

Short background info on this stalking case

Ms. Erum Ahmed has joined the MA Global Political Economy program in the fall of 2006. After having received from her a number of complaints about the program, I invited her to my office hour. She expressed great interest in contributing to the program by writing articles for a student newspaper or similar media. To test her English language skills, I offered her a small paid job, the copy editing of a translation. She accomplished this task with great enthusiasm. I invited her back to my office hour. She mentioned her isolation in the program, to which I responded with the advice to move from Witzenhausen to Kassel (I had already asked the Studentenwerk to make this possible for the summer term) and to engage more with the other GPE students. That night I received the first strange email, in which she offered her self sexually (see, Ahmed's 1st emails). On the advice of the psychological service of Kassel University I responded in a friendly, but clear way. Her response was appropriate. However, two weeks later I received the next email from her in which she expressed her wish to marry me. Ever since I receive at least one email a day, sometimes friendly, and lately always hateful.

At the start of the summer term 2008 she started to accuse me publicly of attempting to rape her by staring at her. Students googled her name and found the report on her expulsion from the USA a few years early (an article by Thomas Bartlett in The Chronicle of Higher Education April 5, 2002, and on CNN – now no longer posted). From then on, I took her behaviour very seriously and on the advice of my lawyer I applied for a court injunction. On the 12th of June 2008 the Local Court (Amtsgericht) Kassel decided that Ms Ahmed

1. shall not contact Prof. Scherrer in any way - including telephone or e-mail,
2. shall keep a distance of at least 100 metres from Prof. Scherrer and his office,
3. shall not accuse Prof. Scherrer of sexual harassment.

The Court decided that she would face a penalty of up to 250.000 Euro for continuing her false accusations.

Following the court decision Ms. Ahmed left Germany and is back in Pakistan. From there she bombards me with emails, advertises me on gay bulletin boards, applies in my name for email accounts and uses these accounts to send outrageous mails to colleagues, students and unknown persons, writes slanderous blogs etc.

Christoph Scherrer