

The Sun UK article – Kate McCann: Diary Leak was Violation

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HAUNTED Kate McCann yesterday told the Leveson inquiry she felt “violated” at seeing her private diary leaked.

The mum of missing Madeleine said she only learned the News of the World had printed five pages of revelations in a text from a pal.

Kate, 43, said she felt “mentally raped” as she read the front page, which carried the headline: “Kate’s Diary: In her own words.”

Speaking on day three of Lord Justice Leveson’s probe into media standards, Kate said: “This was totally out of the blue.

“It was Sunday lunchtime, we’d just got back from church and I got the text from Gail, who works in the nursery where Madeleine went. It just said, ‘Saw your diary in the newspapers. Heartbreaking. I hope you’re all right’.

“I had that horrible panicky feeling, confusion and, you know, what’s she on about? I didn’t have a clue.”

Kate said the story, printed in September 2008, showed “absolutely no respect” for her as she grieved. She added: “I just couldn’t believe the injustice.

“I just recently read through my diary entries at that point in that week and I talk about climbing into a hole and not coming out because I just felt so worthless.”

Madeleine was three when she went missing from a holiday apartment in Praia da Luz, Portugal, on May 3, 2007.

Kate’s husband Gerry, also 43, told the inquiry how a series of false stories in the Daily Express and Daily Star ended in a £550,000 libel payout.

They included “disgusting” claims that the couple had “sold Madeleine” and taken part in wife-swapping. He also hit out at a Daily Mirror front page story that read: “She’s dead.”

Earlier, the inquiry heard evidence from Mark Lewis, a lawyer for dozens of phone hacking victims, journalist Tom Rowland and Sheryl Gascoigne.

Mrs Gascoigne — who divorced ex-England soccer ace Paul in 1998 after domestic abuse — said she wanted inaccurate stories dealt with more severely.

*But she insisted she did **NOT** want tougher privacy laws after admitting selling the rights to her wedding, writing a tell-all book and appearing on I’m A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here.*

Mrs Gascoigne, 46, said: "Like I've been asked, if you sold your wedding, if you've written a book, then you are asking for it. You know, for people to make comments about you. But why can't they put them correctly?"

Today, the inquiry hears from actress Sienna Miller and former F1 boss Max Mosley.

Source: thesun.co.uk/archives/news/930562/kate-mccann-diary-leak-was-violation/