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Sex op Linda's 'strip' protest

SEX-CHANGE girl Linda Gold claimed she was strip-searched in the male cells at a police station in front of ten officers.

And that, she told a court, was why she kicked a sergeant in the stomach.

"It's wrong to be stripped in front of ten men," jobless club hostess Linda told Bow Street magistrates, London. "It's wrong the way people like me are treated like an animal."

Gold, 27, of Ferndale Road, Brixton, London, admitted assaulting Sgt Peter Day at Vine Street police station and obstructing the footway in Soho.

Treatment

The court heard that Gold was arrested after stopping men in the street.

Gold, a shapely 38-28-38, was described on the charge sheet as "male/female."

She has been having hormone treatment for eight years and is due to have a sex change operation soon.

Gold was remanded until proof of a previous conviction for brothel-keeping is produced. She was banned from the West End as a bail condition.

Outside the court, Gold burst into tears. "They kept me in the male cells all night," she said.

"There were ten of them. They mocked me, grabbed me and everything."

After the case, a police spokesman said: "She wasn't strip-searched. It was an external search of her jeans. She took her top off herself."