

Justice catches up with pervert

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Kenneth Shackman, of Manchester Road, Bury, was convicted of 10 counts of indecently assaulting children between 1981 and 1988.

Shackman, 65, a married father of two who worked for the Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade, was also banned from working with children for life and ordered to sign the Sex Offenders' Register.

One of his three victims, now 27, complained about Shackman in 1988, but the police could not prosecute.

Shackman was arrested but released without charge because there was insufficient evidence.

It was only when two other victims came forward years later that prosecutors had enough to bring the case to trial.

The 27-year-old's mother said: "When we found out I felt totally betrayed. I remember saying that to the police at the time.

"Had she been dragged off the street by a total stranger, I could have come to terms with it far quicker. I find that the most difficult aspect."

Shackman was trusted by families after doing work in their homes as a painter and decorator and also running a business making video recordings of weddings, bah mitzvahs and other celebrations.

Bolton Crown Court heard that Shackman's first victim was nine or 10 when she visited his house and watched a video of ET.

He indecently assaulted the youngster - the first of a series of sex attacks.

The most serious incident happened during a trip to the Lakes when Shackman sexually attacked the girl while she was asleep.

Shackman's second victim was six or seven when he indecently assaulted her. Again, he showed his victim a video of ET before carrying out the attack.

It was only when she turned 13 that she realised the full gravity of what Shackman had done.

The third victim was about nine when she too was subjected to a series of sex attacks.

Judge Morris told Shackman: "What a disaster for you and, above all, for your immediate family. You have, in every other respect, led a respectable life. It is a disaster that you could not resist a sexual attraction for children."

He added: "You got the confidence of their parents. You were treated as a family friend. What a gross misuse of trust."