

People whose lives were ruined by the media

Fill in the gaps with the words from the box:

ordeal	stained	fluke	allegations	hit the headlines
tarnished	leverage	hounding	culprit	

Richard Jewell



Richard Jewell was working as a security guard at the Centennial Olympic Park during the 1996 Atlanta Olympics when he discovered by a 1) _____ a suspicious backpack under a bench. Jewell immediately alerted the authorities and helped evacuate the area before the bag, which contained a bomb, exploded. Jewell was initially praised for his efforts but the eyes of suspicion quickly turned on him. The press attention was so aggressive, Jewell could hardly leave his house. He was painted in the media as someone looking for 15 minutes of fame by planting a bomb and later discovering it. Although he was later cleared of any involvement by the FBI and the actual 2) _____ was arrested, Jewell's reputation was forever 3) _____.

Diego P. V.

Criminal suspects are typically presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court of law. But in the case of Diego P. V., the Spanish media acted as judge, jury and executioner. Diego's name 4) _____ when his girlfriend's daughter passed away after suffering a fall in a playground. A doctor misinterpreted the bruises and marks on her body as signs of an assault and immediately alerted the police. Diego was arrested and accused of being responsible for the girl's demise. When an autopsy revealed the true cause of her death, the newspapers apologized. But Diego was already so emotionally distressed by the 5) _____ that he required psychiatric treatment.



Jade Goody



An average working-class girl from Upshire, Essex, Jade Goody rose to fame when she appeared on the third series of the reality show "Big Brother". Goody was ridiculed for both her appearance and intellect; she was compared to a pig and vilified for how she spoke and looked. While Goody initially managed to 6) _____ her fame to build a successful career, her image was once again 7) _____ following the 8) _____ of racist behaviour towards another participant of the show, an Indian actress Shilpa

Shetty. The media 9) _____ never stopped, not even when she was diagnosed with cancer. Some even accused her of monetizing her condition and wanting to die in the spotlight. Ultimately, Goody passed away in March 2009 at the age of 27.