# EXAMPLES OF EGREGIOUS CASES INVOLVING DANGEROUS OFFENDERS IN SINGAPORE

#### BRIEF FACTS

## A. Offenders with no previous convictions

O1 In January 2024, an offender was sentenced to 29 and a half years' jail and 24 strokes of the cane for three charges of aggravated statutory rape, committed between 2017 and 2021. The offender had started raping his niece when she was seven years old and continued sexually assaulting her for the next four years. The abuse escalated to a point where the girl was sexually assaulted almost every week when she spent weekends at his home. The offender had also infected his niece with a sexually transmitted disease and caused her to develop an eating disorder by body-shaming her. She is currently in a welfare home and undergoing counselling to help her deal with the psychological trauma from the crimes. The offender also had in his possession 131 media discs, many of which contained child pornography, and a thumb drive with 12,000 images that constituted child abuse material.

The High Court judge described the case as "gut-wrenching".

O2 In September 2023, an offender was sentenced to 40 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane for raping and sexually assaulting six boys. The offender had preyed on boys he met in the neighbourhood and on underaged relatives. He raped his cousin's sons, performed sex acts on one of them in front of his stepbrother, and made both boys carry out sex acts on each other.

The Prosecution described this as one of the "worst cases of paedophilic sexual abuse". An IMH report found that he had a paedophilic disorder and presented a "clear danger to society".

O3 In December 2022, an offender was sentenced to 31 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane after pleading guilty to a number of offences including three counts of rape committed against three victims, who were aged between 14 and 19 years of age.

The man had used multiple false personas to run an elaborate "sextortion" scheme from 2018 until his arrest in June 2019. He tricked multiple girls, aged 14 to 19, into sending him revealing and obscene photos and videos of themselves. He then threatened to distribute them unless the victims gave him money or performed various sexual acts for him.

The High Court judge called him a "depraved sexual predator who harmed and affected the lives of not just his 20 victims, but their families as well".

O4 In August 2022, an offender was sentenced to 42 years' jail and 24 strokes of the cane after pleading guilty to six charges of aggravated sexual assault by penetration against four victims who were between nine and 11 years old. He had 54 other charges, including one for aggravated rape and other sexual assault offences taken into consideration for sentencing.

The man was a teaching assistant at an after-school care centre and had systematically groomed and sexually abused 11 boys over a seven-year period.

After his arrest, he was diagnosed with paedophilic disorder and assessed to pose a moderate to high risk of reoffending. Prosecutors had referred to the case as one of the worst cases of paedophilic sexual abuse of young boys that have come before the Court.

O5 In June 2022, an offender was sentenced to 45 years' imprisonment for sexually abusing eight children with learning or physical disabilities after offering to tutor them.

He pleaded guilty to six charges of aggravated rape committed against three of the victims over a period of 16 years from 2002 to 2018. Two of these victims were five years old when they were raped, while the third was eight. The offender also recorded videos of the numerous attacks.

He also had 80 other charges taken into consideration during sentencing, which included various sexual offences committed against the eight children when they were between the ages of five and 13.

The accused was diagnosed with paedophilic disorder and was assessed to be at "very high risk of repeated sexual offending against young female victims".

14-year period and raped three of them, was sentenced to an imprisonment term of 33 years and two months, and 24 strokes of the cane. He pleaded guilty to seven charges for offences against his fourth daughter (who was 12 to 13 years old when the offences took place) including aggravated rape, aggravated sexual assault by penetration and aggravated outrage of modesty.

The man began sexually assaulting his oldest daughter in 2004 when she was six or seven years old and extended his abuse to his other daughters over the years. The trail of abuse was only uncovered in November 2018 when one of his daughters made a police report.

The High Court judge called this case one of the worst cases of rape and sexual assault and that the accused's actions are "deeply horrific and horrendously reprehensible".

O7 In March 2018, an offender was sentenced to 26 years' jail and 24 strokes of the cane. He pleaded guilty to five charges of sexual assault and 20 other charges of sexual assault by penetration were taken into consideration for the purpose of sentencing. The offences were committed against seven boys, aged between eight and 11. The accused had taken on a position as a football team coach and actively recruited boys to join his team. He then deliberately isolated them in public places, where he would perform oral sex on the victims.

The accused was diagnosed with paedophilia after the commission of the offences.

## B. Repeat offenders

**08** In May 2022, an offender was sentenced to the maximum 20 years' preventive detention for sexually assaulting two grandnieces.

Previously, in 2001, the offender had been sentenced to 19 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane for statutory rape of his stepdaughter who was between six and seven years old at the time. He was released from prison in 2013 and moved in with his older sister and her husband, with their three grandchildren and the victims' mother. He started committing sexual offences against one of his grandnieces, aged between ten and 11, in 2015. After the first victim moved out of the flat, the accused then committed offences against the second victim on two occasions in 2017, when she was between nine and ten years of age. The offences came to light in 2019.

The accused pleaded guilty to two charges of aggravated sexual assault by penetration and one count of outraging the modesty of a person under the age of 14. The pre-sentencing report found the offender's risk of sexual reoffending to be high and that he disregarded the consequences of his actions.

O9 In February 2021, an offender was sentenced to 12 years' preventive detention after pleading guilty to four counts of sexual penetration of a minor under 14. He offered money and cigarettes to his neighbours' underage son and daughter in exchange for sexual favours. He started exploiting the boy in 2016 – when he was 13 – before setting his sights on the girl a year later when she was of the same age.

He was previously sentenced to five years' corrective training and six strokes of the cane for sexual offences against a 17-year-old boy and had a string of past convictions for armed robbery, housebreaking and drug consumption. Prosecutors noted that the man was assessed to have a high risk of general reoffending and a moderate risk of sexual reoffending.

10 In July 2020, an offender was sentenced to 24 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane after pleading guilty to two charges for sexual assault by penetration of a minor and one charge for abetment of sexual assault by penetration of a minor.

His victims were his girlfriend's eight-year-old daughter and nine-year-old son, both of whom had low IQ. He began bringing his girlfriend's eight-year-old daughter and nine year-old son to a hotel in Geylang in 2012, two years after he was released from prison for sexually abusing his four-year old daughter (for which he was jailed for 12 months).

On one of the first occasions in May 2012, the man forced them to watch pornography, instructed them to simulate sexual intercourse with each other, and filmed their acts. The children complied with his instructions as they were helpless and afraid. From 2012 to 2014, he continued to bring them to the hotel and sexually assaulted them on multiple occasions.

In 2018, the man met the daughter again when she was 14 years old and persuaded her to participate in sexual activity with him in exchange for cigarettes and money.

The offender was diagnosed with paedophilia with a high risk of sexual reoffending.

11 In July 2020, an offender was convicted of nine charges involving aggravated rape, aggravated sexual assault by penetration, causing hurt, criminal intimidation and outrage of modesty, and was sentenced to 32 years' jail (offender could not be caned as he was above 50 years of age). The offender had raped his then 23-year-old daughter at knifepoint less than a month after she picked him up from prison. The offender had held a penknife to his daughter's neck and threatened to cut her throat if she did not comply. When she grabbed the knife from him, he punched her and tried to strangle her. He then raped her a second time.

The offender had a violent criminal past, and had previously been sentenced to imprisonment and caning for attempted murder in 2000 and for robbery with hurt in 2010.

12 In June 2020, an offender was given the maximum 20 years' preventive detention after pleading guilty to one count of aggravated sexual assault by penetration and two counts of outraging the modesty of a minor. He committed these offences against his 12-year-old stepdaughter within two years of his release from prison, after he had been sentenced in 2001 to 24 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane for raping his then-11-year-old niece.

The offender was found to have a high risk of re-offending and had a clear pattern of sexual deviation.

13 In March 2020, an offender was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment and another six months' imprisonment in lieu of 15 strokes of the cane (as he was above 50-year-old) for a series of offences, including four charges of sexual assault by penetration of a minor. He had molested and sexually assaulted his youngest daughter for three years since she was six years old.

He was previously jailed for numerous offences including unlawful carnal connection with a 14-year-old girl.

14 In February 2020, an offender was sentenced to 32 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane for raping two 14-year-old girls. He was convicted of four charges of rape and two charges of sexual assault. The accused had threatened his victims saying that he would call his friends or gang members if they refused. He also threatened the victims that he would distribute videos of the assaults if they told anyone else what had happened.

The accused had numerous convictions since 1995. His prior convictions included charges for sexually assaulting four girls (two of whom were 14 years of age at the time), for which he was sentenced to four and a half years' imprisonment.

15 In December 2018, an offender was sentenced to the maximum 20 years' preventive detention for sexually assaulting two sisters (then aged 12 and 16) by posing as a Housing Development Board officer. He had lured the victims to his flat and then sexually assaulted them at knifepoint, while recording some of those acts.

He had re-offended multiple times since 1985 and had been caned on multiple occasions before he turned 50. In 2001, he had been convicted of charges involving sexual crimes against minors.

# EXAMPLES OF EGREGIOUS CASES INVOLVING DANGEROUS OFFENDERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

#### **BRIEF FACTS**

### **01** United States

Two offenders had murdered a young mother in 2019. Both offenders had long records, but one of them had nine previous felony convictions, including second-degree murder in 2004 and a previous attempted murder charge reduced to battery in a plea deal.

#### 02 United States

An offender had slashed his wife 14 times in 1979 and was sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment. After he was released in 2004, he assaulted another woman and was sent back to jail in 2010. In 2014, he was released and killed another woman in 2018 by stabbing her at least 11 times while her twin sons watched.

### **03** United States

In 2023, a repeat, violent offender was indicted by a grand jury for murder, rape and arson about a year after he was released from prison. The offender allegedly kicked down the front door of an apartment in a building he had worked at, pointed a gun at a woman's head and duct-taped her. He then raped her multiple times, cut her neck and poured an unknown liquid on her and another man, and set them on fire. He also allegedly raped and murdered another women at her apartment in a separate incident three days later.

Previously, the offender had been convicted of assault in 2009 and 2011. He served a two-year prison sentence for his 2011 conviction. Three months after being released, he was convicted of a rape attempt in 2013 when he forced a woman at knife point to perform oral sex on him, after hitting her in the face and strangling her, and was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment. He was subsequently paroled in October 2022 before he was arrested in September 2023 for the above offences.

#### **04** New Zealand

In 1992, an offender stabbed a man to death and was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was released on parole in June 2006 after serving 14 years in prison.

A few months later in December 2006, he physically assaulted a man in an apartment. Subsequently in January 2007, he and two other men broke into a house armed with a pistol and hammer. He was looking for money and drugs and dragged a 17-year-old teenager around the house and physically assaulted him. The next day, he shot a man dead and wounded four others with his gun. For these offences, he was sentenced to life imprisonment in April 2007 with a 26-year minimum non-parole period.

In 2008 while he was in prison, he stabbed a fellow prisoner seven times with a stainless-steel rod from a medical trolley and was convicted of attempted murder.

The offender had previously scored high on a psychopathy test.

### 05 United Kingdom

A serial offender had a history of offences, including convictions for rape, burglary and drug-related offences, and was also found to have a predilection for attacking lone women.

In 1983, he entered a nurses' home and attempted to strangle a nurse with intent to rape or otherwise sexually assault her. He was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. In January 1992 after he was released from prison, he broke into the flat of a woman and her five-year-old child and threatened her with a knife before raping her. He was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment. In May 2000, he committed offences of false imprisonment and was sentenced to life imprisonment. He also received concurrent imprisonment sentences for burglary with the intent to rape and indecent assault.

In July 2016, the offender was released by the Parole Board on supervision. In November 2016, he raped and killed a woman in her own home, and attempted to murder her elderly mother. He set fire to the property after he left their house, leaving the elderly mother to die, although she managed to survive.