged.

Resolution

The complaint was resolved when the newspaper published the following wording: *"On 17 April we (along with another newspaper) ran a story including pictures about a happy slapping victim who "slapped back". The story, which was provided to us by an agency, was based on footage from a mobile phone available on www.youtube.com. We have since learnt that the footage is not genuine and was a stunt by three friends (two of whom appear in the footage)".* (CI 1)

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Complaint

Ian Brady of Broadmoor complained that the newspaper had inaccurately attributed quotations to him – which stated that people were 'maggots' and 'worthless fish bait', that 'rape is not a crime, it's a state of mind, murder is a hobby and a supreme pleasure', and 'you live for one thing, supreme pleasure. Sadism is the supreme pleasure!' – in a notebook connected to the Moors Murder trial.

Resolution

The complaint was resolved when the newspaper – which had taken the information from an earlier article in a different newspaper – published the following correction: *"We wish to make clear that the notebooks quoted and attributed to Ian Brady in fact belonged to David Smith, a prosecution witness."* (CI 1)

Daily Mirror

Complaint



Mr D K Dauscha complained that an article was inaccurate when it stated that he had identified his brother Michael as the infamous Sergeant BB in relation to the Deepcut report.

Resolution

The complaint was resolved when the newspaper published the following correction and apology, in addition to

amending its internal records and website accordingly: *"Although David Dauscha confirmed to us (which we reported) that his brother, Michael, was "a violent psycho and a bully who is capable of anything", he did not identify his brother as – and was not aware that he was – Sgt BB in relation to the Deepcut report, as we claimed (page 4, April 5 and early editions page 5, April 6). We apologise to Mr David Dauscha for our mistake."* (CI 1)

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Complaint

Mr Philip Riley complained, through Henry Hyams solicitors, that an article alleging he had been involved in an escape plot with Ian Huntley was inaccurate. He made clear that he had no relationship whatsoever with Huntley.

Resolution

The complaint was resolved when the newspaper – which was relying on information from a confidential source – offered to publish a correction. (CI 1)

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Complaint

Ms Sarah Bissett Scott of Hertfordshire complained that articles in several newspapers including the Daily Mirror describing an alleged relationship between her and John Prescott were inaccurate in a large number of respects and used misleading terminology. She also said that some articles had misquoted her.

Resolution

The matter was resolved when the newspaper noted the complainant's position as being: that there was no affair between her and Mr Prescott, that she was never his mistress, and she has neither taken nor been offered any advantage for herself, her professional or political standing nor for her business in this matter; and that reports that she "claimed to have had an affair with Mr Prescott" are untrue. The newspapers agreed to place a warning on their internal databases to the effect that a complaint to the PCC had been made and that details of the complaint could be found in the legal department, managing editor's office or elsewhere. (CI 1)