

What The Pitchford Inquiry Will Not Investigate

By **Alexander Baron** - Jul 30, 2015



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On July 28, an inquiry opened at the Royal Courts of Justice under Lord Justice Pitchford. In January, a 26 page pamphlet called *Investigation into links between Special Demonstration Squad and Home Office* by Stephen Taylor was published. This can be downloaded from the [Government website](#). If you are not *au fait* with the background to this investigation, very briefly, once upon a time there was an undercover police officer named Mark Kennedy.

Sadly, undercover policing has an at times vital role in both preserving what few freedoms we in the West have, and in taking dangerous people



Lord Justice Pitchford
(Sir Christopher Pitchford) in his
ceremonial dress

off the street. Mark Kennedy on the other hand was not protecting us from the forces of darkness, instead he spent around **seven years working undercover** in environmentalist groups whose criminal activity was limited to civil disobedience (involving trivial public order offences) and minor acts of criminal damage.

When Kennedy had a change of heart, a trial of activists collapsed. Further revelations were stunning, other undercover officers were said to have not only been working inside these direct action groups but had used false identities stolen from dead children (as in the book/film *The Day Of The Jackal*), and worse. In December last year, a woman was awarded a settlement of £425,000 for an action against the Metropolitan Police. She had unwittingly married an undercover police officer, and had even borne him a son. That officer, Bob Lambert, is now a university lecturer. He was also already a married man, so doesn't that count as bigamy? Some might even call what he did rape, because a man who has sex with a woman by pretending to be her husband is doing precisely that.

Whatever, ordinary laws don't count where **the privilege money can't buy** is concerned; this was **the response of the Home Office** to a *bona fide* inquiry about how Mark Kennedy came to be issued with a false passport.

Scandalous though this undercover policing was (or should that be under the covers policing?) there are other aspects of this work that will absolutely not be laid bare in the current inquiry because not only are they highly illegal, but unlike bedding airhead female activists who might just damage a perimeter fence at a nuclear power station, they have no shred of public interest. They include entrapment and incitement.

Way back on April 5, 1975, the *Sun* newspaper carried a short report credited to Michael Fielder called *ROW OVER POLICE WHO 'LURE PEOPLE INTO CRIMES'*.

The police concerned included a detective who posed as a forger to get currency printed, and an officer who exposed himself in a public toilet, smiling at men who came in. This

sort of incitement is by no means unique to the UK, as **George Michael realised** in 1998.

Then there are other forms of entrapment and incitement that are even more sinister, such as setting up an armed robbery **to take a *known* villain off the streets** when the regular legal process failed, or even worse, seeking out disaffected individuals and inciting them to take out contracts on people, usually a former lover or spouse.

None of these clandestine and highly illegal operations will even be mentioned, and are not included in the terms of reference of the Pitchford Inquiry. At one time even to suggest this sort of thing went on would be enough to see one branded a conspiracy theorist or crank. Since Mark Kennedy came out of the closet, that is no longer the case, but let no one try to convince himself that anything has changed.

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