

The Monitoring Group Conference

Magistrates,

Our Vision: Our Future

A major conference focusing on race,
religion and rights in the UK
and the struggle to build an equal society



Invited Speakers: John Denham: Secretary of State



Michael Mansfield QC:
Civil Rights Lawyer & Author

'The Search for Truth - the need for public inquiries in the absence of political accountability'



Max Farrar:
Emeritus Professor, Leeds University

'Policy on race, equality & religion – how to join up the dots.'



Imran Khan:
Human Rights & Defence Lawyer

'Criminal Justice and the three R's'



Professor Gus John:
Professor John CEO

Gus John Partnership

Established in the early 1980's, The Monitoring Group currently receives over 6000 calls annually on its Help Line from people suffering racial violence, religious hatred, sexual violence and state neglect or misconduct

The Monitoring Group Conference

Wednesday 24th March 2010

Hilton Hotel Hall Ings, Bradford BD1 5SH



Our Vision: Our Future

Race, Religion & Rights In The UK

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At the dawn of this century, the Government, spurred by the recommendations from the Lawrence Public Judicial Inquiry, stated that it was determined to usher in a new era of race relations in Britain. It created new legislation to tackle discrimination and promised a fresh approach to policy and practice on this issue. Recently the Government announced its long term approach and commitment to tackling race inequality further.

Over time, the Government's view has been tested by critical and major events such as the violent public disturbances in the Northern Cities, the tragic London Bombings and the growth of the Far Right. For many experts and activists all the challenges, including the London Bombings, were entirely predictable and waiting to happen, if only one acknowledged the genesis of race & religious hatred and extremism, not only in the UK but globally. Many commentators argue that the economic recession has accelerated the social crisis and placed Britain at a dangerous crossroads where its citizens, suffering from the devastating impact of the economic downturn, are now being asked to choose between, amongst others, hope and hatred, the war and terror and freedom, liberty and security, multi-cultural and integration and in a setting where values and rights have lost their paramount importance. Is this a reality?

The conference brings together a unique and rich mix of local and national speakers to document and analyse the dramatic events of the last decades that have contributed to re-shaping the UK's landscape on race relations and to develop a vision for the future of an equal society in Britain.

The Monitoring Group was established in Southall (west London), in the early 1980's, by community campaigners and lawyers who wished to challenge the growth of racism within the locality. The Monitoring Group (TMG) has become a national leading anti-racist charity that promotes civil rights. The organisation operates across England & Wales via the network of satellite offices based in Bradford, Manchester, Nottingham, Plymouth, Southall and Southampton. The national office is in London. We are the leading exponent of family led empowerment and justice campaigns in the UK and led campaigns to help families of Stephen Lawrence, Zahid Mubarek and Victoria Climbié – all these cases led to Public Judicial Inquiries and consequent changes in legislation, social policies and practices. Since the London Bombings we have worked with victim families of the carnage as well as Black Minority and Ethnic and Muslim groups and individuals affected by indiscriminate state-led policies in London, Midlands and the North.

Why should you attend?

To hear and share what lessons have been learnt?

To develop a good and best practice.

To be equipped with fresh knowledge to build partnerships.

To understand the impact of policy's on individuals and Communities.

Conference Programme

Wednesday 24th March 2010

The conference will be jointly chaired by Salima Hafejee OBE-The Monitoring Group & Khalida Ashrafi – Equality & Human Rights Commission. Confirmed delegates will receive a confirmed scheduled programme 10 days before the conference day.

10.00am Registration & Refreshments

- **Salima Hafejee OBE: The Monitoring Group**

Welcome and key learning from the TMG - West Yorkshire Civil Rights Project

Salima has over twenty years of youth work and criminal justice experience both within the statutory and the voluntary sector.

- **Suresh Grover: The Monitoring Group**

'Race Equality & Justice, the Struggle for an Equal Society'

Suresh Grover is the Director of The Monitoring Group, the leading national and independent anti-racist casework, advocacy and developmental organisation in the United Kingdom. Suresh Grover has been active in the civil rights field for over thirty years. The Guardian Newspaper has described as one of the hundred most influential people in Social Policy in the UK. He is the leading exponent of family led empowerment and justice campaigns in the UK.

- **Michael Mansfield QC: Civil Rights Lawyer & Author**

'The Search for Truth - the need for public inquiries in the absence of political accountability'

Michael Mansfield QC was born in 1941 and educated at Highgate School and Keele University. Called to the Bar in 1967, he established Tooks Chambers, in 1984 and became Queen's Counsel in 1989. Michael has represented defendants in criminal trials, appeals and inquiries in some of the most controversial legal cases the country has seen, particularly where issues of Civil Liberty have arisen. The family of Stephen Lawrence both in the private prosecution for murder and the Public Inquiry, The Birmingham Six, who were released in 1991, nearly sixteen years after being wrongly convicted

- **Imran Khan: Human Rights & Defence Lawyer**

'Criminal Justice and the three R's'

Imran Khan, is one of the best-known human rights and criminal lawyers in the UK. His work representing the parents of Stephen Lawrence, who was stabbed to death in 1993, brought him to national and international attention and led to the establishment of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry. His later representation of the families of Victoria Climbié and Zahid Mubarek, and the public inquiries into their deaths, led to substantial social change regarding the care of children and prisoners in the UK. Imran Khan has lectured nationally and internationally on human rights and criminal law and written extensively on the subject

- **Farida Patel: Community Activist**

was born in South Africa. Her late father, Ismail Patel, was a well known campaigner against the Apartheid regime, who suffered imprisonment several times and was placed under house arrest for over ten years. Farida has lived in Yorkshire since 1967, and has worked tirelessly to support and empower women in the community. She has won three prestigious awards in recognition of her momentous efforts. However, after the London Bombings in 2005 her family life was thrown into turmoil torn when her daughter Hasina Patel and son, Arshad Patel, were both arrested under the anti-terror legislation but released without charge.

Question and answer session.

12.45pm Lunch & Networking

Book signing 'Memoirs of Radical Lawyer' by Michael Mansfield QC

1.45pm Max Farrar: Emeritus Professor, Leeds University

'Policy on race, equality & religion – how to join up the dots'

Dr Max Farrar is Emeritus Professor at Leeds Metropolitan University. He was Head of Community Partnerships & Volunteering at that university. For forty years he has researched and campaigned on racism and inequality. His recent published work is on Islamism.

- **Khalida Ashrafi**

Regional manager Yorkshire & Humber equality human rights commission, Khalida has an extensive background in equalities & health which spans both the voluntary and public sector. currently areas of focus are the forthcoming equality bill, equalities in the private sector and the Human Rights framework

- **Young People: TMG West Yorkshire Civil Rights Project**

'See it through our eyes'

A thought provoking drama (real experience) presentation by a group of students which threw their multiple identities into turmoil.

- **Rt Hon John Denham: Secretary of State**

John Denham was first elected as the Member of Parliament for Southampton Itchen in April 1992. He was appointed to Gordon Brown's first Cabinet as Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills in 2007. In June 2009, John became Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

- **Professor Gus John**

Professor Augustine John is the Chief Executive of the Gus John Partnership Limited and has been active in promoting Racial Equality and Social Justice in Britain since 1965. An activist in the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination (CARD), an organisation whose work led directly to the enactment of anti-discrimination legislation, particularly the Race Relations Act 1968.

He has been involved in policy development and training on Equality and Race Relations issues for over 30 years and held senior positions in local government, most recently as Director of Education and Leisure Services in the London Borough of Hackney. He chairs the Communities Empowerment Network (CEN) and is a founder Trustee of the George Padmore Institute, an archive and research institute in North London that is dedicated to recording the history of black political struggle in post-war Britain.

Question and answer session.

3.30pm Close of Conference

The Monitoring Group reserves the right to alter the programme without notice due to unforeseen circumstances

Who should attend?

Local Authorities • Police • Magistrates • Colleges • Youth Services
Crown Prosecution Service • Criminal Defence Lawyers • Voluntary Organisations
Community Groups • Civil Servants • Faith Organisations • National Health Service
Local Activists • Criminal Justice System • Universities • Government Advisers

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Hilton Hotel • Hall Ings • Bradford • BDI 5SH

www.tmg-uk.org

The
Monitoring
Group

Cost of Conference : Delegate Fee: Statutory £100 // Voluntary or Community £50.00
Limited FREE places are also available, please email: dmclean@monitoring.group.co.uk for more information

Booking Form

- Completed Booking Forms should be returned to:

Derrick McLean • The Monitoring Group • 28 Museum Street • London • WC1A 1LH • **Tel:** 02076 366000 • **Fax:** 02076 311 193

TitleFirst Name

Surname

Position

Organisation

Address

.....Postcode.....

TelephoneFax

E-Mail

Special Dietary or Mobility Requirements.....

Total Booking Fee: £

Please state your payment method: **By Bacs/Internet** **Cheque** **Paypal**

Signature

If you wish to send more than one delegate, please photocopy this form and send one per delegate or contact:

The Monitoring Group on **Tel:** 02076 366000 • **Fax:** 02076 311 193

Ways to Register

By Fax: To confirm your place, fax your registration to 020 763 111 93

By Mail: To confirm your place, post completed registration form to:
TMG Conference, 28 Museum Street, London, WC1A 1LH,

By Email : To dmclean@monitoring-group

How to Pay:

By Bacs / Internet Banking: Please Quote 'The Monitoring Group' Account Number: 31197657 Sort Code: 40-42-13

Cheque: I enclose a cheque for £ : Made Payable to 'The Monitoring Group'

By *PayPal* through www.tmg-uk.org