

# Tom Robinson – Angry Old Man

By **Alexander Baron** - Oct 19, 2015

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*Tom Robinson*

**3**  
SHARES

In the late 70s, **Tom Robinson** put out two critically acclaimed albums. At that time he was an out homosexual, and the song *...Glad to Be Gay* became an anthem, in spite of its apparent condoning of the grotesquely blasphemous Kirkup “poem”.



After the Tom Robinson Band came another short-lived project, Sector 27, and then fairly regular releases of both singles and albums under his own name. Today, Robinson is better known as a DJ/presenter on the BBC's Radio 6. He is also a married man with a family, something that didn't go down at all well with the organised homosexual movement, but although Robinson may have lost his taste for perverted sex, he is still the same angry young man at heart. His latest release – his first for 19 years – contains the same type of rants at the establishment that appeared on his first two albums, but there is nothing here to compare with *Blue Murder* or *Long Hot Summer*.



*The Mighty Sword Of Justice* is a fairly predictable piece on a well worn theme, that the rich get better justice than the poor. That is a sweeping generalisation that is false as often as it is true. Doreen Lawrence may indeed have waited 18 years to see two men convicted of her son's murder, but no one could accuse the authorities of not pursuing them. The law was changed and applied retrospectively, and they were convicted on extremely dubious forensic evidence; if their Counsel had had the courage to make the obvious challenge – that this evidence had been planted – they might well have walked free. At the time of writing, the mighty sword of justice is being applied like a hammer against celebrities and even the high and mighty, although there are signs that this has gone too far after the shocking revelations made by another angry old man, Harvey Proctor, at a **recent press conference**.

A lot of this album is clearly autobiographical, like his reference to tearing up a *Bible* and smoking it in *Holy Smoke*, a track that includes guest appearances by rapper Swami Baracus and the actor Ian McKellen (as the voice of God).



If you like Tom Robinson, you will probably like this album, and even if you don't, you will probably find one or two of the tracks amusing. As for Robinson himself, he is surely long enough in the tooth to realise that confiscating the wealth of the super-rich, the rich and even the just better off (like him) then redistributing it at the whim of the people's commissariat will simply make everybody poor.

**3**  
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