

Jimmy McGovern's drama on Joint Enterprise gets green light from BBC!

JENGBA are delighted to announce that after years in the planning, Jimmy McGovern's script has been welcomed by the BBC.

The BBC will be announcing it shortly, but we and Jimmy wanted our Inside Campaigners to be the first to know, so hope this special edition reaches you in time.

When we first approached Jimmy to tell him about the injustice of joint enterprise, our biggest hope was that he would listen to our stories and help us spread the word about our campaign. So it's a dream come true that he has taken our stories and developed a script which will be turned into one of his unique dramas.

Jimmy met some of the families for in-depth interviews and attended the JENGBA House of Commons meeting to see and hear the truth for himself. He also met with some victims' families, because as you will know if you've ever watched one of his dramas, you never get a one-sided story from Jimmy McGovern.



JENGBA patron Jimmy McGovern

The current series of "Accused" attracted 5 million viewers with its first episode. So we're confident that literally millions of people will see the tragedy of what is happening in our Courts today and hear about the lives destroyed by the abuse of this law, not only those charged or threatened with it, but the devastation it causes to their families, friends and loved ones.

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JENGBA would like to thank Jimmy McGovern for listening to us, believing in us, even helping us get this newsletter to you - but most of all for getting our story told.

Gloria, Cath, Jan and Yvonne

JENGBA

A word from Jimmy:

A few years ago I got a letter from a woman named Cath. It was about Joint Enterprise - something I'd never even heard of. I was about to do the thing I usually do with such letters (write back expressing sympathy but saying I'm too busy/ too old/ too tired to get involved) but I noticed that Cath had put the wrong post code on the envelope and her letter had taken a month to reach me.

Being a paranoid catholic, I didn't want her to think I'd kept her waiting a month for a reply so I phoned her. And, five minutes later, I heard myself agreeing to meet her and another woman called Jan Cunliffe.

We met at Cath's house. Cath told me a story about a wholly innocent boy so intimidated by the threat of a joint enterprise murder charge that he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit GBH and got a heavy sentence for it.

Then Jan told me her son Jordan's story: another wholly innocent boy tried for, and convicted of, joint enterprise murder. A truly shocking miscarriage of justice.

Jan, a brave, stoical woman, welled up when she was speaking - something she had not done before and has not done since. I welled up too. And from that moment on I knew I had to write a story about Joint Enterprise.

I'm sorry it has taken me so long but I've had to meet a lot of people. And it will take even longer of course to film it, edit it and transmit it. But at least I can honestly say that it is happening.

Very best wishes to you all.

Jimmy McGovern