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# Dewsbury Reporter

## TEEN 'BEGGED' CABBIE FOR SEX

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**A WOMAN who falsely accused a taxi driver from Dewsbury of raping her has been jailed after he produced a mobile phone recording of her begging for sex.**

A-level student Seonad Campbell, 18, called a taxi to take her home after getting drunk at a party in Pontefract in May.

In the cab she repeatedly asked the driver to have sex with her, which he recorded on a video on his mobile phone. He agreed and the couple had sex in a country lane near her home in Goole, East Yorkshire.

But when she returned home at 4am she told her father she had been raped and he immediately called the police.

Campbell, whose false allegation led to the arrest of two innocent men, has now been jailed for eight months after pleading guilty to perverting the course of justice.

Hull Crown Court heard she initially told police the driver had only made advances toward her, but changed her story and later that day her father and brother contacted police saying she wanted to make an official rape complaint. She then went to the vulnerable victim unit at Goole police station and gave a video statement.

Prosecutor David Cammies said: "She gave a clear unambiguous account that she had been raped and force had been used. She described how he pushed her down, she screamed a bit and struggled but she had been unable to resist him and he had forced sex upon her."

After her complaint a taxi driver unconnected to the incident was arrested on suspicion of rape and locked up for eight hours.

When police realised he was not the culprit his colleague was arrested and held for 90 minutes. He was released immediately after showing police the mobile phone footage.

Campbell's barrister, Anil Murray, said she was an immature girl who could not handle her drink.

He said: "This is not some hardened criminal before you. She has outstanding promise and promises to be an upstanding member of society.

"She has no memory of the taxi ride. It was obviously a brief and unromantic encounter.

"She then went home and was upset. She had made a careless remark to her father and brother who then pursued it on her behalf."

Judge Roger Thorn QC said her actions were serious and could jeopardise rape trials.

He said had the taxi driver not had the video clip and been convicted at a trial he would have faced a sentence of not less than eight years.

He said: "The public may well think it's tempting to make you serve that sentence which you were about to inflict on an innocent man."

A spokesman for the charity Rape Crisis said false allegations inevitably influenced juries and hence the conviction rate for rape.

<https://www.dewsburyreporter.co.uk/news/teen-begged-cabbie-for-sex-1-1346139>