

## Netflix Defamation Lawsuit Moves Forward: Baby Reindeer Show

## **Description**

A Scottish woman accused of stalking the creator and star of "Baby Reindeer," Richard Gadd, has been granted permission to proceed with her defamation lawsuit against Netflix. This decision was made by a federal judge in California who declined to dismiss all of the claims. In a ruling issued recently, Judge R. Gary Klausner acknowledged the reprehensible nature of Fiona Harvey's actions but noted that the portrayal of these actions in the show could impact viewers differently.

The Emmy-award winning Netflix miniseries features Gadd recounting a "true story" of being stalked by a woman who bombards him with thousands of emails and voice messages. Following the show's debut in April, it gained significant attention worldwide, leading to speculation about the characters and their real-life inspirations. Harvey, identified online as the "real Martha Scott," filed a complaint seeking damages totaling \$170 million.

In her lawsuit, Harvey highlighted key differences between herself and the character portrayed in the show, Martha. She contested claims that she was a convicted criminal, had stalked a police officer, sexually assaulted Gadd, and engaged in other violent behaviors. While Netflix argued that these examples were "substantially true," Judge Klausner disagreed, emphasizing the distinction between fictional portrayal and real-life actions.

The judge allowed the defamation and emotional distress claims to move forward but dismissed other claims made by Harvey. He also mentioned the possibility of Netflix facing consequences if it knowingly depicted fictional events as facts. This decision underscores the complexity of legal battles surrounding artistic expression and the blurred lines between reality and fiction. Ultimately, the case highlights the challenges of navigating sensitive and contentious issues in the entertainment industry.

# **Vocabulary List:**

- 1. **Defamation** /,dɛf.ə'meɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The action of damaging the good reputation of someone; slander or libel.
- 2. **Stalking** /'sto:.kɪŋ/ (noun): The act of pursuing someone obsessively and repetitively in a threatening manner.
- 3. Reprehensible /,rɛprɪ'hɛnsɪbəl/ (adjective): Deserving censure or condemnation.
- 4. **Damages** /'dæmɪdʒɪz/ (noun): Monetary compensation awarded to a party in a legal proceeding due to loss or injury.
- 5. Portrayal /po:'treɪ.əl/ (noun): The act of representing or depicting someone or something in a particular way.
- 6. Consequences /'kpn.si.kwənsiz/ (noun): The result or effect of an action or condition.



## **Comprehension Questions**

#### **Multiple Choice**

1. Who accused the creator and star of "Baby Reindeer" of stalking?

Option: Fiona Harvey
Option: Martha Scott
Option: Richard Gadd

Option: Judge Gary Klausner

2. Where was permission granted to proceed with the defamation lawsuit against Netflix?

Option: California
Option: New York
Option: Washington
Option: Florida

3. What amount of damages did Fiona Harvey seek in her complaint?

Option: \$100 million Option: \$150 million Option: \$170 million Option: \$200 million

4. Which character was Fiona Harvey identified as online?

Option: Real Martha Scott
Option: True Richard Gadd
Option: Authentic Fiona Harvey
Option: Genuine Judge Klausner

5. Which claims did the judge allow to move forward in the lawsuit?

Option: Defamation and emotional distress

Option: Stalking and harassment Option: Assault and battery

Option: Defamation and financial loss

6. What consequences did the judge mention for Netflix?

Option: Fines and penalties Option: Legal repercussions



Option: Facing consequences for depicting fictional events as facts

Option: Cancellation of the show

### **Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Fiona Harvey 2. California 3. \$170 million 4. Real Martha Scott 5. Defamation and emotional distress 6. Facing consequences for depicting fictional events as facts

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What term refers to a short journey or trip especially for leisure or education?

Option: Microaggressions

Option: Excursion
Option: Conviviality
Option: Affection

2. What is the process of making or enacting laws called?

Option: Scrutinized
Option: Defamation
Option: Stalking
Option: Legislation

3. Which term refers to the first public performance or showing of something?

Option: Reprehensible Option: Damages Option: Portrayal Option: Premiere

4. Which term describes a sentimental longing or wistful affection for the past?

Option: Whirlwind Option: Satirical Option: Nostalgic Option: Dimension

5. What word is used to describe something that is widely recognized and well-established?

Option: Admiration Option: Iconic

Option: Impeccable



	Option: Dazzling
6.	Which term refers to the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties?  Option: Resilience  Option: Admiration  Option: Epitomizing  Option: Collaborate
7.	What is the quality of being able to adapt to many different functions or activities?  Option: Authentically Option: Versatility Option: Perceived Option: Emphasized
8.	Which term refers to a force that tends to pull stretch or twist something?  Option: Collaborate  Option: Authentically  Option: Strain  Option: Versatility
	What are brief and commonplace verbal behavioral or environmental indignities whether intentional or nintentional?  Option: Microaggressions  Option: Conviviality  Option: Affection  Option: Legislation
10	O. Which term describes deep love and respect for someone or something?  Option: Replicable  Option: Reprehensible  Option: Adoration  Option: Damages
G	ap-Fill(Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)
11	L is the act of damaging the good reputation of someone.
12	2. The continuous and unwanted surveillance or following of another person is known as



13. An actor's portrayal of a character is	crucial to conveying the intended message of the performance.
14. Every action has its	whether positive or negative.
15. An of a uni	versity is a former student.
16. The two companies decided to	on a new project to maximize their resources
17. Her taste in fashion was always	; she never wore anything out of place.
18. The fireworks display was truly	captivating the entire audience.
19. His consistent hard work earned him	the of all his colleagues.
20. The construction project was a succe	ess efficiency and precision in planning
and execution.	

Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )



- 21. The atmosphere at the party was filled with warmth good cheer and lively conversation.
- 22. She showed great tenderness and care towards her aging parents always making sure they were comfortable.
- 23. The storm caused significant harm to the crops resulting in financial loss for the farmers.
- 24. His actions were deemed morally unacceptable by society leading to widespread criticism.
- 25. The comedy show used humor to criticize and ridicule societal norms and behaviors.
- 26. The issue had a psychological that needed to be addressed in the therapy sessions.
- 27. His success was not by his peers until they saw the results for themselves.
- 28. She the importance of teamwork and collaboration in achieving their goals.
- 29. The artist's style was unique and reflected his true self creating art that was genuine and his personality.
- 30. The details of the contract were closely by the legal team to ensure no loopholes.

### **Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Excursion 2. Legislation 3. Premiere 4. Nostalgic 5. Iconic 6. Resilience 7. Versatility 8. Strain 9. Microaggressions 10. Adoration

Gap-Fill: 11. Defamation 12. Stalking 13. Portrayal 14. Consequences 15. Alum 16. Collaborate 17.

Impeccable 18. Dazzling 19. Admiration 20. Epitomizing

Matching sentence: 1. Conviviality 2. Affection 3. Damages 4. Reprehensible 5. Satirical 6. Dimension

7. Perceived 8. Emphasized 9. Authentically 10. Scrutinized

### **CATEGORY**

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6

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