

Joint Enterprise

Not Guilty by Association

JENGBA

Newsletter

You're not Alone

Issue 48

Christmas 2018

Dear Inside JENGBA Campaigners

For the first time I can remember I didn't attend the Royal Courts of Injustice for an appeal for one of our cases this week, Rodney Musaka and we thought Rico Marks, but his was pulled last minute. As I live in London it is easy for me to go to the Court. The reason is I simply detest the place particularly after attending Kelvin Horlock's and Laura Mitchell's in November. Kelvin's case was heard by Lady Hallett and 2 other judges who frankly need to go back to Law School (words of Felicity Gerry QC) and he was refused. That was shocking enough and then the first CCRC referral to the Court of Appeal Laura Mitchell was heard the next week. Laura was seen trying to defend her boyfriend after an altercation – she is a petite young woman, who was training to be a midwife and had a young son. However Lady Hallett once again deemed that Laura's actions in shouting and punching two 6ft men meant she was responsible for the assault which resulted in his death, six minutes later on the other side of the car park, something she did not even witness let alone contribute to.

Rodney's was also denied. So we finally know that Jogee solved nothing. The court of appeal are simply 'in denial' (which is what they call prisoners who maintain innocence) that there has been a problem with joint enterprise cases for the past three decades. They are refusing cases such as Laura's and Kelvin's because the facts are so strong that neither are guilty of murder and they are trying to keep their legal dirty linen secret. As we all know the criminal justice system is screwed towards a wrongful conviction but it seems that it is now so corrupt that we are back to the 70's and 80's when the Birmingham Six, Guildford Four and McGuire Seven were convicted using little or no evidence, just mere association. We have come full circle and the only way JENGBA will achieve justice is like they did, through political and public pressure. The outside campaigners have come to the conclusion that we have been duped. We believed that the Supreme Court decision in 2016 R v Jogee would mean that wrongful convictions would be overturned but it has all been a ploy to shut us up. We hadn't stopped campaigning but we really believed the Courts would do the right and legal thing and accept joint enterprise convictions were simply unsafe! But no, they couldn't do that because if it got reported in the papers that a trainee midwife, a young mum who wanted to help bring life into the world was not actually a murderer then people



would start to realise how archaic and outdated our criminal justice system actually was and that while it continues to use joint enterprise in the way it has, it is simply not fit for purpose.

So our fight is entirely political now and I am glad I do not have to go back to that infernal court that doesn't care about justice they only care about their image and we must expose them. Kelvin and Laura's decisions have sent shock waves through the legal system especially with those lawyers and QCs who have been hardened fighters for change. But at least we now know categorically where we stand. The fight is political and once it is explained to MP's they are shocked and willing to support us.

So as you know we have asked you before, write to your MP ask them to contact us. We are going to set up an All Party Parliamentary Group on Joint Enterprise and other miscarriages of Justice for an urgent reform of the Criminal Justice System and an Inquiry into our 900 plus cases. And it is back on the agenda we are getting new families every week. Ask your MP why the MOJ does not store data on joint enterprise as we were promised they would in the Justice Select Committee Inquiry in 2013. Ask them to visit you. But most of all do not give up. JENGBA has a fantastic reputation and we are considered one of the leading campaigns for Justice by MPs and lawyers alike. We will not give up and we need to know that you won't either.

In Solidarity

Gloria

As Christmas approaches our love for you all grows stronger. It's a time that you want to spend with your families and friends and a time that your families and friends would want to spend with you. As 2019 gets closer take comfort from the fact that **JENGbA** grows stronger. We have gained huge support in the past 12 months from leading MP's, justice organisations and an astonishing number of University students, all keen to be involved.

Let's hope that next year will see the abolition of life sentences for children. Let's look forward to making further changes that will result in your cases being seen for what they truly are; miscarriages of justice, wrongful convictions, human rights violations. Wrong, wrong, wrong, all of it. I'm quite looking forward to working very hard next year as a **JENGbA** volunteer. There is no amount of money in the world that could stop me doing the work I do, so you can all count on me. My loyalty is the only Christmas present I can give you. So I truly hope that's something that can give you hope if only for a moment.

On Monday at the House of Commons me and Gloria approached MP David Lammy and without having to introduce ourselves he knew exactly who we were. He congratulated **JENGbA** on our hard work and said we were doing a phenomenal job and that it was important to carry on. He reaffirmed his promise to stay onboard and because of that we forwarded him further information in an email telling him what it was we needed him to do. Within minutes of sending the email we received an answer with a positive response.

Please stay strong over Christmas and don't let the recent court of appeal knock backs break your spirits. Let it make you stronger, let it fill you with a greater strength to fight the fight with energy and passion. You are our inside campaigners and many families who knew nothing about **JENGbA** have come to us because someone on the inside has helped their loved one. Each and everyone of you is important, you each have a role to play in the campaign. In the New Year we will let you know what we NEED you to do. You must all do it because it's a cunning plan that will shake the very core of the criminal justice system, and without giving too much away pretty much what the Secretary of State for Justice is telling you to do. So hey ho let's all do it together at exactly the same time. Lets see how they cope with the mess they created by doing exactly what they ask of you.

Jan



Glo, Patricia and Jan with David Lammy MP who told them "You women are amazing" December 2018

A message from our patron Jimmy McGovern

Dear **JENGbA** Inside Campaigners,

As always I have been kept up to date with recent events, particularly the knock back of appeals, but I am also very aware of the hard work going on behind the scenes to get justice for all of you who have been wrongfully convicted.

It has been a long struggle, but you must remember how much has been achieved by your families and campaigners, it wasn't so long ago that Joint Enterprise was unheard of and the public were unaware of innocent people languishing in prison.

Now MPs, journalists and the media are starting to get on board, helping to get the message out there and offer support. I can only imagine the hardship of being separated from your families all year round and this time of year will be even more difficult for some.

Don't give up hope, without it there is no tomorrow.

Jimmy

Contact Us

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