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[Gary Glitter on Trial for Child Molestation](#)

The former rock star risks over 7 years in jail

The former rock star Gary Glitter appeared today in his trial, in Vietnam, under the accusations that he molested two young girls at his beach house. By his real name Paul Gadd, the 61-year-old former glam rocker risks over 7 years of jail term if he is found guilty of abusing a 10-year-old and an 11-year-old girl in Vung Tau. The verdict will be announced on Friday and, according to the law of Vietnam, he will have 15 days to appeal. He was arrested last year, in November, on charges of committing obscenities, only 2 weeks after the government announced a crackdown on child sex abuse. Cambodia expelled Glitter in 2002 for the same charges, but Vietnam gets a chance to lay charges, demonstrating that they mean business. Le Thanh Kinh, Glitter's lawyer, said that these accusations are solely based on the girls' statements to the police. He paid \$2,000 to the girls' families as a compensation and stated that his client pleads not guilty, saying that he was teaching them English and that he treated them "like his grandchildren". Also, he told the press about his client: "He told me: I need to look very good because there will be many journalists when I appear in court" and asked him for some black t-shirts to wear to the trial. Intense pressure, especially from the British press, forced the government to allow the press' access, an unprecedented thing in Vietnam's history. Even if he is not accused in Vietnam, Glitter, who was made famous in the 1970s by hits like "I'm the Leader of the Gang" and "Rock and Roll", faces charges when he returns home, Britain seriously condemning "sex tourism".