**Background**

Born in 1997, with household registration in Dongguan. Zou Zhenhao was arrested in January 2024, admitted to a history of drug use including cocaine, has undergone multiple cosmetic surgeries, and paid rent of £4,000 in the UK.

In the initial prosecution, he was charged with 35 crimes involving ten victims, including 11 counts of rape, 3 counts of voyeurism, 12 counts of possessing extreme pornographic images, 1 count of false imprisonment, and 8 counts of possession of drugs with intent to commit sexual offenses.

His main defense arguments were: 1. All acts were consensual. 2. It was cosplay. 3. 1,4-butanediol was used for body lubrication, later changing his story to say it was for personal use at bars. 4. He claimed to be unaware of video evidence on his phone, later changing his statement to say he habitually recorded videos and derived pleasure from watching them. 5. He claimed not to know about the manuals for date rape drugs and anesthetics on his phone, saying his phone would erroneously take automatic screenshots. 6. He said victims voluntarily participated in recordings, later changing his story to say he didn't know the mini cameras were on and automatically capturing footage. 7. He attempted to blame Chinese sex education, claiming his father was a Communist Party state enterprise employee and his mother was a teacher, that he didn't receive sex education in China but did receive political education.

**Verdict**

After the trial, the jury's decision was: Zou Zhenhao (born February 20, 1997) was today found guilty of 28 charges, including: Eleven counts of rape, three counts of voyeurism, ten counts of possessing extreme pornographic images, one count of false imprisonment, and three counts of possession of drugs with intent to commit sexual offenses.

**Further Details**

After the jury's conviction, police revealed more details. Besides the victims in the prosecution, Zou Zhenhao's devices contained video evidence of more than fifty other victims. Police didn't prosecute these cases, possibly due to insufficient evidence. Currently, only two of these women have been identified, with most victims being in China and unidentified. Police are calling for more potential victims to provide information.

**Victim's Account**

As one of the victims, I am willing to share what happened that day.

I met Zou Zhenhao around May 2023. I don't remember exactly how we met (possibly through social media). We could be considered from the same region geographically. At that time, I had only been in the UK for a few months. The first time we met was to study mathematics, with no special interaction, just purely studying math. We didn't meet again for over a week after that. He kept inviting me out for drinks, but during that time, I was under a lot of academic pressure and busy with exams, so I kept refusing. However, on May 18th, possibly due to extreme pressure and an argument with a friend, I accepted his invitation to a party.

The location was a friend's place in the same building as his. There were about 4-6 people there. As soon as I arrived, he said I was late, that I had arrived late. This was completely unreasonable because we had never confirmed a specific time. But everyone was urging me to drink, and looking back now, I realize he was trying to get me drunk. I then drank about 3/4 of a cup of pure whiskey, a very large cup, at least 350ml.

After I finished drinking, his friends were about done drinking too, so we didn't stay there long. Zou Zhenhao then invited me to continue drinking at his place. I didn't think much of it at the time because I had been to his place before, and everything had been normal; it was also in the same building. I remember that after playing for a while, I didn't want to drink anymore, so I said I wanted to go home. He kept laughing it off saying "play a little longer, play a little longer." At that point, I didn't want to deal with him anymore, so I stood up directly and said I was leaving, then Zou Zhenhao immediately pressed on my shoulders and pushed me back onto the sofa. At that moment I knew something was wrong, so I should have been trying to negotiate with him?

It's important to note that my phone had already died by this time. Thanks to London thieves, my phone had been stolen a few days earlier, and I was temporarily using a backup phone, an XS or 8S. Otherwise, I would definitely have called the police or called a friend to come.

Afterward, my other memories are rather fragmented, but during this time I was already emotionally distraught. According to my memory, there was screaming, hitting walls, scratching myself, continuous crying, and other such behaviors.

1. A woman came in trying to get something from Zou Zhenhao. When I saw her enter, I thought she could help me leave the apartment, so I cried and asked her if she could take me with her. The woman seemed helpless and asked Zou Zhenhao, "Let her go home." Zou replied that he thought I wasn't in a state to go home or something like that. I kept explaining that I could go back by myself, but she remained indifferent and just left.
2. I remember a moment when Zou Zhenhao went to get something, and I thought it was a good opportunity. I don't know if I grabbed my bag or not, but I ran straight for the door, but he grabbed my clothes and pulled me back.
3. In later fragments, Zou Zhenhao kept asking me to drink, and there is evidence in the recordings showing he kept urging me to drink. I remember later drinking another large glass of red wine? I don't know why I drank it, and I don't rule out the possibility that he may have drugged me.
4. In the end, I don't know how long we went back and forth, because he didn't use direct violence like hitting me, but a kind of soft violence, not letting me leave, and I had drunk a lot and my head was very dizzy.
5. The last image should be him trying to take off his pants and walking towards me.

I remember waking up the next day without clothes on, my head was very dizzy, and my underwear was missing. I wanted to get dressed and leave immediately, so I searched his place for a long time. Zou Zhenhao kept advising me not to look, and then seeing I wouldn't leave without finding them, he found them from somewhere and gave them to me. I was on my period that day, and there was blood on my underwear. My head was still extremely dizzy when I went home.

Regarding our contact afterward, after the incident, I confronted him about his behavior on WeChat, and he replied, "I did something wrong," then asked to talk to me, which I refused. In my last few words to him, I said something like: "If you do this again, I will definitely send you to prison." Due to acute stress reaction, after three days of not eating (only drinking soup) and not sleeping, I reported it to the police. But I withdrew the report after three days for many reasons. Actually, the first time I reported it, all the video evidence was prepared and had already been submitted to the supervisor? I don't know who it was, but their reply was to refuse to file the case, then another police officer tried to argue, but at that time some police had bad attitudes, and the translation wasn't very good. Mental pressure and physical discomfort made it impossible for me to continue with the investigation.

After withdrawing the police report, I continued to expose this person on Xiaohongshu as a rapist who gets people drunk, to warn others. After posting, a victim contacted me. Following this, there were responses supporting me, but also some questioning me: Why did I go drinking at night? Why did I go to his home? etc. Unable to handle this pressure, I deleted the post. After more details were exposed at the end of the trial, I discovered there were more victims after me, which I deeply regret.

Because a woman reported the case in November 2023, the police began investigating again, and in February 2024, the police contacted me again.

I believe this news report is talking about me: In one video, Zou can be heard encouraging a woman to finish her drink while she clearly expresses that she wants to leave. The woman begs Zou not to control or restrict her, and in the recording played in court, she can be heard screaming and apparently trying to get up from the bed, but each time she is pushed back by Zou. In the video, Zou continues to persuade her to drink, to which she responds: "Why don't you drink it yourself?" When she expresses feeling unwell and wanting to leave, Zou responds: "Calm down, don't move." As the recording continues, the woman's voice gradually becomes slurred and distressed.

The main reason I came forward for media interviews is: I hope to spread awareness about this case, to find more victims in China, and to provide leads to the British police so that the criminal can be brought to justice and receive appropriate punishment.

**Additional Notes**

1. Regarding chat records and evidence, the British police don't provide certifications for everything like in China, so I don't have any. Generally, they communicate by email. The chat records were recovered from his phone by the police. You might find relevant information in foreign news. Before the news reports, I didn't know how this case was proceeding because the British police wouldn't tell me anything! Any case information, including how many victims there were, that he had drugs, etc.
2. Regarding court appearances, both domestic and foreign courts do not allow taking photos/videos. I only appeared in court during witness cross-examination; I wasn't present at other times. Because England has special measures, I couldn't see the criminal.
3. On the question of whether I was drugged, this is difficult to prove because there is no substantial evidence.
4. At first, I thought Zou Zhenhao was a rather honest person. I never thought he was charming. He looked like a very ordinary international student in England. Later, I came to believe that he used this ordinary appearance to exploit others' trust and then commit crimes.
5. The 1,4-butanediol he used in his crimes was purchased on Taobao in China, which doesn't regulate such substances. This chemical automatically converts to GHB in the body. It's also possible that he converted the butanediol to GHB at home.
6. Regarding the woman who was present, she was there during the party and lived on the floor below Zou Zhenhao. She seemed to have come to get something. After this incident, I asked her for photos of the criminal, but she refused to provide them.
7. This incident has mainly affected me psychologically/lifestyle-wise, which is very common. I didn't expect to appear in the news as a victim, but I don't want to elaborate too much on this aspect. The comments about victim-blaming may have had some impact on my mental state, but the biggest impact was the crime itself. My current thinking is that I want to increase awareness of this case, as its coverage in China has been limited. I hope more victims will report to the British police. Each victim discovered will increase his sentence.
8. During witness cross-examination, I answered the defense lawyer's questions, which were mostly simple: what do you usually do in the evening, what are you studying, and then directly asking: "I suggest you were willing, you engaged in sexual activity afterward" and other meaningless questions.