

# POWER FAIL

As many of the world's most powerful will attest, it takes unwavering self-belief and an unshakable confidence to lead; and, judging by the following entries, a big helping of mindless stupidity doesn't go amiss too. From the politicians who lead us into wars, to well-heeled members of the royal family, it appears that even the men we're supposed to respect can balls it up like the best of us.

FAIL

*'It is white.'*

George W. Bush, when asked to describe the White House.

## Silly Sausage

Appropriately-named US politician Anthony Weiner resigned after 'sexting' a saucy picture of himself to a female follower on Twitter. After several days of denials, Weiner finally relented and resigned after shock jocks Opie & Anthony leaked the explicit photo of his, er, weiner.

## Happy Clamper

Hell hath no fury like a man with a clamp. Not least Gareth Andrews, an enthusiastic clamper who placed two of his immoveable yellow brackets on royal protection police cars in Portsmouth, UK when Queen Elizabeth came for a visit. Having refused to remove the clamps, Andrews was later described in court as 'belligerent', 'defiant' and 'obstructive'. 'Pretty stupid' comes to mind, too ...



FAIL

*'No wonder you're deaf.'*

Prince Philip to the children at a school for the deaf during a performance by a steel band.

## Sleeping on the Job

While we might sometimes find ourselves nodding off at work, at least we have the courtesy to do it at our desks. Not so the Swedish lay judge who, when presiding over a case of tax fraud in January 2012, decided to take a sneaky kip while court was in session. Despite being asleep while the evidence was being given, the judge decided to acquit the defendant – presumably because he was keen to get home and put his feet up.



## CRIME FAIL

It's an unfortunate statistic, but unfortunately accurate: the majority of crimes have historically been carried out by men, so you'd think they might be better at it by now. However, as the following tales of crap criminals, hapless hoodlums and bungling burglars will attest, the answer to that is: apparently not.

### Fat Chance

The award for Most Ridiculous Excuse Ever goes to the able-bodied bloke caught using a fake disabled parking badge in Manchester, England. After his first claim that the badge had been issued by a London council fell on deaf ears, he then tried arguing that he *had* tried to use a parking meter but the coins wouldn't go in the machine because they were too 'fat'. Chubby coinage – that old chestnut!

### Puppy Love

Potty puppy-lover James Allsopp was so enamored with his new boxer that he set up a complex CCTV system so he could keep an eye on the mutt while he was out at work. Imagine Allsopp's surprise when, sitting at his desk awaiting doggy updates, he

witnessed burglar Ashley Burton breaking into his house. The alarm went off, the police were called and, although Burton had by this point scarpred, he was quickly tracked down due to his distinctive (i.e. bright red) tracksuit.



# HEALTH FAIL

When it comes to world of health and medicine, men's dangly bits take centre stage. From truck drivers impaling themselves on compressed air hoses, to men who, having got all excited in their pants, are unable to ever get unexcited – welcome to a man-fail minefield.

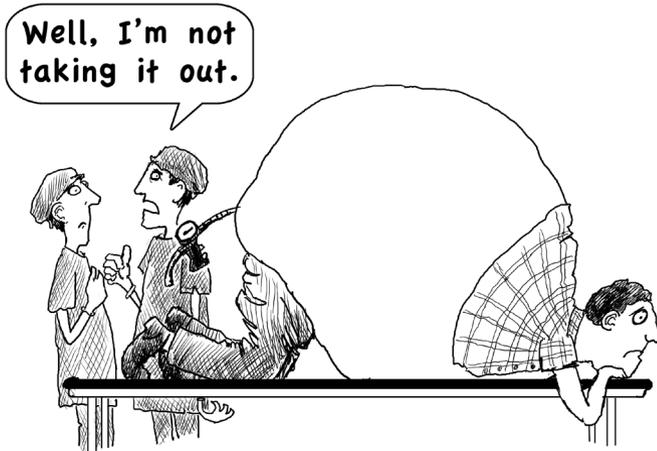
## Is That a Banana in your Pocket?

A man in Iran was left with a permanent erection after having 'borow be salaamat' ('good luck with your journeys') tattooed on his penis. The foolhardy chap was in considerable pain for a week afterwards before he realized 'it' was not going to go away. Iranian doctors reportedly advised that 'based on our unique case, we discourage penile tattooing.'

## Put a Plug in It!

A New Zealand truck driver was taken to hospital after he 'blew up like a balloon' after 'slipping and falling' onto an air hose that pumped compressed air directly into his bottom. 'I was blowing up like a football,' he said. 'I felt the air rush into my body and

I felt like it was going to explode.' After hearing the poor man's screams, his workmates managed to find the safety valve and turn it off, with doctors reporting later that, 'He's lucky to be alive.' You mustn't laugh, though – it was very serious and not funny at all ...



## Mistaken Identity

Carlos Guzmangarza ran a plastic surgery clinic in San Francisco's Mission District. The only problem? He wasn't actually a doctor and had stolen the identity of a physician's assistant. He might have got away with it had he not a) performed an operation for liposuction while puffing on a cigar, and b) asked the (conscious) patient to hold the IV bag. You just can't get the staff these days.

## Sticky Situation

Superglue is the prankster's weapon of choice, as one poor Australian gentleman discovered to his cost when he found himself stuck to a toilet seat in a shopping centre lavatory, the victim of a practical joke. Unfortunately medical staff were unable to extract the sorry soul from the seat onsite and were instead forced to undo it and carry the man through the mall, a king atop his throne. 'Industrial solvents' were eventually used to free him.

