

Headline	Women being sexually harassed on KTM trains	Language	ENGLISH
Date	02. Sep 2008	Page No	45
Media Title	The Star	Article Size	109 cm2
Section	Nation	Frequency	Daily
Circulation	293375	Color	Black/White
Readership	1026812	AdValue	1652.73



Women being sexually harassed on KTM trains

HAVE you been on a train when it's really packed? Since I'm a student in Selangor, it is normal for me to use the KTM even on weekdays.

Complaining about the train being full and such is normal. However, after the ride today, I decided to speak my peace.

Going into a packed train is like walking into a lion's den. A packed train is where pickpockets and thieves have a field day.

Obviously it's going to be worse every time there's a festive season around the corner. But my focus is not just the pickpockets, but on sexual harassment.

Yes, perverts take advantage of the crowd to purposely fall or bump into you and just now someone rubbed himself on my back on his way out of the train.

Maybe it was not on purpose (God knows), but I can't help feeling disgusted.

I know that being on public transport, I cannot complain much. But just think of what we women have to put up with.

Imagine if you're a teenager and you get bumped into by a man (if he just touches your shoulders or legs, I don't think that is such a big problem. But imagine if the train stops and the man in front bumps into your chest or accidentally touches your behind).

I hope that KTM will act to address this problem.

It's not just about how hard it is to get a seat after a long day at work, it's not just about being pushed when entering, when leaving or when inside the train, it's about my dignity.

I believe that a lot of women out there agree with me.

**HAZELYNNJR,
Universiti Putra Malaysia,
Serdang.**