



Teen girl sex act claims at Liverpool city centre gay bar Pink

YOUNG girls, one just 15, engaged in sex acts with bouncers in exchange for entry into a popular Liverpool bar, police claimed today.

BY **LIVERPOOL ECHO**

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YOUNG girls, one just 15, engaged in sex acts with bouncers in exchange for entry into a popular Liverpool bar, police claimed today.

Pink, in the city centre, has come under the spotlight for a catalogue of alleged violence and indecency inside its doors.

Merseyside police want to temporarily close down the Victoria Street gay bar following up to 40 reported incidents of disorder within 12 months.

Most alarming is evidence that two girls, aged 15 and 16, have repeatedly performed sex acts on doorstaff in return for being allowed inside.

The force's Family Crime Investigation Unit is examining the allegations, which have surfaced in recent weeks.

Today, management for Pink flatly denied the sex claims and describing the police's dossier of disorder as "ridiculous".

Among the spate of alleged disorder is:

A female adult claiming she was raped inside the toilets. The next day, the woman could not remember if the sex was consensual or not due to how much she had drunk. Police are no longer investigating the rape allegation but say they are concerned a reveller was allowed entry who was clearly intoxicated.

Assaults, using glasses and bottles as weapons, which have left customers in hospital with injuries.

A woman who needed stitches after she was smashed over the head with a bottle in January.

Another woman who was punched in the face by a man in the toilets in July.

Reports from bouncers about assaults on them by drinkers.

Officers said they warned Pink about the increasing trouble in April, but little improvement had led to a further 10 outbreaks of disorder.

Merseyside police want to temporarily close down the venue to prevent more trouble before a full licensing hearing.

Liverpool councillors were today meeting to decide on what course of action to take.

Co-proprietors David O'Connor and Jamie Motlagh claimed Merseyside police were singling out Pink as they disliked the gay-friendly bar being located among predominantly "straight" nightspots, which was denied by police.

Solicitor Brian Morris said: "Many incidents happened as much in Victoria Street as in the club itself.

"As to those incidents inside, pushing and shoving among people drinking is normal. Pink has always co-operated fully with the police.

"We feel there isn't a suitable police presence on Victoria Street and we are picked on as we're a gay bar."

The spokesman denied the allegations of girls indulging in sex acts with bouncers, dismissing them as "yarns to impress their mates".

And he added: "The girl (who alleged she was raped) started drinking at 6pm and finished a full bottle of vodka before she came to Pink."

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