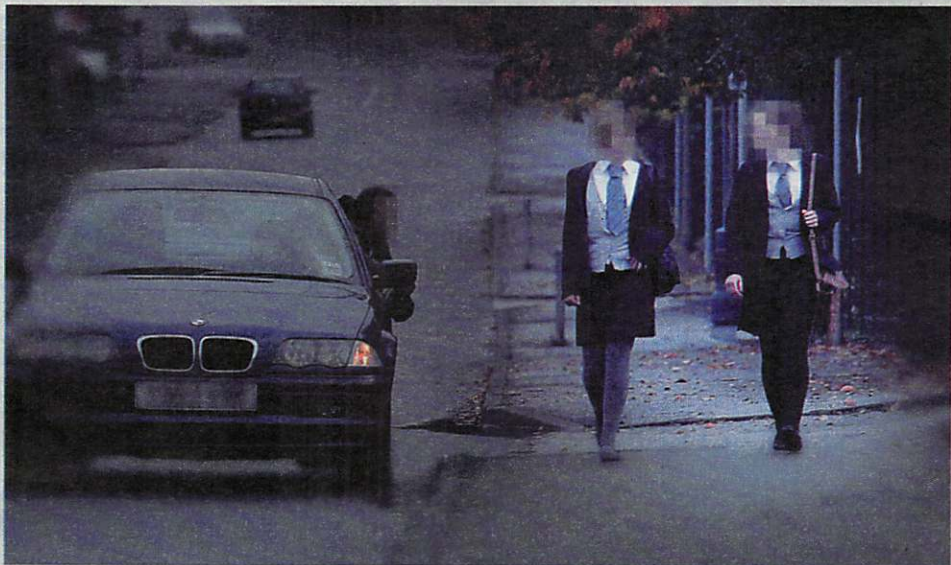


# Thursday

## 23 May

Critics' choice



### Pick of the day

**The Hunt For Britain's Sex Gangs** (C4, 9pm)

Filmed over three years, this documentary claims "unprecedented access to a live investigation". In Operation Chalice, Telford police set out to tackle the problem of white girls befriended, sexually exploited and then offered to friends and relatives by British-Pakistani men. Although a compelling body of evidence was assembled (involving about 100 victims and 200 suspects),

securing convictions was difficult: the trial in 2011 collapsed, before seven men received jail sentences last year. A switch to a charge of trafficking for two "kingpins" proved crucial.

The director Anna Hall and reporter Tazeen Ahmad's unsettling film, which interviews victims and detectives, makes the case for a change in the legal process to encourage abused teenagers to testify. They should be questioned in judges' chambers, it argues, rather than being accused of lying and promiscuity in court.

**JOHN DUGDALE**