In Bradford, One Muslim child rapist goes down; Ten more go on trial

From local newspaper the <u>in another courtroom</u>

A GIRL allegedly sexually assaulted while a resident of a children's care home in Bradford has told a jury she and her friend were repeatedly given drugs and booze by a gang of men. . She said they were also given vodka and whisky to drink by the men. Asked how many times she had been taken to the house, the girl said: "I wouldn't be able to say, maybe 15."

The court has heard that the 10 men allegedly preyed on their two "vulnerable" victims.

Opening the prosecutor's case at Bradford Crown Court, Kama Melly QC told the jury that both girls were in the care of the state at the time, describing them as "sadly ripe and vulnerable to manipulation".

Ms Melly told the court how one victim, who was aged 14 at the beginning of her alleged abuse, was a resident of a care home after having a turbulent upbringing. The court heard how she ran away from the home with a friend, who was also 14, after acquiring a bottle of vodka and was approached by a man in a car. In the months that followed, Ms Melly said they were subjected to a range of sexual abuse at the hands of the ten men through a variety of different methods "to satisfy their sexual desires".

Basharat Khaliq, 37, of Deanwood Crescent, Allerton, Bradford, denies assault by penetration and five charges of rape. Saeed Akhtar, 54, of Back Girlington Road, Bradford, denies two charges of causing or inciting child prostitution and one of rape. Naveed Akhtar, 42, of Newport Place, Manningham,

Bradford, and Izar Hussain, 31, of St Leonard's Road, Girlington, Bradford, deny three charges of rape, with Hussain also denying an additional allegation of attempted rape. Mohammed Usman, 30, of Quaker Street, Undercliffe, Bradford, and Kieran Harris, 27, of Fir Parade, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, both deny two charges of rape.

Yasar Majid, 36, of Laxfield Drive, Milton Keynes, denies rape, and Fahim Iqbal, 27, of no fixed abode, denies aiding and abetting rape. Zeeshan Ali, 31, of Durham Terrace, Girlington, Bradford, denies a charge of sexual assault, and Parvaze Ahmed, 35, of Farcliffe Road, Heaton, Bradford, denies three charges of rape.