

ATTEMPTED MURDER:

Jerkeem's attacker charged

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Over the weekend, Prime Minister Gaston Browne actively participated in the Queen's Baton Relay with members of the local organising committee as the baton, which contains a message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, makes its way across the Commonwealth's 72 nations.

PM Browne leads delegation to UK for high-level meetings

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is leading an Antigua and Barbuda delegation in the United Kingdom where a number of agreements important to the nation's future development will be signed.

Over two days of a packed agenda, PM Browne and Education Minister Daryll Matthew will hold discussions with individuals who have expressed an interest in investing in Antigua

and Barbuda.

On Monday, they participated in a business luncheon at St. James's Court, London. The attendees included UK members of parliament, business leaders, sports executives and sports personalities.

Prime Minister Browne delivered an address on investment and trade opportunities in Antigua and Barbuda.

During the event, Minister Matthew held discussions with education and sports officials.

Later in the afternoon, they met with the Chief Executive Officer of Regents Group, Dr. Selva Pankaj, who is interested in expanding his company into the Caribbean and establishing a Regents College in Antigua.

Dr. Pankaj recently opened a Regents College in Dubai.

From a modest beginning with a single student in 2000, the education arm of Regent Group - Regent College London - now provides industry related higher education courses validated by partner UK and US universities.

The Regent Group plans to increase its student intake to 10,000 by 2024 and is working towards having the college become a technology-enabled, private university with a global presence.

Today, the planned agenda of meetings will end in the evening.

The day will begin with a private equity roundtable. This forum will discuss increasing capacity for tourism in the islands, raising the profile of the islands among UK travel industry officials and forging closer links with UK private equity as investors, and incubating a venture capital community on Antigua and Barbuda.



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

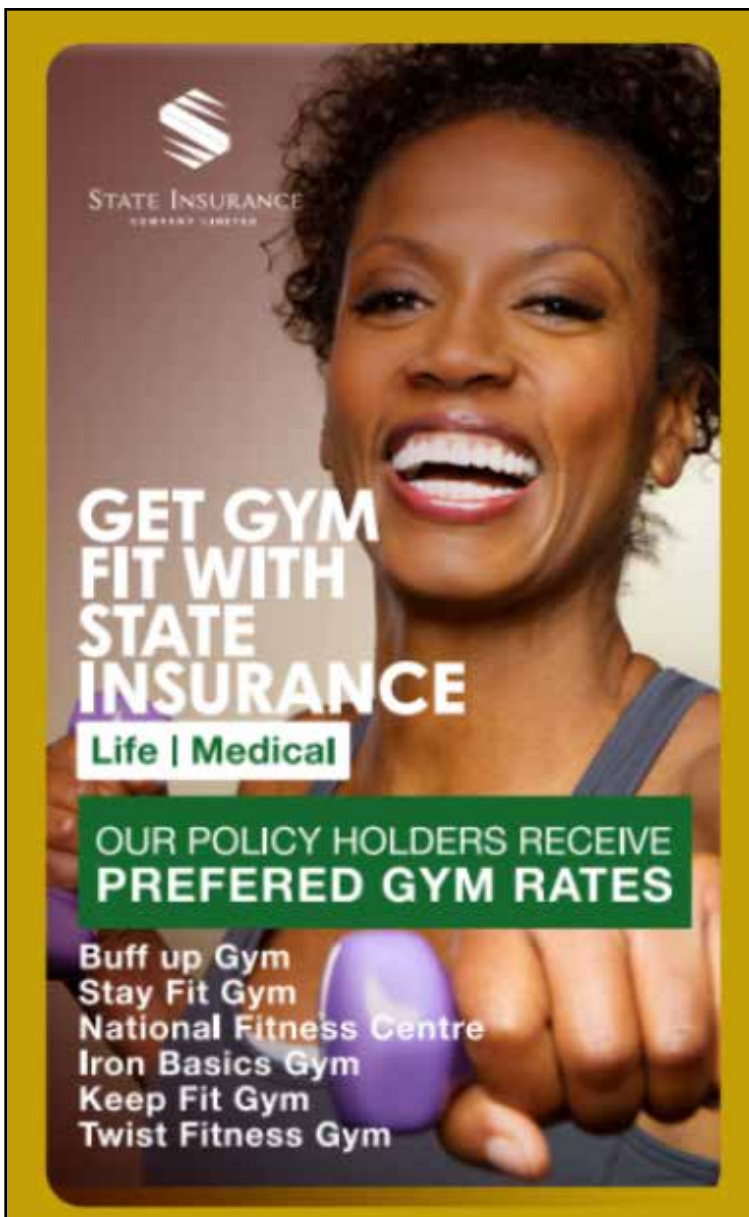
Right after that event, the Antigua and Barbuda team will engage in a private meeting with hotelier, Sol Zakay, who is interested in establishing a hotel in Antigua.

Brothers Sol and Eddie Zakay, are chairman and deputy-chairman of Topland Group, an investment group with a substantial real estate portfolio.

Following this meeting, Prime Minister Browne and Minister Matthew will meet with representatives of APCO and Victor Prokopenya, who are desirous of expanding their operations into the Caribbean with Antigua as a base.

In the early evening, Browne and Matthew will appear as guests of honour at a reception and signing ceremony for the launch of the UK and Antigua and Barbuda Social Mobility Partnership.

At this time, Prime Minister Browne and David Harrison, Chairman and Managing Director of True Potential LLP, will sign a Memorandum of Intention.



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Darrell Giddens remanded on attempted murder charge

One of the three young men who attacked and brutally beat 16-year-old Jerkeem Jackson has been remanded to prison on an attempted murder charge.

21-year-old Darrell Giddens appeared in the Magistrates' Court yesterday morning charged with the offence.

He was not required to enter a plea and was sent to Her Majesty's Prison, where he will remain, until his second court appearance in June when committal proceedings are set to begin.

On Sunday, police announced that the suspect, who was later identified as Darrell Giddens of Radio Range, was taken into police custody on Saturday and was assisting them with their investigation.

Jerkeem Jackson was attacked by three young men known to him and his family shortly after noon on 29th April, in Lower Ottos.

The beating was so se-



vere according to his mother Karima Joseph, that she returned home to find her son lying on the street with blood gushing from his head.

Joseph said Jerkeem suffered Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and a skull fracture.

The teen was warded in the Intensive Care Unit of Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre in serious condition.

Footage from a surveillance camera showed the three perpetrators approach-

ing the area where the crime was committed and leaving the scene after severely injuring Jackson.

Police have not indicated whether the remaining accomplices will also be charged.

Last Friday, in expressing thanks for the support she has received, Jerkeem's mother, Karima said, "Jerkeem is completely out of the coma and completely off of the ventilator. He is speak-

ing well; facial expressions are well in sync and he can remember everyone thus far.

"The injuries sustained have caused temporary and permanent damage to his teeth, vision and nervous system. I believe he will return to normal or near-normal, but it may take some time as has [sic] to re-learn how to do everything all over again, especially his motor skills (macro and micro) as well as coordinations".



APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Monday, 16th May 2022	Tuesday, 17th May 2022	Wednesday, 18th May 2022	Thursday, 19th May 2022	Friday, 20th May 2022
Bathlodge, Bendals, Golden Grove, Nut Grove, Jennings, and Jolly Harbour 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Section of All Saints Road near Belmont Clinic & Belmont near Vibz FM 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Sections of Fort Road near old Cockle Shell Inn 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Five Island north of Keith Edwards Entrance 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Section of Golden Grove south of Larro's property 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM
—	—	—	Section of Five Island east of Jaws Hotel 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Cashew Hill near Simon's Joint 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.

Convicted rapist loses Privy Council appeal

The Privy Council in London has dismissed an appeal made by Lee Martin-Cramp to have his rape conviction overturned.

Lee Martin-Cramp is the former British police officer who was found guilty in May, 2019 of raping Kaitlin Hurley of Maryville, Tennessee, who he met in 2015 on the dating app Tinder.

The full judgment of the Privy Council is not yet available, but after losing his appeal at the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, Cramp moved to the Privy Council where he suffered his latest defeat. He has now exhausted the appeal process.

In 2019, the 26-year-old was sentenced to 15 years

in prison for raping the nursing student, but appealed his conviction on six grounds, including that the defence was barred from making a no-case submission and that the judge misdirected the jury on the date rape drug Rohypnol and failed to give the right crime scene direction.

Additionally, he argued through his attorney Warren Cassell that the judge interrupted the defence over 80 times during cross examination of prosecution witnesses, thereby undermining their case. He also claimed that the judge failed to adequately put their case to the jury.

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court heard the appeal in October, 2020, and

dismissed it.

According to the facts of the case, Martin-Cramp, a former policeman, met his victim on 23rd May, 2015, while on holiday in Antigua. They met and shared a bottle of wine at a dockside boat party before returning to the woman's apartment, according to a witness statement given by the victim on 2nd June that same year.

They opened another bottle of wine and she went to her room to change into sweatpants.

When she returned, she said the wine tasted different and Martin-Cramp told her that he had put vodka in it. She took another sip and stopped drinking because she didn't like how it tasted, she said. As they began watching a movie in her living room, she began to feel dizzy.

"From that moment I can hardly recall what [happened] after, because I was feeling so dizzy. But I can recall at one point Lee was over me while I was lying in my bed, I was screaming at one point telling him no and to stop," a CNN article outlined.

She was shocked to find herself naked in bed with him the next morning, she said.

After she drove him back to his resort, she said she found a bite mark and bruises on her neck. When she sent Martin-Cramp a picture of the bruises, the texts show that he apologised for the bruises but said nothing further about them.

Eventually he admitted



Convicted rapist, Lee Martin-Cramp

through Whatsapp that he had sex with her. The woman used that evidence to report to the police what happened, and an investigation began.

However, before he could have been apprehended, he returned to the UK in late May, 2015.

Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Anthony Armstrong, made an application to the British Court in 2017 through the Crown Prosecutions Service for Martin-Cramp to be extradited to Antigua to be charged.

The request was granted in July of 2018 after the British Court heard legal arguments concerning the request for the police officer's extradition to Antigua and Barbuda.

The court's decision was sent to the British Home Secretary to decide whether to issue an order for the return of the fugitive officer. The order was signed by the Home Secretary in August of 2018.

Lee Martin-Cramp will continue serving his sentence at the former US base, as part of the extradition agreement.



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ACB apologises for service disruptions, reintroduces drop-box

ACB Caribbean is offering an unreserved apology to its thousands of customers in Antigua and Barbuda who, in recent times, have expressed serious displeasure with failing levels of service.

In a statement issued late Monday, ACB Caribbean's General Manager, Joanna Charles, acknowledged the "frequent service disruptions" customers have experienced and apologised for the inconvenience caused.

"We thank you for your patience, loyalty and support and for staying true

to your Bank," she said. The assurance was also offered to customers that the bank is "working diligently behind the scenes to restore normalcy and consistency to all of our services".

As a result, ACB Caribbean announced that it has, as of Monday this week, reintroduced the drop-box service in order to expand its service channels. This service, however, will incur a charge.

"This service is available at two of our locations: ACB Caribbean Village Walk, Friars Hill

Road, and ACB Caribbean Market & High Street (former RBC).

This service is considered an in-branch transaction, and attracts a fee of \$5.00 XCD, "said the ACB Caribbean GM.

The bank's ATMs located at Thames and St. Mary's Streets, Market and High Streets (former RBC), and Village Walk, Friars Hill Road, provide deposit services free of cost.

NOTICE

Carnival Vendors Meeting

The Ministry of Creative Industries and Innovation is inviting all registered and prospective Carnival vendors to a very important meeting on Wednesday 18th May, at 5:00 pm at the Multipurpose Cultural Center, Perry Bay.

Matters pertaining to vending operations during the upcoming Carnival Season will be discussed.

Please make a special effort to attend and be on time.



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Local News



Major upgrades planned for ABICE

Prime Minister Gaston Browne will ink a multi-million Pound Sterling agreement today for the construction of a Harrison Centre in

Antigua and Barbuda that will significantly upgrade and expand the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE).

Minister of Education and Sports, Daryll Matthew, will also attend today's signing in London with philanthropist and investor, David

Harrison.

According to a promotional video, the centre will offer new, in demand skills including automotive studies, welding, carpentry and joinery.

The objective is to ensure that "young people have access to fair opportunities and ultimately employment".

The proposed Harrison Centre is expected to function on renewable energy and will also incorporate recreational facilities.

The Harrison Centre for Social Mobility lists David Harrison as one of the North of England's leading entrepreneurs and has over 40 years experience in business. In 1997, he founded financial advice firm Positive Solutions which grew to be the largest in the country.

David is currently managing partner of Newcastle-based financial services group True Potential LLP, one of the UK's fastest growing financial technology firms.



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Sunday
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Tue 17 | Day

85°

12%
 ESE 16 mph

Some sun in the morning with increasing clouds during the afternoon. High near 85F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph.

Humidity
71%

UV Index
10 of 10

Sunrise
5:35 am

Sunset
6:32 pm

Tue 17 | Night

78°

8%
 E 13 mph

Mostly cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy late. Low 78F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.

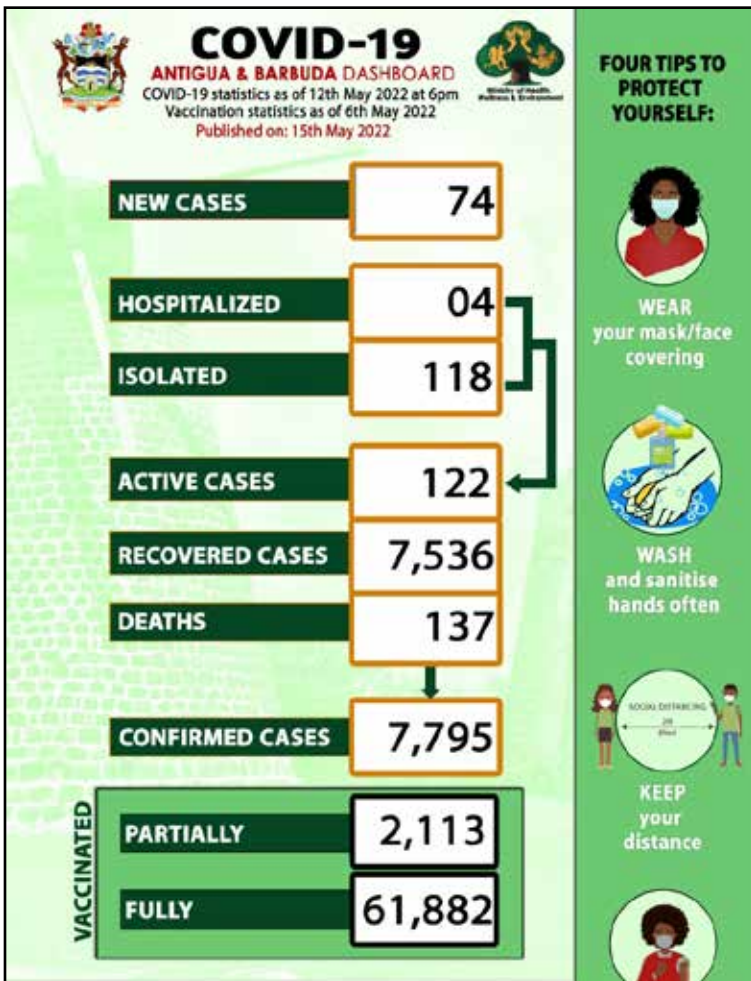
Humidity
79%

UV Index
0 of 10

Moonrise
8:27 pm

Moonset
6:44 am

Waning Gibbous



Active COVID-19 cases exceed 100

The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment revealed seventy-four (74) new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Thursday 12th May, 2022 at 6pm.

Twenty (20) cases were recorded on May 10th, twenty-six (26) on May 11th and twenty-eight (28) on May 12th.

One hundred and fifty-two (152) samples were processed.

Twenty-five (25) recovered cases were recorded.

Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is seven thousand seven hundred and ninety-five (7,795); which is inclusive of one hundred and twenty-two (122) active cases.

There are four (4) hospitalised cases; one (1) moderate and three (3) mild.

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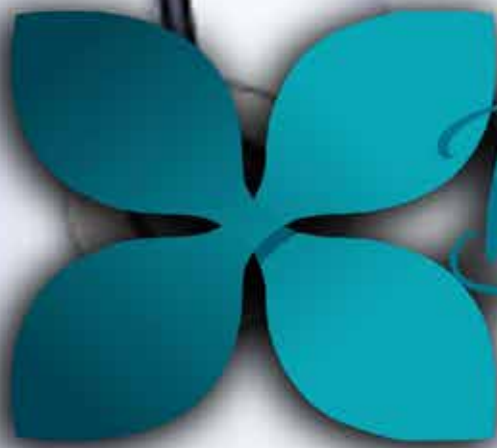
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How long-haul travel will change post-COVID

By Ashley Nunes

Airlines are rethinking long-haul travel as passengers cautiously return to flying. What's likely to change?

Australian flag carrier Qantas made history recently by ferrying passengers nonstop between South America and Australia. The aeroplane – a Boeing 787 Dreamliner – departed Buenos Aires shortly past noon local time. Some 9,300 miles (14,973km) and 17-plus hours later, QF 14 landed in Darwin.

In doing so, the carrier set two internal records: longest distance covered and longest time in the air for a commercial flight. Captain Alex Passerini, who commanded QF 14, later said: “Qantas has always stepped up to a challenge, especially when it comes to long-haul travel, and this flight is an excellent example of the capabilities and attention to detail of our flight planning team.”

Contrary to popular belief, flying for so many hours isn't entirely new. In the 1930s, Pan Am jets hopscotched across the Pacific Ocean with regularity. Passengers on board the Honolulu clipper could expect 20-hour flight times when shuttling between Hawaii and the continental United States. Qantas followed suit a decade later.

In 1943, the Flying Kangaroo launched service between Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and Australia, its flying boats taking up to 33 hours to complete the trip. Passengers who did were subsequently admitted to “The Rare and Secret Order of the Double Sunrise”, so named because of the two sunrises they would see during the trip.

The 21st Century has seen the long-haul, nonstop trend continue. In 2004, Singapore Airlines made headlines when it launched service between New



York and Singapore; a 9,500-plus mile (15,289km) haul that can – depending on prevailing winds – take up to 19 hours. Less punishing (though not by much) is Qatar Airways' Doha to Auckland, New Zealand service which clocks in at 9,000 miles (14,484km). Passengers on board the Boeing 777 cross 10 time zones and virtually the entire length of the Indian Ocean, continental Australia, and the Tasman Sea before arriving in the City of Sails. Trip time? 18 hours. Similar feats of flight are expected later this year when United and American Airlines launch services between the United States and India.

Fun stuff, minus the indignities of air travel of course. For one thing, there is nothing appealing about being sealed in a long metal tube. Do so for ever-longer periods and you are likely to end up grumpy. When passengers are grumpy, flying becomes less fun; and if something isn't fun, why do it? Early flyers were more fortunate. High fares limited who could fly, the result being a select few could experience luxurious service for hours.

Today's flyers want to fly further, faster, and in style, all while paying

less. Catering to these demands requires innovative thinking and airlines are increasingly investing in products that will keep long-haul passengers happy. Here are three of them.

Engine technology

Jets need fuel, lots of it. The Boeing 747 – an icon of the long-haul travel era – burns gasoline at an astounding rate of one gallon per second (4.54 litres per second). Consequently, to keep jets like this flying for hours, you need a large petrol tank. Aeroplanes like the Boeing 747 carry upwards of 57,000 gallons (259,127 litres) of fuel (the record holder is the Antonov An-225 which can carry nearly 100,000 gallons, or 454,000 litres). By comparison, the average four-door Sedan holds closer to 15 gallons (62.2 litres). A bigger tank may help you go further but expect your gas bills to be heftier. At current gas prices, topping off the average Sedan will cost you \$50 (£37.30); a Boeing 747, upwards of \$140,000 (£104,480). Such weighty expenses bode badly for passengers, much of whose cash goes toward paying airline fuel costs. Making things worse is volatility in the energy market which can cause massive

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Travel



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swings in fuel prices. For example, a one cent change in fuel prices can produce a \$40m (£29.8m) profit (or loss) for carriers.

But help is on the way. Engine manufacturers are studying – and succeeding – at making their products more efficient. A more efficient engine means less fuel burn, and less fuel burn lowers airline costs and (ideally), fares. Agnes Jocher, a professor of sustainable future mobility at the Technical University of Munich, says improvements in so-called ‘bypass ratios’ are key to lowering fuel use.

This ratio indicates how much air flows around the engine versus through it. Jocher says, “generally speaking, the higher the ratio, the more efficient the engine. The more efficient engine, the lower its fuel consumption.” Today’s jets burn on average 60% less fuel than the first generation of commercial aircraft, thanks in large part to bypass ratios improvements. Jocher expects this trend to continue as airlines keen to go long-haul, nonstop explore ways to trim costs. When it comes to saving fuel, she notes, “higher bypass ratios are key”.

Los ing weight

An efficient engine can help you burn less gas. But so can shedding weight. The reason comes down to simple physics. It takes more energy to move more mass. A heavier aeroplane will – all else being equal – burn more jet fuel than a lighter one. A lighter jet can also fly faster, shaving precious minutes off a flight. That bodes well for the airline (keen to maximise aeroplane productivity) and passengers (eager to arrive at their destination sooner).

One way to curb aircraft weight is foregoing wiring and cables. These devices act as the connective tissue for jetliners, forming crucial links between the cockpit and aircraft systems like the landing gear, door sensors, and life support systems. The problem? They are heavy. By one estimate, wires, switch-

es, and sockets can add over 16,000 lbs (7.2 tonnes) to a wide-body passenger jet. And more weight means more fuel burn. The solution? “Fly-by-wireless” systems, lightweight electronic technology which connects the cockpit and crucial aircraft control systems via the airwaves.

Qantas recently took a more creative approach to shedding pounds. The carrier tasked industrial designer David Caon with creating a new line of in-flight cutlery and crockery. A key requirement? The assortment of plates, dishes, and utensils would have to be lighter than their predecessors. Achieving this feat was – to put it mildly – challenging. Caon says he and his team were “not able to reduce the thickness of the crockery as this would affect its durability”. Instead, the team redesigned each piece to “reduce profiles and minimise sections and use less material overall”.

Caon describes the effort as a delicate balancing act to preserve “functionality, durability, and weight”. These efforts paid off. The tableware – which debuted on Qantas’ 17-hour-long Perth to London route – was 11% lighter than its predecessors, producing “great fuel saving benefits”. The new tableware was so popular Qantas subsequently used it across its entire network.

Finessed food

Aeroplanes are – despite the best mechanical innovations – cramped, noisy flying chunks of metal. And despite the inherent wonder of flight, if you’ve ever flown for hours, you know how boring plane travel can be. Airlines have responded by beefing up onboard amenities (including showers), entertainment (imagine having 4,500 TV and audio channels to choose from), and most notably, improved cuisine. For example, some passengers on the 17-hour trek between Los Angeles and Singapore are treated to a food spectacle, one that would rival dining at the best Michelin-starred restaurants. Or-

ange-braised baby beet salad with endive, cherry tomatoes, and pine nuts? Perhaps citrus salmon over pumpkin dal, basmati rice and cilantro ghee? And spiced apple cake to finish? It’s a far cry from the unrecognisable, reheated meals of the past.

But just because food sounds good doesn’t mean taste follows suit. When flying high above the clouds, your normal sense of taste goes out the window. The often touted culprits are pressure drops (there’s less air at altitude) and plummeting humidity (cabin air is generally drier than the Sahara Desert). By one estimate, the combination of low pressure and dryness dull your taste buds by 30%.

However, there’s less talked about reason for waning palate sensitivity. A recent study found loud noise can cause savoury taste to be enhanced, and sweetness dulled. The study’s authors chalk it up to the noise-induced suppression of intense flavours which ultimately “alter the perception of the foods we eat”. Their proposed fix? Rethinking menus to match taste preferences at altitude so passengers can – despite the constant buzzing of jet engines – better taste their food. Given the billions airlines are investing in going long-haul, spending a little more on “menu diligence” may well be a bargain.

The COVID-19 pandemic has understandably depressed air travel demand. Closed borders and ever-changing testing requirements are less than enticing for any traveller. But as border restrictions ease, and as demand picks up, expect renewed interest in long-haul flight. Qantas – sensing passenger appetite for arriving sooner rather than later – has already renewed its commitment to “Project Sunrise”, an ambitious effort to fly nonstop from its Sydney hub to prized markets like London, New York and Paris. With rivals sure to follow suit, innovation will discern which carriers make it and which ones don’t.

Why women file for divorce more than men

By Katie Bishop

Statistically, women call time on their marriages more than men. What's with the big discrepancy – and will it stay this way?

The decision to end a marriage is often difficult, and couples may spend months, or even years, soul-searching before calling it quits. But when it comes to initiating a split, there's a clear pattern in who makes the final call. In Western heterosexual relationships, women catalyse an enormous proportion of divorces.

In the US specifically, where no-fault divorce is legal in all 50 states, some estimates put the figure at 70%; this rises to a staggering 90% when women are college educated. In the UK, ONS statistics showed women petitioned for 62% of divorces in England and Wales in 2019.

Now, in some Western countries, divorce is becoming easier; the UK, for instance, recently legalised no-fault divorces, which means couples now have a quicker and more straightforward route to break up. This change in rules could open the door for even more women – who might have been hesitant before – to file for divorce.

Why, though, are women disproportionately



choosing to divorce in the first place? For some, the answer lies in how partners do – or don't – meet their emotional needs in marriage. Yet for others, things are more complicated – and there may be more nuance to these statistics than it seems.

The importance of independence

In most societies, divorce has been a relatively recent phenomenon.

In the UK, divorce was extremely uncommon before 1914, with just one

divorce in every 450 marriages in the first decade of the 20th Century. Now, more than 100,000 couples in the UK get divorced every year, and in the US, around half of marriages end in divorce.

As Heidi Kar, a psychologist and expert on domestic violence at the US-based Education Development Center, explains, it's no coincidence that the rise of divorce has coincided with women's liberation.

“Because economic

independence is an imperative before a woman can attempt to leave a marriage, either alone or with children to support, it's extremely difficult for women to leave a marriage unless they have some way to make money on their own,” she says. “Also, because gender roles become more complicated as women start to gain financial independence, more marital conflict naturally arises.”

In other words, women's entry into the work-

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Relationships



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force enabled them to leave unhappy marriages for the first time – they were no longer financially bound to remain in abusive partnerships or relationships where their needs were not being met, and women thus began to initiate divorces at greater scale.

This also helps explain why women with university-level education are so much more likely to end a marriage.

“Across cultures and geographies, women who are economically able to take care of themselves – which usually is tied to higher education levels – are more likely to initiate divorce than women who are unable to economically sustain themselves and their children,” adds Kar.

Emotional and social factors

Still, increased economic independence alone doesn't explain why women have become so much more likely to initiate divorce than their husbands. Yet, the percentage of women initiating divorces has continued to rise – and the reasons are manifold.

For many women, the expectations they have when they enter marriage may fail to match up to reality. Experts say that they often have a higher expectation of how a partner will meet their emotional needs than men, which can lead to disappointment post-wedding.

Gilza Fort-Martinez, a Florida, US-based licensed couples' therapist, who specialises in conflict resolution, says because men are usually socialised to have lower emotional intelligence than women, this can lead to female partners feeling unsupported and doing much of the emotional labour in the relationship.

This emotional intelligence also means women are more finely attuned to problems and relationship

“red-flags”, and their tendency to be the primary communicators and empathisers means that they may also be the first to raise issues – perhaps ultimately resulting in separation or divorce.

Women also tend to gain fewer emotional benefits from marriage, which could make single life seem more appealing. While married men experience multiple perks – including living longer and earning more money – women don't usually benefit from their relationships in the same way. Instead, they bear the brunt of household and child-rearing labour, which can leave working women “overwhelmed and stressed”, says Fort-Martinez.

Women also tend to have more close friends than men (in fact, in the US, 15% of men say they have no close friendships at all), meaning they have a better support system both to discuss any marital issues as well as to ease the transition back into single life.

It's also possible these friendships make divorce seem like a more plausible option – research suggests that if a close friend gets divorced, people's own chances of divorcing rise by 75%.

Add this to the fact that women get primary custody of children in the vast majority of divorce cases, so women may feel they have less to lose when filing for divorce compared to men.

And in some ways, they are right – evidence shows men's well being tends to drop much more dramatically immediately following a divorce.

But in reality, this effect can be short-lived. “In the short-term after divorce, men's overall wellbeing decreases more, and they report higher levels of loneliness,” says Kar.

“But over time that evens out, and women continue to suffer from more chronic, long-term effects including

the loss of home ownership, reduced financial means, and increased stress from life as a single parent.”

This doesn't mean that these women have more regrets, however. In spite of these downsides, only 27% of women say they regret getting a divorce, compared to 39% of men, showing that for most women divorce-related hardships are preferable to staying in an unhappy marriage.

Seeking resolution

Of course, filing for divorce isn't the same as ending a marriage. While research shows women in heterosexual marriages are more likely to initiate the break-up, there are also women who didn't choose to end their relationship, but want or need to formalise the split nonetheless.

“Women tend to be more motivated than men to resolve their marital status,” says Katie Spooner, partner and head of family law at Winckworth Sherwood, London. She says, based on her client record, most men are happy to remain separated, unless there is a new relationship or particular imperative to sort their finances.

For women, however, the need for a divorce can be much more pressing. “It remains a requirement for divorce to be filed in order to make a financial application,” says Spooner, referring to the legally binding process of sorting finances out after a split. “Historically, women have had a greater need to do this due to their weaker financial position, or their role as primary caregiver.”

In other words, married women tend to earn much less than their husbands and are significantly more likely to have given up work or reduced their hours to care for children – even if they were the higher earner to begin with.

This means women who are sep-

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Trinidad and Tobago current situation on LGBTI Human Rights

By Nicole Dookie

The fear of being beaten, robbed, tortured or even killed continues to reside in the minds of many individuals in the LGBTI community in Trinidad and Tobago.

With crime escalating, this vulnerable group of individuals are forced to keep their sexuality a secret or flee the country where they can feel safe.

Discrimination comes in all forms. Trinidad and Tobago is a very conservative and religious country with a population of 1.4 million.

The towns and villages are small and everyone knows everyone in today's society especially with social media. It's hard for an



LGBTI person to simply relocate to another part of the country. It's small and the locals will eventually find out, and in most cases

expose the individual.

While there may be people in society who are beginning to accept this group of individuals and

the lifestyle they choose, there are those who are still against it. No one tolerates the freedom of expression

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arated from their husbands without a divorce agreement risk financial hardship, because they may not have a legal right to marital assets or financial support until a formal divorce agreement is in place.

Filing for divorce might be their only choice to secure assets, even if they did not choose to end the relationship in the first place.

Spooner points out a big turning point for women initiating divorce in the UK was 1996, when being a "homemaker" was recognised as a contribution to the marriage, meaning women became entitled to a fairer share of assets. Before this, the less-wealthy spouse (usually the woman, especially if she'd given up

her career) was only given financial support for basic needs, rather than how their domestic labour had contributed to the marriage.

This arrangement is now common in many other countries, meaning fewer women risk poverty post-divorce, and are more motivated to push for a divorce over a separation to get their fair share of marital assets.

As for the new UK law, Spooner says there has been an early rush to file no-fault divorces, suggesting many people had been waiting for the law to change.

However, it's too early to know exactly how patterns will shift until the law has been in place for a while; Spooner herself believes there could

be a "slight drop" in female-driven divorces, since it's the first-time couples can issue joint applications.

Whatever happens in the UK, ultimately, divorces – like marriages – tend to be complex and nuanced. In some cases, filing for divorce is an agonising decision based on years of unhappiness.

For others, filing is more of a practical move, based on the need to reach a financial settlement.

What's clear, however, is that certain factors – women's improved earning power, men and women's mismatched emotional needs within marriage and ongoing inequalities in household labour – mean that divorce is likely to remain deeply gendered.

The World Around Us

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from LGBTI individuals. They simply cannot be themselves.

A recent study has shown that within Trinidad and Tobago generally, local communities are hostile to the idea of LGBTI men. It attributes this to the recent challenges to local laws, which criminalise same-sex sexual activity. This Ruling was challenged and appealed by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. The state decided to appeal this. How can one say the state will offer protection?

The study also noted that the individual LGBTI person is at increased risk of violence if they are not able to conceal their sexual orientation, perform their expected gender identity effectively or are linked with actual 'homosexual activity.

In Trinidad and Tobago, many of these individuals are enticed by "prospective lovers" online who lure them into meeting on dates. However, when they get there, they are beaten and robbed of their possessions.

The Joint Background Research by legal professionals written on behalf of the UNHCR Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago also stated that in many instances individuals who experienced violence and death were known at some level to their attackers.

As a result, it noted that the lived experience of LGBTI persons then remains a suspicious unknown to most persons and stereotypes and misunderstandings are predominant.

The article further pointed to the fact that there are no real protections in law, policy or practice which the State has that these individuals can lean on where there are issues of otherwise domestic violence. It is concerned that reports most times are not made of threats knowing that the process would create more prob-

lems for him and that nothing would become of the eventual report of the threat.

According to the study, ejection from the family home is a familiar rite of passage for many LGBTI youths particularly if they have effeminate characteristics resulting in these individuals having to adapt themselves to concealment codes in dress, deportment, choice of associates, interest, conversation etc. or to submit to unwanted, and informal, often violent corrective therapies. It further noted that a lack of substantive support and rejection by family is the source of many problems for gay persons in Trinidad and Tobago.

The wider community normally pressures the family to alienate the LGBTI individual and in most times this results in violence and murder.

The article highlighted the names of 10 victims and instances in which members of the LGBTI have been attacked or killed between 2011 and 2017. It added that the 2015 Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) report expressed its concern on Trinidad and Tobago's lack of compliance with the Equal Opportunity Commission's recommendations that the state includes the categories of age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and HIV status as grounds on which to ban discrimination.

The article strongly suggests there is a need for research and education around types of violence against LGBTI persons.

Over the years, religious leaders have spoken out against the lifestyles of members of the LGBTI Community.

"Former Inter-Religious Organisation (IRO) head Pundit Harryperasad Maharaj on the 2009 Gender and Development Policy "If the Government ever intends to legalise same-sex marriages in T&T, we are send-

ing out a warning in advance it will not get the support of the religious community."

The former IRO head Archbishop Gray-Burke 2017 has indicated that on the issue of marriage equality (although this is not a priority of the local LGBTI community – security of the person is) that she would not give her support and further as a Justice of the Peace, that she will not do any registration for gay marriages and further that she would prefer a jail sentence instead of performing a marriage for a gay couple" the article noted.

It suggested that the ultimate power for broad systemic change on LGBTI rights in Trinidad and Tobago lies with religious institutions, not the state since religious organisations have historically played an important role in Caribbean society both during and after slavery and colonialism.

In a 2013 survey of the attitudes toward homosexuals in Trinidad and Tobago, a study initiated by the local CAISO organisation and conducted by the Barbados-based research organisation Caribbean Development Research Services Inc. (CADRES), it was found that 36 per cent of the population could be described as homophobic with a further eight per cent who were unsure about the related LGBTI issues.

In the Caribbean, it should be noted that anti-gay violence is not recognised or treated as violence against a person for being a member of the LGBTI community. Such violence is recorded as robbery, gang-related, mistaken identity.

The fear of being attacked and even killed have led to hundreds of Trinidad and Tobago LGBTQI Members seeking asylum and protection in other nations with many in The United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Canada and the United States.

Biden administration easing some US restrictions on Cuba

Aljazeera - The administration of United States President Joe Biden is easing some restrictions on Cuba, the US State Department has announced, including curbs on family remittances and travel to the Caribbean island nation.

In a statement on Monday, the State Department said the US would reinstate a family reunification programme known as the Cuban Family Reunification Parole and continue to boost the capacity of its consular services.

It will also expand authorised travel, increase support for Cuban entrepreneurs, and “ensure that remittances flow more freely to the Cuban people while not enriching those who perpetrate human rights abuses”.

The changes aim to “support the Cuban people, providing them additional tools to pursue a life free from Cuban government oppression and to seek greater economic opportunities”, said State Department Spokesperson Ned Price.

The measures, which come after a lengthy US government review, mark the most significant changes in Washington’s approach to Havana since Biden took office in January of last year.

But the announcement stopped short of returning US-Cuba relations to the



historic rapprochement engineered by former President Barack Obama, under whom Biden served as vice president. That included less crimped flow of remittances, fewer travel curbs and faster visa services.

There were few details on Monday on how the new US policy would be implemented.

The Cuban embassy in Washington, DC, did not immediately respond to a request for comment from the Reuters news agency.

The announcement comes just weeks after the US embassy in Cuba in early May began issuing visas for the first time in four years.

That came shortly after senior US and Cuban officials held their highest-level diplomatic talks after a severe disruption in ties during the administration of former President Donald Trump.

The discussions in Washington, DC, in April between senior Department of State officials and Cuba’s deputy foreign minister focused on migration, with the US side eager to rein in a growing number of Cubans trying to enter the country.

But tensions between the two nations persist, including over the Cuban government’s crackdown on protests last year and continuing US sanctions against the country.

Cuba’s foreign minister also recently accused the Biden administration of exerting pressure on countries in the region to try to exclude Havana from the upcoming Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles, California.

“There is no justification for excluding Cuba or any other country from this event that we have attended the last two editions,” Bruno Rodriguez said on Twit-

ter last month.

A US delegation is travelling to Mexico later this week to discuss the June summit, after Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador last week warned that if Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela are excluded, he would skip it and send a representative instead.

In its statement on Monday, the State Department said the US would lift the cap on family remittances, previously set to \$1,000 per quarter, and authorise donative remittances to non-family members.

But it made clear that the US would not remove entities from the Cuba Restricted List, a State Department list of Cuban government- and military-aligned companies with whom US firms and citizens are barred from doing business.

“We are going to ensure that remittances flow more freely to the Cuban people, while not enriching those who perpetrate human rights abuses,” an administration official said earlier in the day.

The US will use civilian “electronic payment processors” for remittances to avoid funds going directly to the Cuban government, the official said, adding that the US had already engaged with the Cuban government “about establishing a civilian processor for this”.

Truck drivers from Dominican Republic refuse to enter Haiti

CMC – With an increase in reports of daily kidnappings across the country, truck drivers from the neighbouring Dominican Republic have decided not to enter Haiti to deliver goods and produce.

This measure has been adopted by Dominican drivers who travel from the National District and the provinces of Santiago, Valverde, Puerto Plata, and La Vega among others.

Based on this decision, these carriers unload their goods in the border area and the Haitian carriers are responsible for picking them up and delivering them to their recipients in Haiti.

According to René Bazin, several of his colleagues were victims of the looting of their trucks while travelling in Haiti.

He explained that the gangs, in addition to kidnapping for ransom, are dedicated to looting trucks,



tankers, and other vehicles that transport food, building materials, and household and electrical appliances, among others... adding “It pains me to say it, but my country is currently unliveable, many of

my colleagues want to stop transporting because there is no security for anyone.”

For his part, Juan Marte the President of the National Central of Transport Workers considered wise the decision of Dominican

carriers to refrain from entering Haiti with vehicles containing food and other goods.

“It’s the right thing to do because it’s not fair that drivers risk their lives for a few more pesos,” he said.

Guyana Government proposing tougher measures on drunk drivers and bar owners

CMC – The Guyana Government has drafted new legislation which could see tougher action being taken against drunk drivers and business owners who continue to sell alcohol to persons who are already drunk.

The announcement of the proposed measures comes on the heels of several accidents involving drunk drivers. Many of those accidents resulted in the loss of life and serious

injuries.

In a statement, President Irfaan Ali said he has heard the pleas of Guyana and he knows road safety is a big concern in the country, noting that driving while under the influence is causing too many deaths and too much trauma for too many.

This proposed bill seeks to amend the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, Cap. 82:21 for the purpose of

strengthening provisions that prohibit drunkenness on premises that are licensed to sell alcohol.

“Clause 2 of the bill seeks to amend Section 2 of the Principal Act by inserting a new definition for the term “drunken person”. A “drunken person” is defined as a person whose physical or mental conduct is substantially impaired as a result of the intro-

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Jamaica's Department of Correctional Services to implement electronic jail management system

CMC – Jamaica's Department of Correctional Services (DCS) is set to benefit from the implementation of an electronic Jail Management System, under the Ministry of National Security's Security Strengthening Project (SSP).

The J\$117 million investment is being undertaken through a partnership involving the DCS, Synergy International Systems, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Ministry of National Security.

The new system is expected to allow for more efficient tracking of inmates, easier sharing of information to other stakeholders such as the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), Courts, and real-time capturing of analysis of information.

It is also expected to eliminate the paper-based Jail Management System used by the DCS.

The system will also improve data integrity and reports while providing seamless integration among the DCS, the JCF, and other agencies of the Ministry of National Security.

According to the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Courtney Williams, the system aims to strengthen the department's technological capabilities.

"The signing of this contract to begin the implementation process of this activity is quite timely and this is so, as the government continues to strengthen the capabilities of the nation's security architecture by investing and building sustainable partnerships with public, private, and international partners. This in order to fully leverage technological tools to apply strategic data-driven measures," he said.

Williams was speaking recently at the contract signing ceremony between the government and Synergy International Systems for the supply of a jail management system for the DCS.

"Like other government agencies, the DCS is challenged with the system of records management. This cumbersome task of collecting data manually using over 40 different books and forms, remains a risk to the efficient functioning of the organisation. In addition, the absence of system-wide access to records, due to the lack of a single or central repository form of inmate information, continues to compromise the integrity of the data collected and managed," the Permanent Secretary said.

He noted that the implementation of the system will bring about well-needed benefits to all stakeholders involved in the supervising, rehabilitating, and reintegration of offenders.

For his part, Deputy Commissioner of Corrections, Dr. Marc Thomas, said through the initiative, the DCS is moving closer to becoming a centre of excellence in correctional management in the Caribbean.

"Our non-custodial clients number around 3,000. They are supervised by probation officers in every parish. The incarcerated population is around 3,700 across 11 correctional institutions, and if you take a look inside the walls right now, you will find thousands of inmates engaged in various rehabilitation programs, academic pursuits, vocational courses, life skills, sports therapy, you name it," Thomas said. He added that it was nothing short of a miracle that the DCS has



Dr. Ashot Hovanesian (L) and Courtney Williams

been operating a paper-based operation for so long.

"This jail management system will allow us to move from a paper-based system to a more agile computerised management system, therefore we expect to see more efficient tracking of inmates from admission to release, easier sharing of information to stakeholders for example the JCF...the courts, as well as the real-time capturing of analysis and information, all of which bodes well not just for efficiency, but also for transparency and accountability," he said.

Meanwhile, Chief Executive Officer, Synergy International Systems Inc, Dr. Ashot Hovanesian, said the project will strengthen the department's capacity in its operations in the justice sector.

Moscow's 'defeat' as Finland, Sweden move to join NATO

AlJazeera – Russian President Vladimir Putin is waking up to a security disaster.

In February, he said that his country's "special operation" against Ukraine was a preemptive move to terminate NATO's "endless" expansion in Russia's former stomping ground – Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

As a result of Russia's aggression, however, that is exactly what is going to happen. Finland and Sweden have said they want to join the 30-member security bloc – a process that may take up to a year.

Once they are in, NATO forces may be right next to the Finnish-Russian border that stretches 1,340km (833 miles) across pine forests and frigid lakes. Upon its inception at the Cold War's dawn in 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) had only 12 members.

After the 1991 Soviet collapse, 11 Eastern European nations that used to



Sweden's Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson and Finland's Prime Minister Sanna Marin have said their countries will apply to join the NATO alliance [Paul Wennerholm/TT News Agency/Reuters]

be Moscow's satellites and three Soviet republics joined the alliance.

The Kremlin saw the expansion as an existential threat, and a call to end it was part of Putin's laundry list of demands handed to the collective West,

prior to the February 24 invasion of Ukraine.

So, the announcements by Stockholm and Helsinki deal a double blow to Putin's reputation both abroad and at home.

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duction of intoxicating liquor into the person's body and who exhibits those plain and easily observed or discovered outward manifestations of behaviour commonly known to be produced by the overconsumption of intoxicating liquor, and "drunkenness" shall be construed accordingly," the President announced.

The bill also seeks to expand the duties placed on a licence holder to not permit drunkenness on his/her premises and creates new duties for that licence hold-

er to discourage drinking and driving.

The new subsection provides that a licence holder shall not permit any drunkenness on his premises nor sell, give, or barter or allow another person to sell, give or barter intoxicating liquor to a drunken person within the premises.

Additionally, the licence holder is mandated to not sell, give, or barter intoxicating liquor to a person he knows is likely to leave the premises by driving a motor vehicle unless a designated driver is identified.

"Consequently, he shall not sell, give, or barter intoxicating liquor to a person identified as a designated driver. Further, where the licence holder knows that a drunken person is attempting to drive or is in charge of a motor vehicle, he shall inform the nearest police station and request their immediate assistance," the president proposed.

A licence holder will also be required to post signs and ensure that announcements are made, on the premises that discourage drinking and driving.

In addition, the proposed legislation will also seek to increase the fines for breach of these duties by the licence holder from GUY\$2000 (One Guyana dollar=US\$0.004 cents) to \$100,000 for a first offence, and from \$5000 to \$200,000 for the second offence.

The amendment will also make it mandatory that a licence holder must refuse to admit to his business/premises, any person who is drunk, violent, quarrelsome, or disorderly. A breach of that provision could see a fine of \$100,000.

After racist shooting in Buffalo, police search for warning signs

AlJazeera - An investigation into the weekend shooting of more than a dozen people at a western New York supermarket will turn on Monday to whether authorities missed tell-tale signs and red flags left by the teenage gunman prior to his racist killing spree.

Authorities said Payton Gendron, 18, carried out an act of “racially motivated violent extremism” when he opened fire with a semiautomatic rifle on May 14 at the Tops Friendly Market in Buffalo, where 11 of the 13 wounded were Black people.

“The evidence that we have uncovered so far makes no mistake this is an absolute racist hate crime that will be prosecuted as a hate crime,” Buffalo Police Commissioner Joseph Gramaglia told reporters on Sunday.

Besides seeking a clearer understanding of the motives for Gendron’s attack, authorities will focus on what could have been done to stop him, as details of the teenager’s troubling behaviour in high school and his online presence begin to emerge.

Gramaglia told ABC News on Monday morning that if Gendron had escaped, he would have continued his attack.

“He had plans to continue driv-



People march to the scene of a shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo on Sunday [Matt Rourke/AP Photo]

ing down Jefferson Ave to shoot more Black people ... possibly go to another store [or] location,” Gramaglia said.

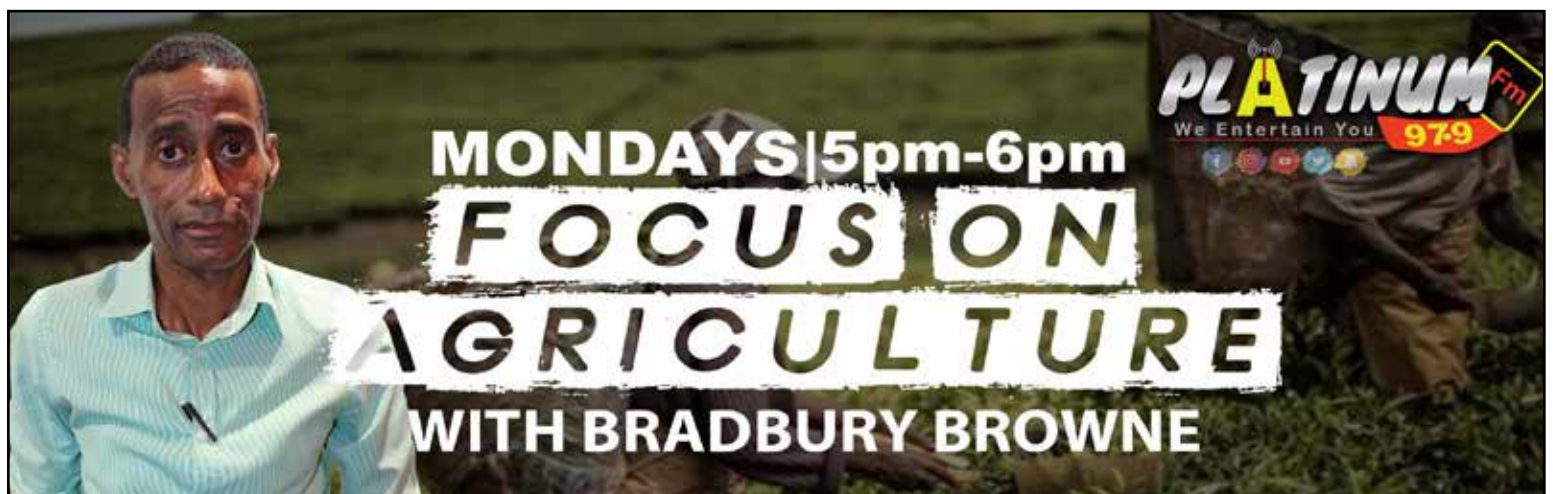
Gendron figured on the radar of local law enforcement last June, when police detained him after he made a “generalised” threat at his high school, Gramaglia said.

Given a mental health evaluation at the time, he was released after 1 1/2 days.

A 180-page manifesto that circu-

lated online, believed to have been authored by Gendron, outlined the “Great Replacement Theory”, a racist conspiracy theory that white people were being replaced by minorities in the United States and elsewhere.

Gendron surrendered to police after the shooting and was charged with first-degree murder, which carries a maximum term in New York of life in prison without parole, but he has pleaded not guilty.



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Racism in football: 'Hate alive and well' in game says anti-racism charity Kick It Out

BBC – Incidents at Premier League matches on Sunday show “hate is alive and well within football”, says anti-racism charity Kick It Out.

Everton are assisting police after two Brentford players said their families were racially abused at Goodison Park.

Striker Ivan Toney and full-back Rico Henry made the allegations after the Bees' 3-2 victory.

It came hours after two Burnley fans were arrested for “discriminatory gestures” during Tottenham's 1-0 win.

The Metropolitan Police said the men were ejected from the Claret's section of the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on suspicion of a racially aggravated public order offence.

“We have been made aware of a spate of new alleged anti-Semitic and racist comments and gestures linked to several clubs over the weekend,” said Kick It Out's head of player engagement Troy Townsend.



Brentford's Rico Henry says his family were racially abused after his winning goal against Everton on Sunday [Getty Images]

“While investigations are ongoing, we cannot comment on the specifics of cases. However, the events of the weekend once again highlight the fact that hate is still alive and well within football.

“Everton, Burnley and Tottenham all acted swiftly and we commend their energy in addressing these incidents. We hope appropriate and deci-

sive action is taken against all those involved.”

In February, UK football policing lead Chief Constable Mark Roberts said there had been an increase in hate crime incidents reported in stadiums in the first half of the 2021-22 season, when they rose to 206, compared to the same period in 2019-20, when there were 146.

Chelsea takeover: Government ministers fear sale of club to Todd Boehly consortium could 'fall apart'

BBC – Ministers are worried a £4.25bn deal to buy Chelsea may be at risk of “falling apart” due to a lack of consensus with the club over the proceeds of any sale, the BBC has learned.

According to a UK government insider, there is now “alarm” in Whitehall that the takeover of the European champions could be “timed out” if deadlines are not met.

Chelsea have agreed terms on a deal with a private equity funded consor-



Earlier in May, Chelsea agreed terms with a consortium led by Todd Boehly, co-owner of the LA Dodgers baseball team [Getty Images]

ti-um led by US investor Todd Boehly, co-owner of the LA Dodgers baseball team.

The club was put up for

sale before owner Roman Abramovich was sanctioned for his alleged links to Russian president Vladimir Putin following the invasion of

Ukraine.

However, a senior Whitehall source revealed there was now “serious concern” that the oligarch was “willing to let Chelsea go under” over an alleged “refusal to agree to a sale structure that gives ministers confidence that proceeds would go to a good cause”.

The government version of events was disputed by sources close to Abramovich when approached. Chelsea have also been approached for comment.

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Boston Celtics knock out defending champion Milwaukee Bucks

BBC – Defending champions the Milwaukee Bucks were eliminated from the NBA playoffs after a heavy defeat by the Boston Celtics in their Eastern Conference semi-final decider.

The Celtics won game seven 109-81 at home and will now face the Miami Heat in the Eastern Conference finals.

Grant Williams hit 27 points, including seven three-pointers, for Boston, while Jayson Tatum added 23.

Giannis Antetokounmpo top scored for the Bucks with 25 points.

The two-time former MVP started strongly as the Bucks led 26-20 after the first quarter, but then cooled off as the Celtics

streaked away.

Boston converted 22 of their 55 three-point attempts, while Milwaukee made only four of their 33 efforts from deep.

The Celtics, who have won a joint-record 17 NBA titles along with the Los Angeles Lakers, move on to their fourth conference finals appearance in the past six years, seeking their first title since 2008.

In Sunday's other game-seven fixture, the Dallas Mavericks booked their place in the Western Conference finals with a 123-90 victory over hosts the Phoenix Suns.

Luka Doncic recorded 35 points and 10 rebounds, while Spencer Dinwiddie scored 30 points off the bench and Jalen Brunson



Milwaukee Bucks star Giannis Antetokounmpo was kept quiet by the Boston Celtics in game seven [Getty Images]

added 24.

The top-seeded Suns were early favourites to win the 2022 NBA championship.

"I don't know what to say but this was an amazing team win," said Slovenia's Doncic. "Everybody was locked in, everybody

was playing as hard as they can. We didn't take one play off.

"This is an incredible team win."

Dallas will face the third-seeded Golden State Warriors in the conference finals. Game one is in San Francisco on Wednesday.

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Chelsea is operating under a special licence from the UK government which expires on 31 May, and any takeover requires the approval of ministers and the English football authorities. Abramovich has said he has not asked for a £1.6bn loan to Chelsea to be repaid when the club is sold. Earlier this month a spokesperson for the billionaire confirmed he "remains committed" to making sure the proceeds from the sale "go to good causes".

However, the government insider said approval was being hindered by the club's "complicated" ownership structure, with parent company Fordstam Ltd owing £1.6 billion to Jersey-based Camberley International Investments, a company with suspected

links to Abramovich.

"Two big sticking points remain - where exactly the proceeds of the sale will be held, and what legal guarantees government will be given about the money going to good causes," they said.

"Essentially, despite committing to all proceeds going to good causes in public, Abramovich seems unwilling to give the same legal commitments, which would have backed up his public statements of about a week ago, that in the deal neither he nor his affiliates could basically try and stake a claim to that unpaid debt between Fordstam and Camberley.

"A deal which would allow the cash to be diverted during the deal would be a breach of sanctions and is

seen as a red line for ministers."

The source added: "There are deadlines at the end of this month and the start of June, which would either see the club booted out of European competition or the Premier League entirely. But a good chunk of the sale needs to be done this week or next."

It is understood any sale would need to be completed by early June when the Premier League meets to grant clubs the licences needed to compete next season.

The government is understood to have proposed a two-stage process where the money from any sale would be held in a managed 'escrow' account, and only released once it is satisfied that a charitable foundation is ready.

Big wins for Jennings and Bethesda in ABCA two-day contest

There were big wins for Jennings Tigers and Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles in the third round of matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association (ABCA), State Insurance Two-Day Championship over the weekend.

Jennings Tigers crushed Combined Schools by an innings and 65 runs at Factory.

Combined Schools were shot out for just 51 in 22 overs in their first innings, with 13-year-old teenagers Matthew Miller grabbing 4 for 16 and Tanez Francis snapping up 3 wickets for 5 runs.

Jedidiah Martin claimed 2 for 16.

Jennings Tigers then raced to 212 for 6 in 42 overs before making a declaration.

Opener Jaheim Africa top scored with 67, Martin contributed 49 and Cameron Miller chipped in with 33. Dravid Richardson picked up two for 18.

Trailing by 161 runs, Combined Schools could only muster 96 all out in 34.3 overs in their second innings, with Willock getting 31 not out.

Omarie Joseph captured 4 for 28, Martin snatched 3 for 25 and Francis picked up 2 wickets without conceding a run in the 3 balls he bowled in the innings.

Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles recorded an emphatic

innings and 83-run victory over Bolans Blasters at Bethesda.

Bolans made 150 all out in 45.1 overs in their first innings after winning the toss and opting to bat.

Dwayne Fordyce top scored with 57 and Shamar Pereira made 34.

Fast bowler Timmo Thomas grabbed 4 for 13, pacer Kelvin Pitman captured 3 for 25 and captain Deran Benta claimed 2 for 26.

In reply, Bethesda made 279 for 8 in 72.4 overs before making a declaration of their first innings. Wicketkeeper/batsman Kevin Pitman cracked an unbeaten 84, Jamaul Fernandez hammered 55 off 44 balls, opener Shacoy Floyd struck 52 off 69 balls and Benta chipped in with 39 off 21 balls.

Francis bagged 4 for 15 and Klasskey Athill captured 2 for 51.

Trailing by 129 runs, Bolans were bundled out for 46 in 18.2 overs in their second innings.

Fernandez snapped up 5 wickets for 7 runs, Benta grabbed 3 wickets for six runs and Kemari Clarke picked up 2 for 15.

Defending champions Pigotts Crushers and All Saints Pythons fought to a draw at Mack Pond.

Gurshum Phillip slammed a century to steer Pigotts to 272 for 9 declared off 79.3 overs after Crushers

were sent in to bat.

Phillip cracked 125 off 157 balls including 11 fours and 2 sixes. Ajani Frederick struck 51, Malique Walsh made 35 and Joseph chipped in with 30.

Justin Robinson took three for 95, Ephraim Pollard picked up two for 22 and Michael Marcellin claimed two for 50.

All Saints then tumbled to 116 all out in 30.1 overs in their first innings, with Jewel Andrew getting 53 off 60 balls. Captain Elroy Francis Jr. captured 4 for 33 and Craig Rainsford claimed 2 for 32.

Asked to follow 156 runs behind, Jewel Andrew slammed an unbeaten century as All Saints made 272 off 79.3 overs in their second innings when the match ended.

Andrew hammered 175 not out off 233 balls with 17 fours and 3 sixes.

Remarkably, Andrew shared a last wicket partnership of 161 runs with Robinson, who made 16. Marcellin chipped in with 32 off 24 balls.

Rainsford bagged 4 for 43, Jared Jno Baptiste claimed 2 for 19 and Moore picked up 2 for 37.

New Winthorpes Lions and Empire Nation played to a draw at Perth in New Winthorpes. Empire won the toss and decided to bat and they made 158 all out in 53.5 overs with opener Tyrone Williams Jr. getting 63.



Jewel Andrew hit a match saving, unbeaten 175 to help All Saints Pythons salvage a draw against Pigotts Crushers. (Photo: Cool & Smooth T20 Explosion)

Asher Murray-Cornelius snatched 5 for 43 and off-spinner Ian Eusebe captured 4 for 53.

In reply, New Winthorpes made 163 all out in 54.5 overs when the match ended. Captain Nino Henry made 45, Eusebe scored 34 and Chad Hampson contributed 32.

Off-spinner Justin Athanaze claimed 5 for 46, Ajahrie Joseph took 2 for 21 and Damian Lowenfield captured 2 for 32.

Charms among winners at Wings Youth Basketball Festival

Charms, comprising students of the Villa Primary School, were among the winners at the 8th Youth Basketball Festival hosted by the Concerned Parents Teachers Sports Associations (CPTSA) Wings Sports Club at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, 14th May.

Charms won the Under-13 Girls' Team Speed Dribble title at the event, which featured several skills contests.

Burners captured the Under-13 Boys' Team Speed Dribble title; Green Fighters won the Under-17 Girls' trophy and East Ballers claimed the title in the Under-17 Boys' category.

Commissioner of Sports Colin "Tin Tin" James and executive member of the Antigua & Barbuda Basketball Association, Bryan "Hollywood" Matthew, addressed the participants during a brief opening ceremony.

Commissioner James encouraged the participants to transfer the skills learned from schools and clubs into their communities, which will enhance more positive youth involvement and development in sports in Antigua & Barbuda.

Matthew reminisced on his experiences at youth basketball camps and tournaments like the Wings Basketball Festival.

Matthew said, "This occasion gives me a bit of nostalgia because, as a youth, I've had my experiences at camps and youth tournaments like these. I can see and enjoy the enthusiasm and energies of the youth players, and I'm very pleased with what the Wings Club has been doing in putting on the festival over the years."

Matthew, who spent the day at the YMCA witnessing the enthusiasm of the youth basketball players, presented trophies and medals to winners.

Although the festival was expect-



Coach Jessica Greene, right, with Charms who won the Under-13 Girls' Speed Dribble competition at the 8th Wings Youth Basketball Festival at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, 14th May, 2022. (Photo: Wings Sports Club)

ed to feature Under-11 to Under-19 boys and girls, some teams struggled to come with enough players, therefore, the organisers adjusted the competition to Under-13 and Under-17.

Meanwhile, the CPTSA Wings Sports Club expressed thanks to those who contributed to the success of the basketball festival.

"Thank you must go out to XanderPay for the funds to purchase trophies and medals, Subway for the snacks to the officials, State Insurance Co. Ltd for the tokens for the winners, the SJA students and Foster George for judging of the contests, the referees and other Wings officials, including Jessica Greene and Trisha Ghanie, Mr. Burnette and Ms. Trowers for the Barbeque grill, Bryan Matthew and Colin James, those parents who donated items for the food stall, and the coaches and all the members of the Wings Youth Basketball Committee."

The winners of the other skills

contests are as follows:

Team Dribble & Shoot at Basket Winners

U-13 Girls - Wonders

U-13 Boys - Burners

U-17 Girls - Wings Stars

U-17 Boys - Burners

2 Point Shoot-Out Winners

U-13 Girls - Valenciana Burnette

U-13 Boys - Cecil Seepaul

3 Point Shoot-Out Winners

U-17 Girls - Zora Richards

U-17 Boys - Theo Blaire

Right Hand Lay-ups Winners

U-13 Girls - Ashley Seepaul

U-13 Boys - Christen Matthew

U-17 Girls - Melissa Haywood

Left Hand Lay-ups Winners

U-13 Girls - Ashlee Seepaul

U-13 Boys - Jahdari Isaac

U-17 Girls - Tasia Luke

U-17 Boys - Kenyah

Dun Bar crew and Up & Over FC remain unbeaten in Over-40 League

Dun Bar Crew and Up and Over FC are the only two unbeaten teams remaining following last weekend's third round of matches in the Antigua Over-40 Premier League.

Dun Bar Crew of Hoppers notched up their third win in as many outings when they prevailed 2-1 against the previously unbeaten Turf Masters in a top of the table clash at the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Technical Training Centre at Paynters on Sunday evening.

Jamary Gallow seemed to be sending Turf Masters on course for a third consecutive win when he scored in the 8th minute to give his team a 1-0 advantage, but two minutes later, Dun Bar Crew drew level when striker Tamorley "Ziggy" Thomas found the back of the net.

George "Sour" Dublin then ensured that Dun Bar Crew kept their unbeaten record intact when he scored the winner for the Hoppers men in the 60th minute.

Their third win in as many outings ensured Dun Bar Crew remained at the top of the standings with a

maximum nine points.

Their first loss in three matches pushed Turf Masters into third place with six points.

Up & Overs FC ensured they remained in joint first place at the top of the standings with Dun Bar Crew by surging to a 3-0 victory over Extraordinary Men.

Sylvester "Bouncing" Joseph netted in the 13th minute to give Up & Overs FC a 1-0 halftime advantage.

Two quick goals shortly after breaks secured Up & Over FC's third win in as many outings.

Corine Mathurine scored in the 55th minute to make it 2-0 and two minutes later, Kenny Jacobs scored his team's third and final goal to wrap up the match.

After drawing their first two encounters, West Ham FC recorded their first win of the competition by snatching a 2-1 victory over Tun & Bang in the first match of the third round.

Stephen Hughes scored in the second minute to give West Ham FC a 1-0 half-time lead.

An Egan Samuel 42nd minute conversion doubled West Ham's advantage be-



Over-40 Premier League organiser Shirville Jarvis, left, and legendary West Indies cricketer, Sir Curtly Ambrose, are representing Legacy FC in the football competition. (Photo courtesy Shirville Jarvis)

fore Trevor Young scored a consolation goal for Tun & Bang in the 48th minute.

It was the third defeat in as many matches for Tun & Bang, who remain just above the cellar position in the standings by virtue of a better goal difference

than bottom team, Golden Grove FC. Legacy FC claimed their first win of the tournament when Hollister Young's 12th conversion gave his side a 1-0 victory over Golden Grove FC, who remain winless after three matches.