



R. Kelly Finally Found Guilty After Decades of Averted Sexual Abuse...

Tara Wallace - September 29, 2021

After decades of ongoing accusations Robert Sylvester Kelly, better known as R&B singer R. Kelly, was finally convicted Monday, September 27, 2021 of racketeering and sex trafficking multiple women, men, and minors.

Racketeering charges are typically used in prosecuting organized criminals, like the mafia. In this case it is applied to the ongoing coordinated illegal scheme / criminal enterprise by R. Kelly and his inner circle. For decades they recruited girls and young women, taking them across state lines for sexual exploitation and the production of pornography. Within the single racketeering count were 14 individual acts including bribery, kidnapping, forced labor and eight violations of the Mann Act. The Mann Act violations are related to the transportation and coercion of two women, including a minor. The racketeering count carries a sentence of up to 20 years, while each of the Mann Act counts carry up to 10 years.



Despite Kelly's not guilty plea he was convicted on all counts and is facing up to life in prison. Kelly escaped accountability from multiple accusers for decades. In the highly publicized 2008 child pornography case in Chicago he was acquitted of all charges according to the New York Times.

Finally, Kelly is being held accountable for his ongoing abuses and crimes.

According to W Magazine, after the release of Lifetime's two season (2019-2020) episodic, *Surviving R. Kelly*, a long list of musicians who had collaborated with Kelly came forward to publicly apologize. These artists included Lady Gaga, Phoenix, and Chance the Rapper, among others.



CHICAGO, IL – SEPTEMBER 17: Singer R. Kelly turns to leave after appearing at a hearing at the Leighton Criminal Courthouse on September 17, 2019 in Chicago, Illinois. Kelly is facing multiple sexual assault charges and is being held without bail. (Photo by Antonio Perez – Pool via Getty Images)

Kelly's daughter, Buku Abi, posted on her Instagram account in January of 2019 in response to the *Surviving R. Kelly* series. After being confronted by many upset viewers, she chillingly stated "...the same monster you all confronting me about is my father. I am well aware of who and what he is. I grew up in that house."