



Dear LA Times, you mean child rape

Dear LA Times,

You seem a bit confused in your article "O.C men Charged with having sex with underage girl". What you mean to say was "O.C men charged with raping a child". You see, sex requires the consenting participation of two people. A child of 13 can not legally consent to sex; therefore the word you need to use is rape. Not sex.

The child may have used the term "had sex with" but that is because she is a child who has been groomed into believing she was in a relationship with Benjamin Avila [26] and who was further groomed into being raped by Avila's uncle Jose Luiz Gonzalez [63]. I presume the staff at the LA Times are all adults who should know the difference between sex between consenting adults and the grooming and raping of a child. If your staff can't quite work out the difference, I suggest some retraining is necessary [and perhaps them refraining from sex with anyone until they are competent to tell the difference].

Using the phrase "had sex with" when discussing child rape obfuscates male responsibility. We can not allow this misuse of language to happen as it makes it harder for child victims of rape to get support and be believed.

You need to change the title and make it clear that this is an article about child rape.

Best.
Stewie

Article [here](http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-men-charged-sex-with-underage-female-20131028,0,6495983.story?track=rss&utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&dlvrit=649324#axzz2j6SGjPkD): http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-men-charged-sex-with-underage-female-20131028,0,6495983.story?track=rss&utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&dlvrit=649324#axzz2j6SGjPkD