

~~GENCENSORED~~

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM
OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS

N C R O P A

FIGHTING SEXUAL CENSORSHIP

HONORARY DIRECTOR - David Webb, R.A.D.A. Dip.,

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NO/DAW/DP

15th April 1996

Sir Paul Condon,
Chief Commissioner,
Metropolitan Police,
New Scotland Yard,
Broadway,
London, SW1.

COPY

BY RECORDED DELIVERY

John Sir Paul,

Forced Cancellation of the 1996 "Sex Maniacs' Ball"

On behalf of the National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts (NCROPA), I wish to protest most strongly at the totally improper intimidatory actions of Metropolitan Police officers under your command which led to the forced cancellation of the long-planned, annual "Sex Maniacs' Ball" at the Brixton Academy (211, Stockwell Road, London SW9) on Friday, 22nd March 1996.

The "Sex Manicas' Ball" is, as you may know, an annual fund-raising event for a registered charity "The Leydig Trust" which helps the physically, emotionally and socially disabled (or 'differently abled') to come to terms with and combat the sexual stresses and problems arising from their disabilities and to help them in the often difficult fulfilment of their otherwise normal and natural sexual needs.

Whilst the NCROPA appreciates that police officers have a duty to act against lawlessness, this does not mean that they have the right to intimidate or threaten those who have not broken the law and frighten them into abandoning their legitimate pursuit of perfectly legal activities. Furthermore any prior assumption that illegal activities would be perpetrated at the event is an outrageous presumption on the part of the police and no justification whatsoever for putting the proprietors of both the original and replacement venues under such improper duress. In a country which purports to be a "free society", the tactics of your officers involved in this matter were much more appropriate to those employed in "police state" régimes and which are so consistently deplored by the British authorities in other countries.

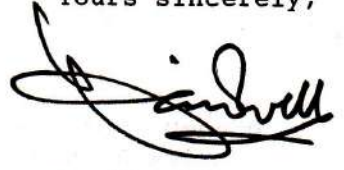
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continuation/.....

May we please have a full explanation as to why your officers took the action they did, which officers were responsible and whether or not you propose taking any disciplinary action against them for so grossly exceeding their proper police powers?

Yours sincerely,



David Webb
Honoraray Director,
National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts

Copy to: The Chairperson, The Leydig Trust.