



COLLECTIONS

East Harlem Pastor Is Arrested as Rapist Of Girls, 14 and 16

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The 59-year-old pastor of an East Harlem church was arrested yesterday and charged with rape and sodomy in sexual attacks on two teen-age members of his congregation, the police said.

The suspect, the Rev. Thomas Streitferdt, pastor of the True Church of God at 2341 Third Avenue, at 122d Street, was charged with first-degree rape and first-degree sodomy, said a police spokesman, Sgt. Maurice Howard.

Mr. Streitferdt, who lives at 12 West Gate Lane in Old Field, L.I., was accused of attacks on a 14-year-old girl from October to December 1986 and attacks on a 16-year-old girl from October 1986 to January 1987, the police said.

The girls and their parents reported the rapes to the police on March 9. After church services yesterday, Mr. Streitferdt was arrested about 1:40 P.M. at 121st Street and Second Avenue, several blocks from the church, the police said.

He was held for arraignment this morning in Manhattan Criminal Court.

The police said that the inquiry was continuing and that investigators believed that more victims would come forward.

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