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Inaugural edition

The Global Misogyny News Coverage Tracker

The Missing Misogyny-related Coverage
in an Era of Endemic Violence
against Women

The 7th report in the Missing Perspectives series

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Executive summary

This inaugural groundbreaking report, based on five research methods including content analysis of 1.14 billion global news stories, reveals significant and persistent deficits in global news coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women. It is the first in what will be a tracker, whose objective will be to annually measure global trends in misogyny-related news coverage - evaluating how the level of coverage aligns with the prevalence of women's and girls' lived experiences.

Despite the extraordinarily high real-world prevalence of sexual misconduct and violence against women and girls, and a series of high-profile cases involving abusers, misogyny-related coverage remained marginal between 2017 and 2025, averaging just **1.6%** of total online news output and hitting a decade low of **1.3%** in 2025 (**see Part 1**). All the while,

between 2020 and 2025 references to **gender ideology** – a term used by the global anti-gender equality movement – have increased in news coverage by a factor of 42.

Men's perspectives lead coverage and have recently been growing, with **1.5 men quoted** for every one woman in misogyny-related stories (**see Part 2**). Country-level analysis shows a very weak relationship between the actual high prevalence of violence against women in a country and the woeful amount of news coverage the issue receives. Nordic news media's virtually non-existent coverage of the **Nordic paradox**, which exposes the puzzling reality of high levels of lifetime sexual violence against women in countries enjoying the highest levels of gender equality, provides a stark example of the challenge (**see Part 3**).

Analysis of the misogyny-related coverage in the top 50 English-speaking global news providers revealed a long tail of outlets barely referencing the issue. Among the top 50, just five news or aggregator websites account for over half of the article titles that focus on women's misogyny-related disadvantages in society (**see Part 4**).

A qualitative analysis of the most hyperlinked-to misogyny-related articles globally exposed a pronounced focus on individual incidents – often including unnecessary sensationalist details – rather than on the prevalent nature of the problem. It also highlighted the **missing angles centring on the survivors or victims**, on explanations of the endemic nature of many forms of men's harassment and violence against women, and on solutions (**see Part 5**).

Content analysis of almost a million Epstein-related articles published since 2017 showed a significant skew towards story angles that focus on power networks and money rather than the victims' misogyny-based suffering or explanations of the

unresolved root causes that have made the Epstein network's decades-long abuse of girls and women possible. The terms **systemic** and **sexism, patriarchy** and **misogyny** appeared in less than 1% of all online Epstein-related news coverage. The term **structural** appeared in 0.5% of this coverage while the phrase **violence against women** was present in a mere 0.1% (**see Part 6**).

The report advises newsrooms to adopt a **survivor-centric** approach by prioritizing the perspectives of female contributors and protagonists and using specific, active language to identify the predominantly male perpetrators. To cover the universal problem constructively and fairly, it is important for coverage to shift away from incident-based reporting to **systemic narratives**, acknowledging that the crimes are perpetrated by average men, not outlier monsters. It should combine first-person survivor perspectives with prevalence statistics and solutions-based angles, while always providing support for readers who may be victims (**see Part 7's Checklist**).





Introduction

News media has a blind spot when it comes to coverage of misogyny-related harassment and violence against women and girls. It barely covers it. And when it does, it steers clear of applying a gender differences lens when explaining it. The structural inequality lens is all but missing (except in the case of a handful of news providers I will reference shortly). Furthermore, more often than not the coverage centres on the perpetrators (who are most likely to be men) rather than the survivors or victims (most likely women or girls).

These are some of the conclusions we reached after conducting five different types of analyses for this inaugural report for what will become an annual tracker.

1 in 9 women worldwide has experienced violence at the hands of a man or men in the last 12 months. 1 in 3 women has been sexually violated in her lifetime, according to WHO data. An unprecedented 2023 study of 5,200 scientists in 117 countries revealed that 1 in 2 women scientists had experienced sexual harassment at work. Since admitting to having been sexually violated in any way remains a costly societal taboo, it is likely that the reality for women and girls is even worse.

And this is just the physical world. When we examine the online world, women's and girls' reality becomes even darker. 6 in 10 women and 1 in 5 girls face some form of digital violence.

Can you imagine many other topics that carry as much relevance to as many millions of people as the issue of misogyny-related harassment and violence against women and girls (VAWG)? I find it a challenge.

And yet AKAS' analysis of 1.14 billion online news stories published globally between 2017 and 2025 revealed that online news coverage of misogyny-related harassment and VAWG has averaged at a pitiful 1.6% of all global coverage in that period (see Part 1). In 2025 it dropped to 1.3%, the lowest level in a decade. This despite AI-assisted sexual violence against women and children growing steeply and the proliferation of high-profile cases of men accused or

convicted of sexually abusing women and/or children at unfathomable scale. Think Jeffrey Epstein, the former Prince Andrew, Dominique Pelicot, Harvey Weinstein, the Tate brothers, Bill Cosby, Mohamed Al Fayed, Sean 'Diddy' Combs, Marius Borg Høiby (the son of Norway's crown princess). The list is long. At the same time, global funding for anti-gender initiatives has soared, as have references to the term *gender ideology* in coverage - up by a factor of 42 between 2020 and 2025.



We took the decision to invest our resources in launching a tracker and producing this report driven by an awareness of the catalytic role that news can play in making positive change happen, and our understanding of the ubiquitous nature of misogyny-related harassment and VAWG. At the start of the journey, we suspected that the coverage of the topic would be far from dominant in the news, but we were unprepared for just how marginalised and skewed away from the victims the coverage actually is.

AKAS analysis of almost a million Epstein-related online stories since 2017 (see Part 6) revealed that only a tenth of a percent of these articles referenced the phrase *violence against women*, half a percent referenced the term *structural* and under one percent referenced the terms *sexism*, *misogyny*, *systemic* or *patriarchy*. (I hesitated to use this last term as an example in this introduction, given the extent to which its use is anathema in society and in journalism, but decided to do so due to its enormous explanatory value).

These negligible percentages led us to conclude that the overwhelming majority of the global coverage of Epstein's network's abuse of over 1000 girls and women over decades evidently overlooks the fact that reality unfolds differently for women compared to men. It misses the most important axis that holds the key to explaining the endemic levels of violence against women and girls: the persistent gender inequality that leads to men's abuse of power targeted at women who do not have as much, if any power, combined with universal accepting social norms.

In her recent podcast conversation with the author Roxane Gay, the musician and cultural figure Dua Lipa observed how detached the media coverage has been from Epstein's victims. *"I keep thinking about all the stories that talk about the underage girls and the sex parties, rather than writing about the victims that were children who were trafficked,"* she noted. *"It's putting everything under some kind of veil to protect - I don't know who, [maybe] the reader - or trying to mask what is happening,"* Lipa continued before concluding that *"the media takes and twists things even in the darkest hour."*



Why is it that Dua Lipa is able to see the news media's blind spot while news media itself cannot? Why is it that news media allows men to dominate the news narrative about misogyny-related harassment and VAWG by giving men a greater share of voice than women in news coverage of the topic (**See Part 2**)? Why is news media granting so little focus to the victims' plight and survivors' fight, often using abstract language about the perpetrators while disclosing painfully indigestible sensationalist details about crimes against women, girls and sometimes boys (**see Part 5**)?

To answer these questions, we must resort to terms like *structural* and *systemic* disadvantages that women face in the context of news media and revert to earlier Missing Perspectives and other reports. WAN-IFRA's Sexual Harassment in the Media 2022 report found that 41% of women media professionals had experienced sexual harassment in the workplace. According to UN Women's survey, last year 75% of surveyed women journalists experienced online violence in the course of their work. The challenges that women face in society, they also face in journalism, sometimes more intensely. The male-favouring social norms, which make misogyny so widespread globally, infiltrate newsrooms too.



The Missing Perspectives of Women in News found that news is slanted towards men by design. It is produced largely by men, features more men and is consumed by more men. From Outrage to Opportunity revealed that most editors in high-profile beats (e.g. politics, foreign affairs, economics) who decide what constitutes a story are men. In countries with multi-racial populations, they are predominantly white men. These male-dominated news structures result in multiple story angles relevant to women being systematically missed from coverage; first-person accounts being too scarce; too little use being made of the structural inequality lens when covering crime. Also, in the rare instances when coverage does focus on women, it is usually skewed towards white women, as evidenced in the “missing white woman syndrome” whereby stories about the disappearance of women of colour remain absent.

I can't think of a more pertinent example of a blind spot in action than the story of David Brooks, author and former New York Times opinion columnist, currently at The Atlantic, whose *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen* I have previously extensively recommended. In November 2025 Brooks argued in an NYT piece titled The Epstein Story? Count Me Out that the Epstein story is a trivial non-story about “a guy who has been dead for six years and who last was in touch with Donald Trump 21 years ago, Trump has said”, choosing to quote President Trump. Brooks superiorly argued that the story was popular because it was salacious and easy to understand for a nation with a growing “QAnon mentality” despite its evident lack of relevancy at a national level. Less than a month later, the Guardian reported the release of photos showing Brooks, alongside others, at an event with Epstein. No direct wrongdoing is being suggested here, but what is poignant is a powerful male commentator, like Brooks, nonchalantly dismissing the importance of a story about the abuse of girls and women at an industrial scale. It exemplifies the ignorance and/or arrogance of highly networked, powerful men who show little, if any, empathy towards the abused masses of women or girls.

There is good news.

Our content analysis of the misogyny-related coverage of the top 50 English-speaking news providers in 2025 uncovered a handful of websites and content aggregators that do focus on the male-centric system that leaves women in an unequal position (see Part 4).

The BBC, the Guardian, Substack, Indiatimes and Yahoo News account for over half of all article titles which explicitly mention some of the structural barriers that women face. It has been educational to read the BBC's clearly articulated victim-centric recent articles like ["An 'epidemic' of violence: The women and girls killed by men last year"](#) and to watch BBC's [Newsnight's two-part programme](#) dedicated to amplifying the voices of women who have survived Epstein's abuse. The Guardian also provides ample coverage of women's predicaments relating to misogyny. This includes a women-centric series dedicated to exposing domestic violence, showcased in this [editorial piece](#) about the grossly underreported incidence of domestic-abuse-related female suicide.



Another piece of positive news is that there are many actions that newsrooms can take to improve their misogyny-related coverage, some of which we have condensed into a checklist (**see Part 7**). From utilising first person perspectives and empathetic, specific language rather than the passive voice or graphic details, to contextualizing individual crimes within systemic gender inequality, using global statistics, and offering solutions-based perspectives, the suggestions provide a framework for female-led coverage and victim- or survivor-centric narratives that aim to improve the volume and quality of reporting.

I look forward to writing the second iteration of this report in a year's time in the hope that it will show an improvement in misogyny-related coverage. I hope that news editors around the world will use the checklist in the report when deciding how to craft stories. I hope that news leaders will use the report's shocking findings to raise funds to enable journalists to tell more stories about the widespread misogyny-related harassment and violence against women and girls. I hope foundations' leaders will feel inspired to launch new initiatives supporting misogyny-related reporting.

Newsrooms and journalists globally hold a precious key. The key to the perspectives of hundreds of millions of women and girls who are suffering and whose stories demand to be told with sensitivity and skill to move policymakers. So that these policymakers then change women's realities through new laws, initiatives and programmes that both protect women and liberate society from damaging social norms.

Until next year.



Part 1

Levels of global online news coverage of misogyny-related issues



The level of global online news coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women has hit a nine-year low, while the level of anti-gender coverage is growing fast

To understand the level of misogyny-related coverage in online global news we tested multiple misogyny-related terms and selected the 12 which best encapsulate the essence of the misogynistic harassment and violence women experience at the hands of men. These terms were *rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexism, violence against women, gender-based violence, MeToo, femicide, and misogyny*. We then analysed the 1.14 billion news articles held in the global GDELT news database since 2017 to find out what proportion contained at least one of these terms, which resulted in a pool of 19.6 million news stories.



Our analysis revealed that news coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women and girls¹, as measured through mentions of any of the 12 misogyny-related terms, has been marginal since GDELT measurement began. Even at its height in 2018, coverage remained at just over 2% of all online global news output, despite a third of women enduring male-perpetrated physical or sexual violence over the course of their lifetime and up to 1 in 9 having experienced it in the last twelve months.

1

The coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women between 2017 and 2025 has averaged at less than 2% of all online coverage (1.6%).

2

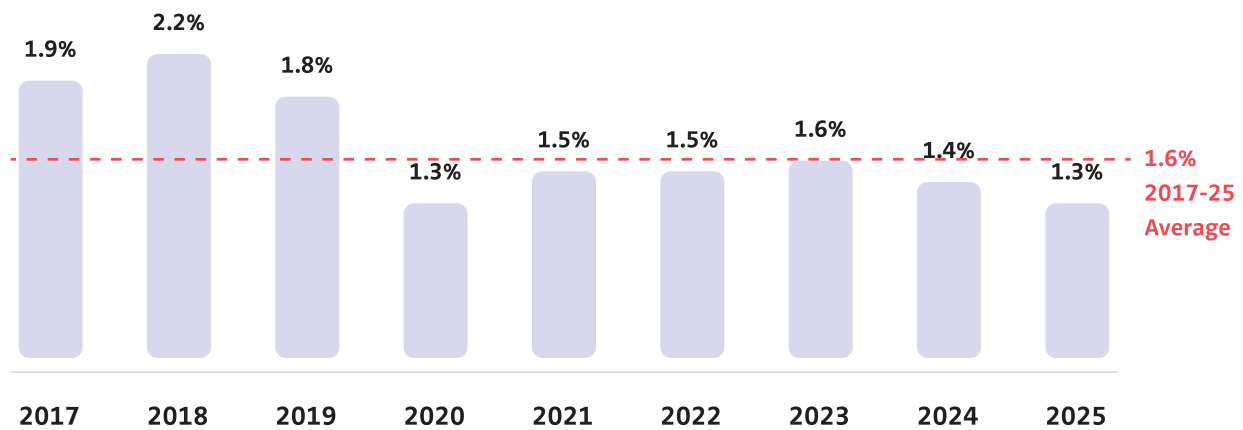
In 2025, misogyny-related coverage sank to 1.3%, its lowest level since 2017, despite raging conflicts like the civil war in Sudan involving widespread sexual violence crimes and high-profile cases of men like Dominique Pelicot, Sean ‘Diddy’ Combs, Jeffrey Epstein and his network, Mohamed Al Fayed, and the Tate brothers dominating the headlines with evidence or accusations of violations against women.

3

News coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women peaked at 2.2% in 2018 during the global peak of the #MeToo movement following its reignition in 2017. By last year, misogyny-related coverage had fallen by nearly a half from this admittedly low high point.

¹ Our focus was to understand misogyny-related coverage, which centres on women. However, when analysing stories, we realised that sometimes violence against women was also linked to violence against children (mostly girls, but occasionally boys too).

Figure 1: Proportion of global news coverage which references one of the 12 misogyny-related terms (2017 to 2025)



Source: AKAS Global Misogyny News Coverage Tracker using the GDELT News database (2026)

Whilst the coverage of the 12 misogyny-related terms hit a decade-low in 2025, mentions of the term *gender ideology* reached a high. Our GDELT analysis shows that, although starting from a low base, mentions of that term increased in online news coverage by a factor of 42 globally between 2020 and 2025. This increase was largely driven by the U.S. news media, where it went up by a factor of 79 (see Figure 2 overleaf).

Research from the RESIST project in Europe shows that the idea of **gender ideology**², promoted by the anti-gender movement, is consistently pushed by right-wing media and is framed “as an established political problem in education, social services and public spaces and institutions”.

The rise in coverage of the anti-gender movement’s ideology is not incidental, but a well-funded and co-ordinated global campaign. According to a new report from the European Parliament Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, between 2019 and 2023 funding amounting to US\$1.18 billion was invested by 275 actors involved in anti-gender initiatives in Europe alone.

² The RESIST Project explains how the anti-gender movement frames *gender* itself as an ideology – a political dogma that needs to be opposed. The anti-gender movement presents *gender ideology* as activism and laws such as the Istanbul Convention (a treaty combating violence against women) being imposed on unwilling populations.

Figure 2: Proportion of articles mentioning "Gender ideology" (2020 vs. 2025, Global and Regions)

Region	% of articles mentioning "Gender Ideology" (2020)	% of articles mentioning "Gender Ideology" (2025)	Number of times 2025 share is larger than the 2020 share
Global Total	0.00003	0.00126	42
North America	0.00004	0.00315	79
Africa	0.00004	0.00066	17
Oceania	0.00004	0.00045	11
Europe	0.00002	0.00017	9
South America	0.00004	0.00024	6
Asia	0.00001	0.00005	5

Source: AKAS Gender Ideology news analysis using the GDELT News database (2026)

The decline in news coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women is overlooking, or at worst ignoring, a profound and desperate need among its women audiences. Between January 2017 and December 2025, global searches for “domestic abuse support” increased five-fold, according to [Google Trends](#). In the [UK](#) and [U.S.](#), these searches quadrupled over the same period.

Alongside these solitary private actions, women have also publicly [protested and marched](#) against violence against women, misogyny and gender inequality. In South Africa, these protests led the government to declare gender-based violence a [national disaster](#) in November 2025.

In December last year, the UK government heralded violence against women a national emergency.

A close-up portrait of an elderly woman with reddish-brown hair and a serious, somewhat weary expression. Her eyes are looking slightly upwards and to the right. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. A dark purple circular graphic element is overlaid on the bottom left of the image, containing text.

Part 2

**Women's share
of voice in
misogyny-related
coverage**

Men's perspectives are more likely to be reflected than women's in online coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women



To understand men's and women's relative share of voice in misogyny-related stories, we conducted a proxy analysis, comparing the ratio between masculine and feminine pronouns used in misogyny-related coverage (for a more detailed understanding of the methodology and its limitations, see the Detailed methodology section).

- Men's perspectives account for a much higher share of voice in online news generally. Our indicator shows that for every one woman quoted in coverage between 2017 and 2025, 3.9 men were quoted.
- While the male/female share of voice ratio is more balanced when it comes to misogyny-related coverage, it still favours men at a rate of 1.5 men to every one woman quoted.
- 2021 stands out as a year in which women's and men's share of quoted voice in online misogyny-related coverage reached gender parity at a global level.
- However, in 2025 women's share of voice in coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women had declined compared to men's, with 1.6 men being quoted for every one woman.



Part 3

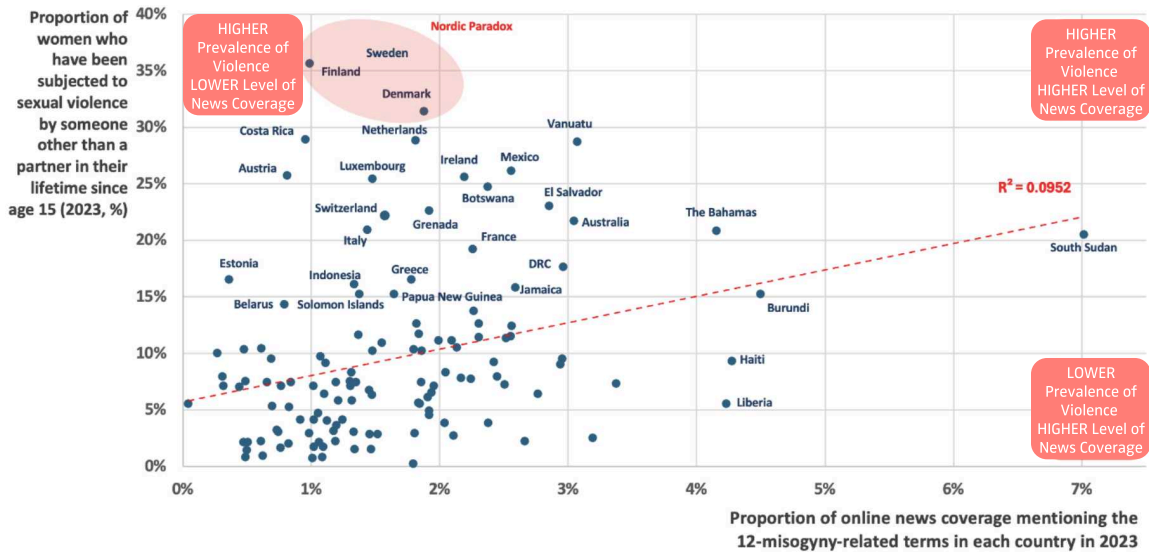
The (non)- relationship between real world misogyny and news coverage



Higher levels of violence against women do not translate into more misogyny-related news coverage

When researching the topic of misogyny-related coverage, we were interested to understand the relationship between the level of misogynistic harassment and violence against women in a given country and the level of news coverage of the issue. We were hoping to see a positive correlation between the two i.e. higher levels of violence against women in the real world being associated with higher levels of news coverage of the issue. If this were the case, the dots on the graph overleaf – each of which highlights the intersection between a country's levels of violence against women and their news coverage of the topic – would have followed the dotted line drawn, signalling a positive linear relationship. Instead, the evidence in the graph exposes a very weak correlation between the two variables, as indicated by the seemingly random positioning of the dots. It is notable that in some countries coverage is low, yet the prevalence of non-intimate and intimate partner violence is very high.

Figure 3: Lifetime prevalence of non-intimate partner violence experienced by women vs. coverage (126 countries, 2023)



Source: World Health Organization (2025) and AKAS Global Misogyny News Coverage Tracker using the GDELT News database (2026)

When reviewing the levels of intimate partner violence in the most recent 12-month period for which data is available, it became clear that war-torn countries, fragile states and island states have rates two to three times higher than the global average. Despite this, with the possible exception of Sudan and South Sudan, coverage of the 12 misogyny tracker terms remains relatively low (see Figure 4).

Figure 4: 12 month-prevalence of intimate partner violence experienced by women vs. coverage (Top 10 out of 149 countries, 2023)

Rank	Top 10 countries	Proportion of women who have been subjected to sexual violence by an intimate partner in the last 12 months (2023, %)	Proportion of online news coverage mentioning the 12 misogyny-related terms in each country (2023, %)
1	Papua New Guinea	45.3%	1.65%
2	Sierra Leone	41.0%	2.38%
3	Afghanistan	39.7%	1.16%
4	South Sudan	38.9%	7.02%
5	Vanuatu	36.4%	1.81%
6	Solomon Islands	34.1%	1.38%
7	Liberia	33.6%	4.23%
8	Democratic Republic of the Congo	33.2%	2.96%
9	Sudan	28.6%	4.80%
10	Samoa	27.3%	1.96%

Source: World Health Organization (2025) and AKAS Global Misogyny News Coverage Tracker using the GDELT News database (2026)

The Nordic paradox

We were surprised to see so many Nordic countries, known for their higher-than-average gender equality, registering such high levels of lifetime sexual violence against women by a non-intimate partner. It turns out that this is a well-documented phenomenon which academic research refers to as the Nordic paradox. As yet, no definitive set of explanations for its existence has been identified. [This academic paper](#), cited by 380 others, presents survey data showing that the lifetime prevalence of physical and/or sexual violence against women by intimate partners and non-partners in Nordic countries is among the highest in the EU, and that Scandinavian countries have high rates of sexual assault compared to other European countries.



“High prevalence of IPV against women, and high levels of gender equality would appear contradictory, but these apparently opposite statements appear to be true in Nordic countries, producing what could be called the ‘Nordic paradox’. Despite this paradox being one of the most puzzling issues in the field, this is a research question rarely asked, and one that remains unanswered.”

It seems that the low interest in this topic also extends to news media.

As evidenced in Figure 3, the high incidence of sexual violence by non-intimate partners in many of the Nordic countries, and indeed in many other countries, is not matched by higher levels of news coverage in these countries. Furthermore, our GDELT analysis of the content of 59.3 million articles published online between 2016 and 2025 in Finland, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, and Denmark revealed that only 58 mentioned the phrase *Nordic paradox*, thus indicating that this topic is not a subject of interest in the news media in the region. Even in the coverage of the [high-profile rape and domestic violence trial of the son of Norway’s crown princess, Marius Borg Høyby](#), we found no examples of articles mentioning the Nordic paradox.



Part 4

The top 50 English-speaking news providers' misogyny- related coverage



The list of leading English-speaking global news providers/aggregators who cover the issues of misogynistic harassment and violence against women and girls is scant

When analysing the coverage of misogyny-related terms we were keen to discover how evenly coverage of the issue was distributed across news websites. We took the January 2026 list of the top 50 most-visited English-language news providers' websites as defined by [Press Gazette](#)³ and analysed how many of the articles on each of them contained four misogyny-related terms that focus on women's unique structural disadvantage in society. The four terms we selected from our 12 tracker terms were *misogyny*, *sexism*, *MeToo*, and *violence against women*. The results of the analysis are shown in Figure 5.

³ Press Gazette counts [bbc.co.uk](#) and [bbc.com](#) as one news brand in its analysis. Additionally, the top 50 list is produced monthly and is therefore likely to include some variation month by month. Only the most recent month is available on its website.

Figure 5: Share of coverage of women’s structural disadvantage among top 50 most-visited English language news websites (2025)

Top 50 English language news websites as per Press Gazette’s analysis

News provider’s share of all articles containing the terms *sexism, violence against women, meToo or misogyny* in their title in 2025

	100%	
bbc.co.uk	12.6%	<div style="width: 12.6%;"></div>
theguardian.com	11.5%	<div style="width: 11.5%;"></div>
substack.com	10.0%	<div style="width: 10.0%;"></div>
indiatimes.com	8.8%	<div style="width: 8.8%;"></div>
news.yahoo.com	7.7%	<div style="width: 7.7%;"></div>
independent.co.uk	7.3%	<div style="width: 7.3%;"></div>
dailymail.co.uk	7.1%	<div style="width: 7.1%;"></div>
bbc.com	5.6%	<div style="width: 5.6%;"></div>
telegraph.co.uk	3.8%	<div style="width: 3.8%;"></div>
news.sky.com	3.4%	<div style="width: 3.4%;"></div>
abc.net.au	3.1%	<div style="width: 3.1%;"></div>
apnews.com	2.0%	<div style="width: 2.0%;"></div>
hindustantimes.com	1.7%	<div style="width: 1.7%;"></div>
msn.com	1.5%	<div style="width: 1.5%;"></div>
indiatoday.in	1.2%	<div style="width: 1.2%;"></div>
ndtv.com	1.0%	<div style="width: 1.0%;"></div>
nytimes.com	0.9%	<div style="width: 0.9%;"></div>
indianexpress.com	0.8%	<div style="width: 0.8%;"></div>
news18.com	0.8%	<div style="width: 0.8%;"></div>
mirror.co.uk	0.7%	<div style="width: 0.7%;"></div>
thesun.co.uk	0.7%	<div style="width: 0.7%;"></div>
cbc.ca	0.7%	<div style="width: 0.7%;"></div>
thehindu.com	0.6%	<div style="width: 0.6%;"></div>

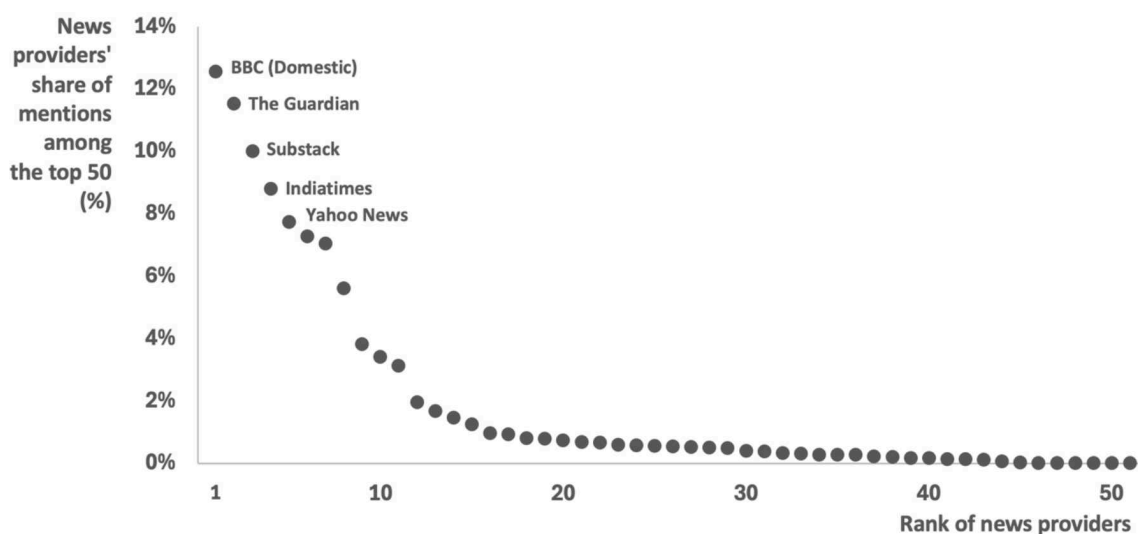
people.com	0.6%	<div style="width: 0.6%;"></div>
cnn.com	0.5%	<div style="width: 0.5%;"></div>
usatoday.com	0.5%	<div style="width: 0.5%;"></div>
foxnews.com	0.5%	<div style="width: 0.5%;"></div>
buzzfeed.com	0.5%	<div style="width: 0.5%;"></div>
nypost.com	0.5%	<div style="width: 0.5%;"></div>
aljazeera.com	0.4%	<div style="width: 0.4%;"></div>
news.com.au	0.4%	<div style="width: 0.4%;"></div>
npr.org	0.3%	<div style="width: 0.3%;"></div>
washingtonpost.com	0.3%	<div style="width: 0.3%;"></div>
india.com	0.3%	<div style="width: 0.3%;"></div>
bloomberg.com	0.3%	<div style="width: 0.3%;"></div>
forbes.com	0.3%	<div style="width: 0.3%;"></div>
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newsweek.com	0.2%	<div style="width: 0.2%;"></div>
finance.yahoo.com	0.2%	<div style="width: 0.2%;"></div>
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wsj.com	0.1%	<div style="width: 0.1%;"></div>
nbcnews.com	0.1%	<div style="width: 0.1%;"></div>
abcnews.go.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>
politico.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>
cnbc.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>
oneindia.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>
news.google.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>
rt.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>
drudgereport.com	0.0%	<div style="width: 0.0%;"></div>

Source: AKAS top 50 news providers misogyny terms Google search analysis (2026)

This analysis exposed distinctly uneven coverage of misogynistic harassment and violence against women across the top 50 English-speaking news websites.

- The top 10 websites account for 78% of all article titles that contain one of the four structural disadvantage-related terms in 2025
- Over half of the articles which reference the structural disadvantages women face (51%) are concentrated into the top five news websites – the BBC, the Guardian, Substack, Indiatimes and Yahoo News – which represent a mere 10% of top 50 news providers.
- Six of the top 10 providers referencing the terms *MeToo*, *sexism*, *misogyny* or *violence against women* in their article titles last year were based in the UK.
- The tail of providers who do not focus on misogyny-related topics is very long (see Figure 6 below)

Figure 6: Top 50 English-speaking news websites plotted by the share of articles that focus on misogyny-related issues in their title



Source: AKAS top 50 news providers misogyny terms Google search analysis (2026)

Although misogyny-related coverage is low amongst the vast majority of top 50 English language news providers, it is possible for units or beats within these news providers to outperform. For example, *As Equals* – a CNN project aiming to reveal what systemic inequality looks like – produced 158 stories between 2018 and 2025 covering various aspects of gender inequality. 8% of these stories had titles that mentioned one of the 12 misogyny-related terms. On 26th March this year, CNN ran *As Equals*' impressive investigation exposing the global 'rape academy' where men encouraged one another to drug and assault their wives – and exchanged tips on how to get away with it in group chats.



Part 5

Qualitative analysis of the most hyperlinked-to misogyny-related articles globally



The most hyperlinked-to articles about misogyny-related issues tell us that many important misogyny-related news story angles are missing from coverage

Coverage statistics aside, we were interested to build a picture of how misogyny-related news stories are reported: whether victims/survivors are given a voice; whose images the articles reflect; whose expertise the articles rely on most; how much detail they go into about the alleged/committed crimes; whether they include statistics that expose the prevalent nature of the problem; and whether they touch on solutions and offer help to other potential survivors.

To contain and streamline the time-consuming nature of such a task, we decided to isolate 22 news articles, out of nearly 69,000 news and information articles in 2025 focusing on misogynistic harassment or violence against women, with high hyperlinking from other websites (for more detail on the methodology, please refer to the Detailed methodology section). Our assumption was that a significant proportion of these articles are what opinion formers would deem the most influential because they have been repeatedly hyperlinked to.

Our analysis concluded that the vast majority of articles focus on a single misogyny-related incident and do not include any of the following:

- a structural angle exposing the systemic nature of the problem
- the scale of the problem (a minority of articles include prevalence statistics)
- solutions about how to combat the problem and
- information about where other potential victims can seek help.

Our qualitative analysis uncovered some key insights

- **Most perpetrators were men.**

Where the gender of victims/survivors was revealed, the vast majority were female (85%), while a large majority of the alleged/convicted perpetrators whose gender was revealed were male (78%).

- **Most articles included an image of the perpetrator.**

59% of articles included an image of a perpetrator.

- **Too many unnecessary details about crimes were shared.**

Over half of the articles (59%) provided unnecessarily explicit details about the crime, many of which could be deemed sensationalist and, worryingly, run the danger of feeding the imaginations of perpetrators-in-the-making. For example,

one article described a man urinating in the victim's mouth⁴ alongside many other forms of traumatic humiliation of the woman victim. Another article listed deeply upsetting prompts that child abusers had written into chatbots to create child-abusive material.

- **Almost half of articles did not reflect a female perspective.**

45% of articles which quoted a contributor did not quote a woman. According to the [Global Media Monitoring Project's latest report](#), women in stories about gender-based violence (GBV) appear more as eyewitnesses, while men are quoted as voices of authority. In GBV stories for example, 24% of all men's voices appear as experts vs. 17% of all women's voices.

⁴ We decided to include this example as an illustration of the type of graphic content that should be avoided.

- **Most perpetrators remained unidentifiable in the title.**

Only 41% of articles mentioned the name or the gender of the perpetrator in the title of the article.

- **Only a minority of the articles quoted the victim/survivor.**

32% quoted the victim while as many as 1 in 4 articles gave voice to the alleged/convicted perpetrator.

- **The structural angle was missing in most articles.**

Only 27% of articles included a systemic/structural angle which focused on the longstanding problems of prejudice, power subservience and violence that women face in society. Only 18% of articles offered statistics that expose the widespread nature of misogyny-related issues and that perpetrators are not exceptional monsters but men who are socialised or indoctrinated into violence.

Dave, a UK rapper, explains the structural problem particularly well in the song *Fairchild* from his latest album, *The Boy Who Played the Harp*:

*Danger doesn't look like no killer in a mask
It looks like that kid in the group chat that
jokes about -*

*And he won't ever stop because there's no
one to correct him*

*And he might even do it 'cause the system
would protect him.*

- **Solutions were missing from the majority of articles.**

Only 27% of the articles referred to a solution.

- **The vast majority of articles did not offer potential victims help.**

Only 14% of the articles offered information to victims/survivors, which highlights that victims are not front of mind when journalists write pieces about misogynistic harassment and violence against women.





Part 6

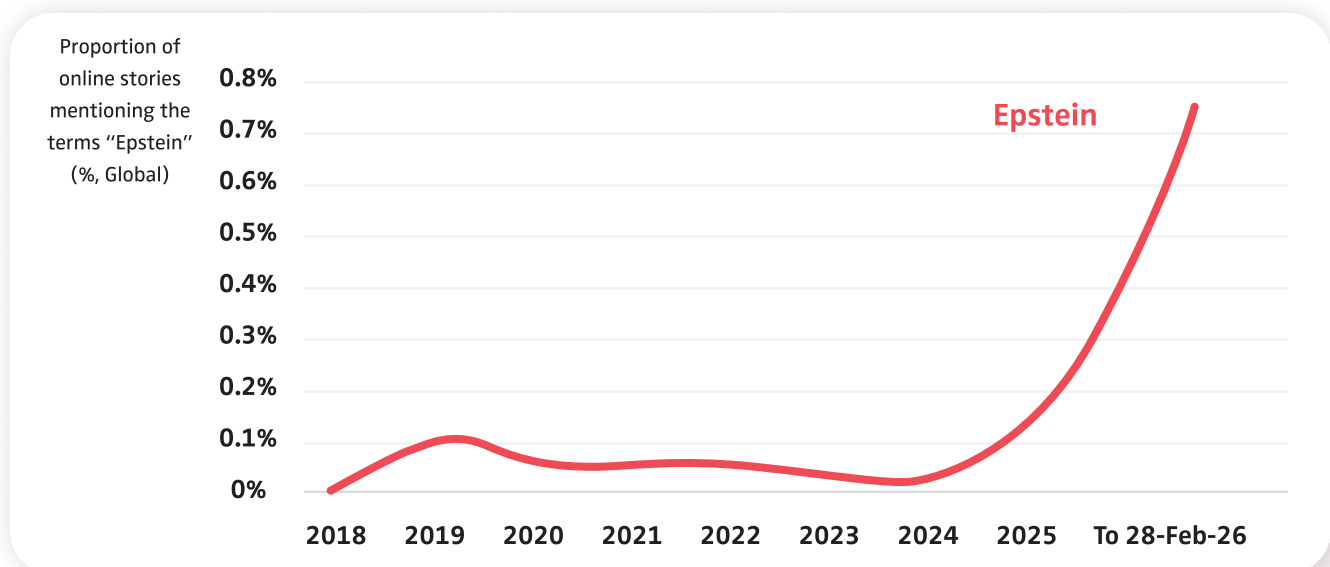
Epstein files story case study

A narrative that aims to isolate the root causes of the Epstein network's prolific decades-long abuse of girls and women is largely missing from the news



In view of the high prominence of the Epstein files story in news coverage in recent years, which gained significant pace from January 2026, we thought it important to analyse the focus of this coverage. We were interested to understand the extent to which the focus fell on the victims who were most affected by Epstein's networks and, equally importantly, whether the coverage offered explanations of what enabled this yet-to-be-resolved abuse at scale.

Figure 7: Proportion of all stories globally mentioning Epstein since 2018, showing a distinct peak this year (2018 to Feb 2026)



Source: AKAS Epstein stories analysis using the GDELT News database (2026)

To analyse the Epstein-related coverage from the total of 1.14 billion global news stories, we isolated a pool of all 808K global news articles that mentioned Epstein between 2017 and February 2026 and analysed the frequency of mentions of different terms, which are listed in Figure 8 below.

Figure 8: GDEL-enabled content analysis of Epstein-related news coverage since 2017 (2017 to Feb 2026)

Rank	Mention of Epstein plus Term	Proportion of articles mentioning these terms between 2017 and Feb 2026 in percent	Change in use of term(s) in Jan-Feb 2026 compared to 2017-2026 (percentage points)
1	("power" OR "money" OR "elites" OR "corrupt")	26.1%	6.3%
2	"victims"	25.3%	-0.5%
3	*Misogyny Tracker Terms:	17.6%	-3.9%
4	"power"	14.8%	5.3%
5	"money"	13.5%	-1.7%
6	"sexual abuse"	9.3%	-2.3%
7	"sexual assault"	5.1%	-2.2%
8	"survivors"	4.9%	3.3%
9	"culture"	4.7%	0.3%
10	"rape"	3.5%	0.1%
11	"values"	2.2%	0.9%
12	"gender"	1.6%	-0.3%
13	"sexual harassment"	1.3%	-0.8%
14	"MeToo"	1.2%	-1.0%
15	"corrupt"	1.0%	-0.1%
16	"elites"	1.0%	0.7%
17	"beliefs"	1.0%	-0.3%
18	"systemic"	0.9%	0.4%
19	"sexual violence"	0.7%	0.1%
20	("sexism" OR "patriarchy" OR "misogyny")	0.6%	-0.1%
21	"structural"	0.5%	0.2%
22	"domestic violence"	0.4%	-0.1%
23	"feminist"	0.4%	-0.3%
24	"sexist"	0.4%	-0.3%
25	"sexism"	0.3%	-0.2%
26	"misogyny"	0.2%	0.1%
27	"feminism"	0.2%	-0.1%
28	"violence against women"	0.1%	0.1%
29	"gender equality"	0.1%	0.0%
30	"patriarchy"	0.1%	0.0%
31	"masculinity"	0.1%	0.0%
32	"anti-feminist"	0.1%	0.0%
33	"gender based violence"	0.0%	0.0%
34	"chauvinism"	0.0%	0.0%
35	"social norms"	0.0%	0.0%
36	"femicide"	0.0%	0.1%
37	"chauvinist"	0.0%	0.0%

- Our analysis revealed that the main focus of the Epstein-related coverage between 2017 and 2026 has been on power and money. 26% of all Epstein-related articles referenced the terms **power, money, elites** or **corruption** in the last nine years while 25% referenced the term **victims**.
- As the table shows, in January and February 2026, the Epstein files story shifted significantly towards exploring the power angle (+6.3 percentage points vs. the 2017-2026 average) and slightly away from focusing on the victims (-0.5 percentage points).
- Mentions of the 12 misogyny-related terms detailed at the start of the report have declined in news coverage in the first two months of this year (-3.9 percentage points), driven by the decline in referencing sexual abuse and sexual assault.
- The Epstein-related coverage is missing a systemic root-cause lens which offers some explanation as to how this nearly decade-long story of powerful men's serial abuse of women and underage girls, involving a significant number of men at the top of global power, was possible in the first place and is not anywhere close to being resolved today.

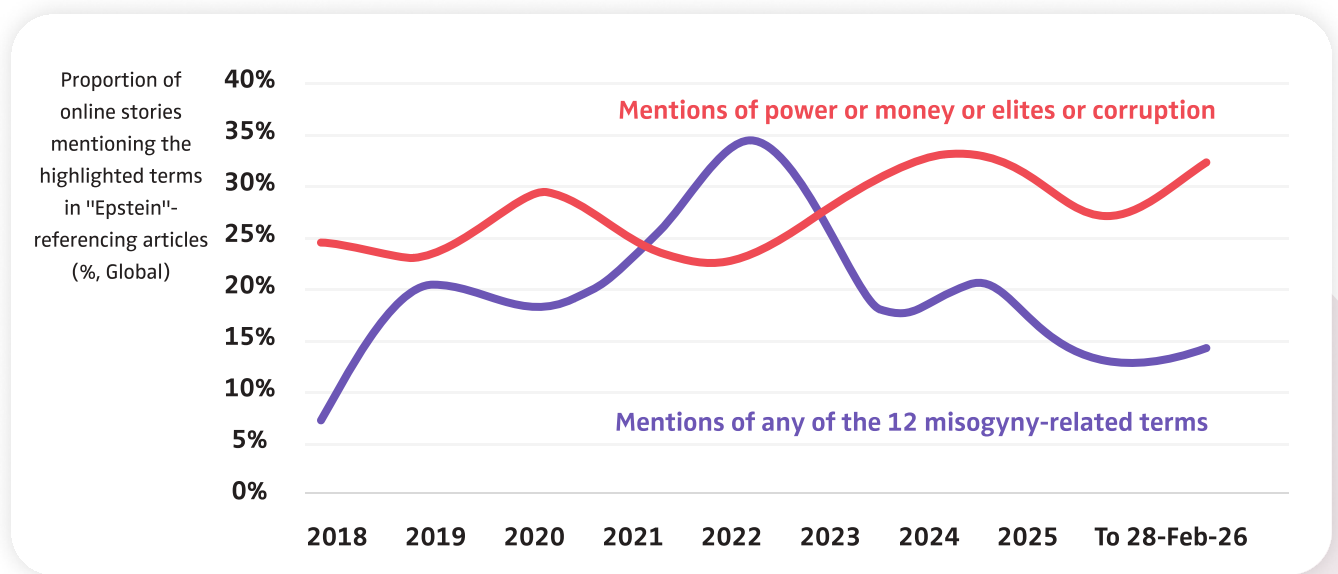
To get to the root causes of the problem, news coverage would need to focus on explanatory terms like **gender inequality, social norms, enabling culture** and deeply-rooted **misogyny, sexism, patriarchy** and structurally-enabled **violence against women** (see the terms highlighted in red in Figure 8). However, our content analysis uncovered that all these terms, with the exception of the term **culture** which has featured in a fraction of the coverage of Epstein, have been barely or not at all mentioned in Epstein-related news coverage.



The term **culture** appeared only in 4.7% of Epstein-related online news coverage and the term **gender** in 1.6% while the terms **beliefs** (1%), **systemic** (0.9%) and **sexism/patriarchy/misogyny** (0.6%) appeared in less than 1% of all online Epstein-related news coverage. The term **structural** appeared in 0.5% of Epstein-related coverage while the phrase **violence against women** was present in a mere 0.1% of coverage. It is clear from the largely absent use of these terms that the root causes of the problem are not in focus in global news coverage.

- When analysing the Epstein-related coverage pattern in Figure 9, we observe a stark decline in focus on the misogyny-related aspect of the Epstein story since 2022, when this angle peaked, only to be overtaken by a focus on the men in power and the money they have been associated with.

Figure 9: Proportion of online stories globally referencing Epstein that mention key terms (2018 to Feb 2026)



Source: AKAS Epstein stories analysis using the GDELT News database (2026)





Part 7

How to cover misogyny-related news – an inexhaustive checklist

Newsroom/leadership

- ✓ **Greater editorial focus:** Given the continuously high incidence of misogynistic harassment and violence against women and girls in contrast to its scant coverage in the news, consider launching an editorial initiative specifically focusing on ongoing reporting of the problem.
- ✓ **Female journalists' perspectives:** Ensure that female reporters and/or editors are leading on shaping the coverage.
- ✓ **Misogyny-related coverage volume:** Set targets and track the proportion of news coverage dedicated to misogyny-related crime. Ensure that the volume of coverage you put out into the world reflects the scale of the problem.

Newsgathering

- ✓ **Statistics:** Create a bank of research sources which expose the systemic, frequently-recurring nature of sexual assault, rape, femicide, sexual harassment and other forms of sexual misconduct, which reporters can use when writing their stories [Tip: UN Women has excellent sources at a global level].
- ✓ **Female perspectives:** Ensure that at least half of story contributors, including experts, are women.
- ✓ **Victim/survivor-centric reporting:** When researching stories, position the victim/survivor at the centre, injecting empathy into every decision regarding story angles. Include more first-person accounts of women sharing their stories.

News coverage

- ✓ **The systemic angle:** Avoid exclusively incident-based reporting of misogyny-related stories of violence against women and girls. Always combine the individual story in focus with a structural narrative exposing the systemic disadvantages that women face, which enable crimes at scale. [For example, the endemic levels of violence against women and girls expose the fact that the problem is not confined to a few psychopathic or monstrous men committing crimes, but to a perpetrator-favouring system underpinned by widespread harmful social norms].
- ✓ **The statistics angle:** To combine reporting of specific stories with a structural angle, use prevalence statistics and publicly available research on harmful social norms and stereotypes [Tip: [Use UNDP 2023 Social Norms Index - Breaking Down Gender Biases website](#) which contains [data on many countries](#)].

- ✓ **The solutions angle:** Offer solutions-based reporting, homing in on programmes and initiatives in other cities, regions or countries that have been successful in reducing an aspect of misogyny-related crimes.
- ✓ **The explanatory angle:** When reporting on high-profile cases of men either alleged to have perpetrated the serial abuse of women and girls, like the Tate brothers and Al Fayed, or convicted of such crimes, like the Epstein, Weinstein, Cosby or Pelicot cases, offer explanatory angles uncovering the root causes of the problem by exposing the gender inequality resulting in abuse of power, patriarchal norms, and misogynistic culture at the heart of the problem.
- ✓ **Survivor-centric support:** Always provide signposting to help victims/survivors with similar experiences at the end of your reporting.
- ✓ **Victim-centric language:** Be specific about the gender of the perpetrators in the title and content of your reporting. Avoid using the passive tense: e.g. *“a woman was raped”* or *“assault levels are up”*. Be specific instead: *“A man has raped a woman”* or *“the levels of men assaulting women are on the rise”*.
- ✓ **Victim-centric reporting of details of crime:** When describing an alleged or convicted crime, avoid including attention-grabbing graphic details which do not add to the story but desensitise the reader and could serve as inspiration for the next potential perpetrator.
- ✓ **Images empowering women:** When using stock images, ensure that they do not portray the victim or survivor using the stereotypes of the subjugated, denigrated or defeated but show that they have some power and control.

Useful guides on the reporting of violence

- Dart Centre Europe: [Reporting On Sexual Violence](#) (now hosted by The Global Center for Journalism and Trauma)
- RAINN: [Media Guide: Reporting on Sexual Violence](#) [Note: While useful, this guide tends towards gender-neutral language rather than specifying that most survivors or victims of sexual violence are women]
- IPSO: [Sexual Offences - Guidance for Journalists and Editors](#)
- Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN): [Investigating Sexual Abuse: an updated reporting guide](#)
- Journo Resources/On Road Media: [How to Report on Rape and Sexual Assault Ethically and Responsibly](#)
- Journalism UK: [How journalists can work sensitively with survivors of sexual abuse](#)



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Detailed methodology

1. Levels of global online news coverage of misogyny-related issues using GDELT

AKAS used the GDELT Project global online news archive to search all English and non-English online news stories between January 2017 and February 2026 to count the number of times key terms related to misogyny occurred. The analysis was carried out at a global level and at a country level. The GDELT database now covers over 1.14 billion stories globally in 65 languages.

AKAS assessed the volume of 32 individual misogyny-related terms: "rape", "sexual assault", "domestic violence", "sexual abuse", "sexual harassment", "sexual violence", "sexism", "violence against women", "gender based violence", "sexist", "MeToo", "femicide", "domestic abuse", "misogyny", "misogynistic", "misogynist", "intimate partner violence", "chauvinism", "chauvinist",

"GBV", "Andrew Tate", "Epstein", "incel", "economic violence", "female suicide", "sexually violated", "sexual violation", "manosphere", "discrimination of women", "male chauvinist", "intimate partner homicide", and "women hater".

AKAS then whittled these down to the 12 terms that were most likely to capture the full range of misogyny-related coverage due to their volume. These 12 terms were then pulled together as a single search query that was used on the GDELT Summary platform to generate results.

The search query containing the 12 terms was: ("rape" OR "sexual assault" OR "domestic violence" OR "sexual abuse" OR "sexual harassment" OR "sexual violence" OR "sexism" OR "violence against women" OR "gender based violence" OR "MeToo" OR "femicide" OR "misogyny").

Annual results were then constructed at a global and country level.

For more details of the GDELT Project see: <https://www.gdeltproject.org> and read their blog at <https://blog.gdeltproject.org>

2. Women's share of voice in misogyny-related coverage using a pronoun analysis on the GDELT news database

To understand men's and women's relative share of voice in misogyny-related stories, AKAS conducted a proxy pronoun analysis, comparing the ratio between masculine and feminine pronouns used in all and in misogyny-related coverage.

AKAS carried out a pronoun analysis ("he said"/"she said" ratios) for all articles on the GDELT news database, as well as for articles

which contain any of the 12 misogyny-related terms: ("rape" OR "sexual assault" OR "domestic violence" OR "sexual abuse" OR "sexual harassment" OR "sexual violence" OR "sexism" OR "violence against women" OR "gender based violence" OR "MeToo" OR "femicide" OR "misogyny").

For this measure, annual results were constructed just at the global level.

3. The top 50 English-speaking news providers' misogyny-related coverage in Google website search

AKAS used the January 2026 list of the top 50 most-visited English-language news websites published by Press Gazette using SimilarWeb data and analysed how many 2025 articles contained four misogyny-related terms (in their titles) that focus on women's unique structural disadvantage in society. The four terms we selected from our 12 tracker terms were:

1. Misogyny
2. Sexism
3. MeToo
4. Violence against women

The list of the top 50 is as follows: bbc.com/, bbc.co.uk, nytimes.com, msn.com, cnn.com, theguardian.com, news.google.com, foxnews.com, indiatimes.com, finance.yahoo.com, dailymail.co.uk, people.com, substack.com, news.yahoo.com, ndtv.com, usatoday.com, apnews.com, news18.com, cnbc.com, nbcnews.com, nypost.com, hindustantimes.com, cbsnews.com, reuters.com, forbes.com, wsj.com, washingtonpost.com, indianexpress.com, businessinsider.com, npr.org, independent.co.uk, abc.net.au, buzzfeed.com, news.com.au, thehindu.com, cbc.ca, telegraph.co.uk, abcnews.go.com, politico.com, indiatoday.in, oneindia.com,

aljazeera.com, thehill.com, thesun.co.uk, newsweek.com, india.com, bloomberg.com, news.sky.com, mirror.co.uk, rt.com, drudgereport.com.

To ascertain the number of articles with any of these four terms in the title, AKAS used a Google search query in the following format:

site:XXX "YYY" after:2024 before:2026

Where XXX is the news website url and YYY was the misogyny-related term.

AKAS repeated this query on four separate days in March and averaged out the results for the final figures. We repeated the query because even with strict parameters, Google search results fluctuate because search is a live, constantly shifting ecosystem rather than a static archive. Day-to-day variations happen because Google continuously crawls and updates its index, occasionally reinterprets webpage dates as sites are modified, and constantly tweaks its ranking algorithms.

Finally, AKAS ranked the news websites by the misogyny-related coverage in their title and calculated a share of coverage figure for each news website.

4. Qualitative analysis of the most hyperlinked-to global misogyny-related articles using a news database from Ahrefs' Content Explorer

AKAS created an additional English language news database in 2025 containing any of the 12 misogyny tracker terms: "rape", "sexual assault", "domestic violence", "sexual abuse", "sexual harassment", "sexual violence", "sexism", "violence against women", "gender based violence", "MeToo", "femicide", and "misogyny".

This database was developed using Ahrefs, the SEO software platform. This database was distinct from GDELT because due to the Ahrefs SEO architecture, the urls of individual articles as well as their associated hyperlinking levels (i.e. number of referring domains) was included in the database. In total we found 68,704 articles from relevant news and information articles on Ahrefs for 2025.

AKAS then ranked these articles by their levels of hyperlinking to isolate the most hyperlinked-to articles. The text of the top 100 articles was then cut and pasted into the database. Google Gemini was then used to provide an AI-assisted categorisation of the articles, which was then manually augmented. AKAS then categorised each of the 100 articles into one of the following seven categories:

1. Entertainment & media
2. Institutional & workplace abuse
3. Positive use of tech
4. Sports & athletics
5. Systemic violence & society
6. Technology & digital abuse
7. Isolated cases

From this top 100, 22 highly hyperlinked articles were chosen for the content analysis carried out manually by Luba Kassova. The articles were chosen such that there was a spread of content across the seven categories.

Kassova then coded the top 22 stories under the 14 categories listed below.

1. Author gender

1. Premise: Women bylines covering the issue more than men bylines.
2. Coding variables:
 - Presumed gender of author (F = 1)
 - Presumed gender of author (M = 1)

2. Perpetrator visibility in headlines

1. Premise: Perpetrators are visible in headlines. It is clear that they are men.
2. Coding variables:
 - Headline mentions alleged/perpetrator's name or gender of perpetrator (Yes = 1, No = 0)

3. Victim/survivor demographics

1. Premise: The content analysis exposes the fact that the survivors or victims are overwhelmingly more likely to be women.
2. Coding variables:
 - No. of survivors/victims mentioned by being singled out (those reported as a multiple number or group have been omitted)
 - Gender of survivor(s)/victims (F = 1)
 - Gender of survivor(s)/victims (M = 1)

4. Perpetrator demographics

1. Premise: The analysis exposes the reality that the perpetrators (alleged or convicted) are overwhelmingly more likely to be men.
2. Coding variables:
 - No. of alleged perpetrators/perpetrators
 - Gender of alleged/convicted perpetrator(s) (F = 1)
 - Gender of perpetrator(s) alleged/convicted (M = 1)

5. Quoting disparity

1. Premise: The survivors are quoted while the perpetrator is not given as much airtime, if any.
2. Coding variables:
 - Has a survivor/victim been quoted? (YES = 1, NO = 0)
 - Has an alleged/convicted perpetrator been quoted? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

6. Sourcing and perspectives

1. Premise: In the ideal world, articles are never just based on reports but also quote contributors or protagonists.
2. Coding variables:
 - Article includes police perspective (YES = 1, NO = 0)
 - Is article based on a police or other authority or NGO report? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

7. Contributor gender diversity

1. Premise: Article includes female and male contributors.
2. Coding variables:
 - Does article include expert/contributor/protagonist (M = 1)
 - Does article include expert/contributor/protagonist (F = 1)
 - Does article include unnamed perspective from an organisation or expert's unknown gender (e.g., spokesperson)

8. Image focus

1. Premise: Images never focus on the brutality itself/images make perpetrators more visible.
2. Coding variables:
 - Is image focusing on brutality? (YES = 1, NO = 0)
 - Image showing alleged or convicted perpetrator (M = 1)

9. Systemic framing

1. Premise: Every article exposes the systemic nature of the problem.
2. Coding variables:
 - Does article highlight systemic problem (e.g., misogyny, gender inequality, sexism)? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

10. Prevalence data

1. Premise: Every article includes data to show the high prevalence of the problem.
2. Coding variables:
 - Does article mention any stats about VAWG (Violence Against Women and Girls)? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

11. Crime details

1. Premise: Article does not focus on the details of the crime.
2. Coding Variables:
 - Does article describe method/details of brutality? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

12. Calls to action

1. Premise: Article explains what change is possible.
2. Coding variables:
 - Does the article make an explicit call for change? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

13. Solutions journalism

1. Premise: Article offers a solution.
2. Coding variables:
 - Does the article explore a solution? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

14. Resources for victims/survivors

1. Premise: Article offers information for victims/survivors of the same crime.
2. Coding variables:
 - Does the article offer info about where to seek help? (YES = 1, NO = 0)

These codes were then aggregated to calculate overall percentages for the 22 stories.

The table below sets out the 22 stories analysed.

No. of article	Content Title	Content URL	Author	Category	Hyperlinking Websites (as at 27 Mar 26)	Example Hyperlinkers
Top 10 with highest quality hyperlinkers						
1	Ex-Barca defender Alves has rape conviction quashed	https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/articles/c8rkrqx3x11o	Not named	Sports & Athletics	1106	Vosor, Denikn, Nairaland, HuffPost Greece, Worldcrunch, Low quality hyperlinkers
2	Rape on the Night Shift	https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/rape-on-the-night-shift/	Produced by Daffodil Altan, Andrés Cediel, Lowell Bergman	Systemic Violence & Society	809	The Guardian, HuffPost, LA Times, Univ. of Berkeley, New York City, Quartz, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Glamour, American Progress, WBUR
3	A video game on 'gold diggers' is fuelling a sexism debate in China	https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0rvzw1jk2do	Kelly Ng and Abel U	Sports & Athletics	714	Dictionary.com, Le Point, Techspot, HuffPost (France), Publico, Wired (Italy), Gropedia, Free Republic, Newser, Omni
4	Criminal records of Jan. 6 rioters pardoned by Trump include rape, domestic violence	https://www.npr.org/2025/01/30/nx-s1-5276336/donald-trump-jan-6-rape-assault-pardons-rioters	Tom Dreisbach	Systemic Violence & Society	650	Wikipedia, Yahoo, New York Times, The Guardian, Time, LA Times, Fast Company, The Atlantic, The Independent, House of Representatives
5	Elon Musk's Father Accused of Child Sexual Abuse	https://www.nytimes.com/2025/09/23/world/africa/elon-musk-father-errol-child-abuse.html	Kirsten Grind and John Eligon	Isolated Cases	570	Wikipedia, The Guardian, Wired, HuffPost, The Atlantic, Entrepreneur, AOL, Rollingstone, Euronews, Le Parisien
6	Uber's Festering Sexual Assault Problem	https://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/06/business/uber-sexual-assault.html	Emily Steel	Institutional & Workplace Abuse	494	Wikipedia, Yahoo, Business Insider, Techcrunch, Time, CBS News, LA Times, Inc.com, Fortune
7	Former police chief, serving murder and rape sentences, escapes from Arkansas prison	https://apnews.com/article/police-chief-arkansas-prison-escape-grant-hardin-280127e9737bc8e8e0d6388d7f268bd1	AP	Isolated Cases	374	The Guardian, CNN, HuffPost, NBC News, Fortune, AOL, ABC News, Le Parisien, BMF TV, Focus

No. of article	Content Title	Content URL	Author	Category	Hyperlinking Websites (as at 27 Mar 26)	Example Hyperlinkers
8	Chatbot site depicting child sexual abuse images raises fears over misuse of AI	https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/sep/21/chatbot-site-depicting-child-sexual-abuse-images-raises-fears-over-misuse-of-ai	Dan Milmo	Technology & Digital Abuse	354	Columbia University, Le Point, Internet Watch Foundation, Intelligent HQ, Disroot, Eupolicy.social, Public Sector Network, Slobodenpecat
9	Harvey Weinstein's rape retrial to open Wednesday with majority-female jury	https://apnews.com/article/harvey-weinstein-retrial-new-york-metoo-7c518e7cf50ca5a5b8d85412291f4775	Jennifer Peltz	Entertainment & Media	292	CNN, HuffPost, Fortune, CBC, AOL, LiveMint, New York Daily News, Inquirer, Mercury News, Baltimore Sun
10	Rape under wraps: how Tinder, Hinge and their corporate owner chose profits over safety	https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/feb/13/tinder-hinge-match-investigation	Emily Elena Dugdale and Hanisha Harjani	Technology & Digital Abuse	271	Techcrunch, Univ. of Berkeley, Fortune, The Conversation, AOL, Technology Review, Dallas News, Der Standard, All Africa, Democracy Now

Remaining 12 articles

11	Ex-Arsenal star Thomas Partey denies rape charges	https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c2lxe9800dko	Not named	Sports & Athletics	1736	Scoop, JutarnjiLIST, Grokpedia, Low quality hyperlinkers
12	Soccer player Thomas Partey, bailed on rape charges, signs for Spanish club Villarreal	https://www.cnn.com/2025/08/08/sport/soccer-thomas-partey-villarreal-rape-charges-intl	George Ramsay	Sports & Athletics	1640	AOL, Grokpedia, Low quality hyperlinkers
13	Thomas Partey, ex-Arsenal footballer, denies rape charges	https://www.aljazeera.com/sports/2025/9/17/thomas-partey-ex-arsenal-footballer-denies-rape-charges	News Agencies	Sports & Athletics	979	Wikipedia, Low quality hyperlinkers
14	India: Investigating sexual abuse allegations in Kerala's film industry	https://www.aljazeera.com/video/101-east/2025/6/12/india-investigating-sexual-abuse-allegations-in-keralas-film-industry	Not named	Positive use of tech	869	Low quality hyperlinkers
15	How India's first use of body mapping tech nailed Prajwal Revanna in rape case	https://www.indiatoday.in/india/karnataka/story/prajwal-revanna-hassan-mp-karnataka-identified-in-viral-sex-video-using-genital-feature-mapping-confirms-sit-2765981-2025-08-04	Sagay Raj	Positive use of tech	758	WN.com, Low quality hyperlinkers
16	Former Democratic legislature candidate who made sex videos accused of domestic violence	https://katv.com/news/nation-world/former-democratic-legislature-candidate-who-made-online-sex-videos-accused-of-domestic-violence-virginia-estranged-husband-harassment-divorce-chaturbate-pornographic-website	Jessica A. Botelho	Institutional & Workplace Abuse	640	All low quality hyperlinkers
17	Traces of Sexual Violence in the May 1998 Riots	https://www.kompas.id/artikel/en-jejak-kekerasan-seksual-dalam-kerusuhan-mei-1998-2	Agustina Purwanti and Nurul Intan	Systemic Violence & Society	589	Low quality hyperlinkers
18	NHS manager who groomed young girls on Snapchat jailed for 28 years for rape and abuse	https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5y05dq1giko	Tom Symonds	Isolated Cases	539	AOL, Other low quality hyperlinkers
19	Teacher guilty of sexual abuse of vulnerable pupil	https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn4dgyr21dro	Not named	Institutional & Workplace Abuse	482	AOL, Other low quality hyperlinkers
20	Fabens man allegedly bribed children with toys, barbies to keep quiet during sexual abuse	https://kfoxtv.com/news/local/el-paso-man-allegedly-bribed-children-with-toys-barbies-to-keep-quiet-during-sexual-assau	Staff	Isolated Cases	442	Low quality hyperlinkers
21	Hackers Arrested for Selling Hacked Home Cam Footage as Sexual Abuse Material	https://www.chosun.com/english/national-en/2025/12/01/H6V7LZBU3FCADGAX4CIRFD72GM/	Cho Min-hee	Technology & Digital Abuse	366	Denik, FutureZone, Dnevnik, Opinda, Low quality hyperlinkers
22	Possession of AI-generated child sexual abuse imagery may be protected by First Amendment in some cases, judge rules	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/tech-news/ai-generated-child-sexual-abuse-imagery-judge-ruling-rcna196710	Ben Goggin	Technology & Digital Abuse	303	Newser, Low quality hyperlinkers

5. Epstein files story case study using the GDELT news database

AKAS used the GDELT Project global online news archive to search all English and non-English online news stories between January 2017 and February 2026 to count the number of times 37 terms were mentioned in news coverage referencing Jeffrey Epstein. The analysis was carried out at a global level only. The GDELT database now covers over 1.14 billion stories globally in 65 languages. Between Jan 2017 and Feb 2026, the number of articles referencing Epstein was 808k.

AKAS assessed the volume of the following 37 terms in Epstein-referencing articles: ("power" OR "money" OR "elites" OR "corrupt"), "victims", (any of the 12 misogyny tracker terms), "power", "money",

"sexual abuse", "sexual assault", "survivors", "culture", "rape", "values", "gender", "sexual harassment", "MeToo", "corrupt", "elites", "beliefs", "systemic", "sexual violence", ("sexism" OR "patriarchy" OR "misogyny"), "structural", "domestic violence", "feminist", "sexist", "sexism", "misogyny", "feminism", "violence against women", "gender equality", "patriarchy", "masculinity", "anti-feminist", "gender based violence", "chauvinism", "social norms", "femicide", and "chauvinist".

Annual results were then constructed at a global level, and a specific comparison was calculated between the periods Jan 2017 to Feb 2026 and Jan to Feb 2026 (when Epstein coverage peaked) to analyse change in mentions of the 37 terms.

Contributors



Luba Kassova is the author of the award-winning The Missing Perspectives report series. A co-founder of international audience strategy consultancy AKAS, Luba is a researcher, journalist and strategist working with purpose-led organisations, having previously headed up the Audiences team for BBC News. Her work has been published or quoted in more than 300 news outlets across 80 countries, including in The Guardian, Fortune, The Independent, The Conversation, El Pais and Foreign Policy. Luba is currently working towards a PhD at the University of Westminster, examining the absence of women’s perspectives along the news value chain and the detrimental impact of this on women and society as a whole.



Richard Addy is the Missing Perspectives series quantitative research lead. A co-founder of AKAS, Richard has over 30 years’ experience as a strategist and has advised CEOs, organisational leaders, and previously government ministers in his role as a government economist. Richard has developed an impacts reporting framework used by leading news organisations including The Guardian, AP News, BBC World Service, El Pais, The Daily Telegraph, NPR, CNN, Der Spiegel and Le Monde. Prior to setting up AKAS, Richard was the chief adviser on strategic and audience issues to the BBC’s Deputy Director General who was responsible for BBC News locally, nationally and internationally. He is a Board member of theguardian.org and Africa No Filter. He has previously served on the BBC’s Journalism Board, Mind’s Board of Trustees and USC Annenberg’s Media Impact Project. Richard has a BSc in Economics from Warwick University and an MSc in Economics from Birkbeck College, University of London.



Audiences Understood.
People Empowered.

AKAS, an international audience strategy and impact measurement consultancy, is the engine behind the multiple research methods that underpin this report. It supports original journalism and advises media, international institutions, philanthropic foundations, NGOs and other purpose-led organisations. In a world where polarisation is an ever-growing threat, AKAS aspires to unify people and organisations by deepening their understanding of themselves and others.



Peter Todorov led on mining the GDELT news database used in this report. In his 20-year career, Peter has held various analytical positions in telecommunications, consulting and other sectors in the US, UK and Bulgaria. Peter holds an MBA from George Washington University and a Master’s degree in finance from London Business School.



Emma Wilson has supported AKAS for 11 years, focusing on digital content research, data categorisation and general administration. Prior to that, Emma worked in administration and production roles during a 12-year career at the BBC, latterly supporting the Journalism Board and News Group Board as Business Manager. She holds a BA in Sociology from the University of Nottingham.



Judy Nagle has provided proofreading and copy-editing services for this report, having also contributed to the previous Missing Perspectives titles. Her aim throughout has been to enhance the clarity and accessibility of the text, while maintaining the author’s distinctive voice. Judy holds an MA in Modern Languages from Cambridge University and a Diploma in Strategic Management from Birkbeck College, University of London.