



The Chivalrous Violation of Women's Bodies by @WomenCanSee

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If women don't want to be grabbed, pulled, & kissed, we should avoid the company of gentleman.

It is a gentleman's right to display "chivalrous" drunken behaviour:

- moving to sit closely right behind the only other bus passenger- a woman...chivalry!;
- leaning over her shoulder so close she can smell the alcohol on his breath...chivalry!;
- saying "inappropriate" things to a woman stranger...chivalry!;
- attempting to kiss the hand of a stranger when it is not offered...chivalry!;
- continuing the inappropriate behaviour when a woman directly tells him to stop...chivalry!;
- following a woman after she has told him to STOP & has moved to stand beside the bus driver...chivalry!;
- grabbing a woman's hand again after she has angled her body to avoid that...chivalry!;
- pushing his torso against a woman's torso...chivalry!;
- kissing her hand again...chivalry!.

Women might think this was assault, harassment, & sexual assault, but the legal system comes to a different conclusion.

According to the magistrates the most salient factor in this encounter is not the assault by a man on a woman, nor is it the man continuing to harass & violate the woman after she has verbally & physically indicated to him to stop. Instead they have judged the salient factor to be the man's intentions. Vidas Cernevicius reports his intentions were friendly & polite, not sexual. His defence council claimed he was being a chivalrous gentleman, & the magistrates agreed. Costs covered.

Again the systems created within a patriarchal culture function to uphold the gender hierarchy: men's feelings are important; women's rights are unimportant.

Our lives & bodies are not our own, they are for men to act out chivalry upon.

Case as reported by The Leader [link: <http://www.leaderlive.co.uk/news/150880/-chivalrous-man-who-kissed-lone-woman-s-hand-on-bus-cleared-by-court-of-sexual-assault.aspx>]