

PRESS RELEASE – JENGbA FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint Enterprise Not Guilty by Association (JENGbA) are holding a march (meeting at 12am at Victoria Coach Station) and rally on July 7th at 3pm in Parliament Square.

On Wednesday the 7th July families will be coming from all over the UK to show solidarity and demand the release of their loved ones in prison under Joint Enterprise Law. JENGbA will be joined by supportive politicians who recognise the gross injustice of the Joint Enterprise doctrine including Baroness Helena Kennedy QC and Andrew Mitchell MP.

JENGbA is a grassroots campaign founded in 2010 by Janet Cunliffe and Gloria Morrison to combat the widely condemned doctrine of Joint Enterprise law. Run by volunteers JENGbA support over 1000 wrongly convicted innocent people and their families and friends.

- **Henry Blaxland QC** was quoted in the recent Westminster Commission Report on the Criminal Cases Review Commission as saying that that *‘Joint Enterprise is one of the greatest sources of injustice which is still festering within the system ... It is also one of the issues which disproportionately affects young people.’*
- There is an incorrect narrative that the Joint Enterprise doctrine is about gangs, broken Britain and the ‘alleged’ feral youth that needs to be served justice. **This doctrine is a tool used by the police and the Crown Prosecution Service to imprison people to mandatory life sentences for crimes committed by others.** People can be wrongly charged and convicted when they have been within close proximity of a crime, have a random connection with the actual perpetrator or via text or mistaken phone call or they might not even have been at the scene of the crime.
- **A large proportion of those convicted of joint enterprise are young and black.** Despite a Supreme Court Ruling that the Joint Enterprise Doctrine had been wrongly interpreted the wrongfully convicted still remain in prison, blocked by the CCRC and the Court of Appeal’s refusal to overturn unsafe joint enterprise convictions unless ‘substantial injustice’ is demonstrated”.

‘Until it happened to my son I didn’t believe it was possible to be convicted of murder when you’ve laid a finger on the victim but he was given 18 years in prison.’

‘I had never heard of joint enterprise until I set foot into the courtroom. My daughter was the victim and now she is serving life for murder.’

‘Thank you everyone at JENGbA, you will never know how much you mean to us joint enterprise prisoners, how important it is to have hope when you are stuck in a cell for 23 hours a day for something you didn’t do and will never admit to doing’. JE prisoner serving a life sentence.

Further Information about Joint Enterprise and JENGbA

JENGBA intervened in the case of R v Jogee [2016] UKSC 8, whereby the UK Supreme Court fundamentally changed the law of accessorial liability when it decided that the principles of joint enterprise had been misinterpreted for over 30 years. It held that the law of joint enterprise had taken a wrong turn in 1984. Under the pre-Jogee interpretation of the law, individuals could be convicted of murder where the fatal blow had been inflicted by another person simply on the basis that that they had foresight that the murder might occur, even if they did not necessarily intend for it to happen.

The Court of Appeal Criminal Division in Johnson & Ors, R. v (Rev 1) [2016] EWCA Crim 1613 heard a series of cases following the Judgment in Jogee to consider how to approach the change of law. The Court of Appeal introduced a substantial injustice test for those seeking to appeal.

Following Jogee, there has been just one successful appeal against conviction, which was in R v Crilly 2018] EWCA Crim 168.

To speak to JENGBA's founders Gloria Morrison and Janet Cunliffe or the families affected by Joint Enterprise contact **Gloria Morrison 07709115793 or Jan Cunliffe 07725727520**