



The Double Jeopardy Campaign

The Campaign by Ann Mings to Overturn
the Double Jeopardy Law

Background to this campaign

- THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY RULE WAS A LAW THAT PREVENTED SOMEONE FROM BEING TRIED TWICE FOR THE SAME CRIME.
- ITS ORIGINAL INTENTION WAS TO PREVENT THE STATE FROM PERSECUTING PEOPLE THROUGH REPEATED PROSECUTIONS FOR THE SAME CRIME.
- BY THE 1990S IT WAS BEGINNING TO LOOK SOMEWHAT OUTDATED, THERE HAD BEEN A NUMBER OF HIGH PROFILE CASES WHERE GUILTY PEOPLE APPEARED TO BE GOING UNPUNISHED, ESPECIALLY IN CASES WHERE FORENSIC TECHNIQUES SUCH AS DNA PROFILING HAD MADE NEW LINE OF EVIDENCE VIABLE TO THE POLICE AND THE CPS.

What Were The Aims of The Campaign?

- CAMPAIGNERS WANTED TO REPLACE THE EXISTING RULE WITH A NEW ONE; THAT WHERE NEW EVIDENCE WAS AVAILABLE THAT WASN'T AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THE TRIAL THEN A PERSON COULD BE TRIED FOR THE SAME OFFENCE FOR A SECOND TIME.
- THE PROPOSED CHANGES WOULD ONLY APPLY IN SERIOUS CASES SUCH AS MANSLAUGHTER, MURDER OR RAPE. ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FIGURES OF THE CAMPAIGN WAS ANNE MINGS. ANNE'S DAUGHTER JULIE HOGG HAD BEEN MURDERED BY HER PARTNER, BILLY DUNLOP. DUNLOP LATER CONFESSED TO THE KILLING BUT THERE WAS LITTLE THAT COULD BE DONE BECAUSE OF THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY RULE.
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What Did They Achieve?

- THE CAMPAIGN WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS. THE 2003 CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT 2003 ABOLISHED THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY RULE FOR SERIOUS CRIMES AND CAME INTO EFFECT TWO YEARS LATER, IT WAS ALSO RETROSPECTIVE MEANING IT DID NOT MATTER WHETHER AN ALLEGED OFFENCE HAD OCCURRED BEFORE 2005.
- BILLY DUNLOP COULD BE (AND WAS) PROSECUTED FOR THE MURDER OF JULIE HOGG. THERE WERE OTHER HIGH PROFILE RETRIALS AS A RESULT OF THIS LAW.
- IN 2012, NEIL ACOURT AND LUKE KNIGHT, STOOD TRIAL AND WERE FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER OF BLACK TEENAGER STEPHEN LAWRENCE IN 1993. DESPITE STRONG EVIDENCE OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT, THEY COULD NOT BE PROSECUTED AFTER A FAILED PRIVATE PROSECUTION BY STEPHENS PARENTS IN 1996.

How Did They Publicise Their Cause?

- THIS WAS A SINGLE PERSON CAMPAIGN.
- ONE OF HER FIRST ACTIONS WAS TO TAKE THE POLICE TO COURT FOR THEIR BUNGLED INVESTIGATION INTO JULIES MURDER, THIS HELPED TO GET PUBLICISE THE CASE. ANNE WROTE HUNDREDS OF LETTERS TO THE PRESS MPs AND SIGNIFICANT LEGAL FIGURES.
- SHE SOUGHT AND OBTAINED HELP FROM THE PRESS, NOTABLY THE **NORTHERN ECHO**. SHE WENT TO PARLIAMENT MADE A POWERFUL SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Northern Echo

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

NORTH-EAST NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

35p

PLAY TODAY £10,000 PICK 3.com GIVEAWAY

Game Card One inside this paper

See page 5



Tees Valley Edition

Biofuel firm's £100m plan

US biofuels company LanzaTech is to build a £100m plant on Teesside. The plant, which will make ethanol using locally grown wheat, will create 500 jobs directly and 200 indirectly. LanzaTech is raising funds for the project in the US and hopes to have the plant operational by the end of 2008.

By Sue Business Echo

MEDICAL LEAP: Scientists are a step closer to developing a cure for diabetes after studying the insulin of frogs. Research has found that a protein discovered in the African clawed frog can be used to help stem cells grow into pancreatic cells. It brings hope for those with the condition, whose bodies often prevent the body from producing sugar properly.

TEESSIDE NEWS

Bad Samaritan

A TEENAGER who went to the aid of a man having an epileptic fit has been ordered to pay his £500 compensation - after being fractured for jinx in an unprovoked attack. Peter Harris, 16, of Hartlepool, admitted gross assault when he appeared before Teesside Crown Court yesterday.

By Paul Storey - Page 4

Blooming great

STOCKTON has won the first city award in the Northwards in Britain Awards for the third year.

Today, thanks to one woman's tireless determination, and a campaign by The Northern Echo to change an 800-year-old law, Billy Dunlop can officially be branded a lying, evil and - at long last - convicted...

MURDERER

A MOTHER'S love for her murdered daughter saw a 11-year fight for justice come to an emotional and historic end yesterday, writes **JILLIAN COOK, at the Old Bailey**.

A tearful Ann Ming finally saw her daughter's killer, Billy Dunlop, admit his guilt at the Old Bailey, in London.

For nearly 11 years, Mrs Ming has campaigned to get on with The Northern Echo, for a landmark change in the law that had previously prevented Dunlop from being a culprit.

Victim Dunlop, 43, thought he had got away with murdering young Teesside mother Julie Ming.

The 48-year-old was last seen alive in November 1990.

Until yesterday, the details of how she also met her death had not been revealed.

During yesterday's trial hearing, Dunlop admitted murder.

Mrs Ming, comforted by her husband, Charles, broke down in court as the word "guilty" echoed around the historic court room.

24/5/1991

Murder trial ends with no verdict

17/10/1991

Now find the real killer, says family

17/5/2000

It's official - he's got away with murder

Getting away with it: How The Northern Echo reported Billy Dunlop's two acquittals for murdering Julie Ming and the police admission, in May 2000, that he could not be retried, despite being convicted a month earlier of committing perjury during the murder trial.

CRIMINAL INJUSTICE

HELPING THE VICTIMS

A NORTHERN ECHO CAMPAIGN

After the hearing, the dishevelled parents were taken to a nearby police station, where they found for the first time how their daughter died at Dunlop's hands.

In a heated police interview, he is heard confessing to strangling Julie, from Hillingdon.

Thinking only of himself and in fear of being caught, he stripped her naked and strapped her in a blanket before heading her body behind the back panel in her boot.

In the interview, he is heard telling officers how he pushed the body into the cavity beneath the boot using his feet. He tells how he "put her in" when Julie refused him for injuries sustained in an unprovoked attack.



Victory: Ann Ming at yesterday's Press conference





Sarah's Law

Sarah Payne Campaign to Change the Rules Surrounding
Disclosure of Information on Convicted Paedophiles

Background to this campaign

- THIS CAMPAIGN BEGAN AS A RESPONSE TO A TRAGIC MURDER.
- IN THE YEAR 2000, SARAH PAYNE (AGED 8) WAS ABDUCTED AND MURDERED BY ROY WHITING.
- WHITING HAD PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS FOR ABDUCTION AND SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A YOUNG GIRL.
- SARAH'S MOTHER (ALSO CALLED SARAH) ARGUED DURING THE TRIAL THAT HAD SHE KNOWN A PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER WAS IN THE LOCAL AREA, SHE WOULD NEVER HAD ALLOWED SARAH OUT

What Were The Aims of The Campaign?

- THE AIMS OF THE CAMPAIGN WERE TO GIVE THE PARENTS OF CHILDREN ACCESS TO SEX OFFENDERS' REGISTER TO CHECK FOR INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL OFFENDERS.

What Did They Achieve?

- IN SEPTEMBER, 2008 THE CAMPAIGN WON THE RIGHT FOR PARENTS OR CARERS TO FORMALLY ASK POLICE IF SOMEONE WITH ACCESS TO A CHILD (TEACHER, CARER) HAD A RECORD OF SEXUAL OFFENCES.
- NOTE THIS IS FALLS SOMEWHAT SHORT OF THE ORIGINAL AIMS OF THE CAMPAIGN. SARAH PAYNES INITIAL GOAL WAS OPEN ACCESS THE SEX OFFENDERS REGISTER FOR PARENTS IN THE AREA WHERE THEY WERE LIVING. ACCESS WAS GRANTED BUT IT WAS MORE LIMITED THAN THIS AND SO, THE CAMPAIGN CAN BE REGARDED AS A PARTIAL SUCCESS.
- ALSO IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE SCHEME HAVE BEEN CRITICISED. VIGILANTE ATTACKS STARTED ON PEOPLE IDENTIFIED AS OFFENDERS AND, OFTEN WRONGLY. AS A RESULT OF THIS SOME POLICE FORCES HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO PARENTS, FOR EXAMPLE SUSSEX POLICE MADE DISCLOSURES IN 14 OUT OF 193 APPLICATIONS (7%), IN CONTRAST, CLEVELAND POLICE MADE DISCLOSURES IN RESPONSE TO 131 OUT OF A TOTAL OF 147 (89%).

How Did They Publicise Their Cause?

- ONE CRUCIAL ASPECT OF THE CAMPAIGN WAS THE SUPPORT OF A NATIONAL NEWSPAPER (THE NEWS OF THE WORLD). THIS WAS AT A TIME WHEN NEWSPAPERS WERE WIDELY INFLUENTIAL.
- THE PAPER RAN MANY NEWS STORIES ABOUT SARAH AND THE TRIAL OF ROY WHITING AND STARTED A PETITION TO GET A CHANGE IN THE LAW. THE PETITION ATTRACTED OVER 700,000 REAL SIGNATURES IN THE DAYS BEFORE ELECTRONIC PETITIONS. THIS WAS VERY HARD FOR A GOVERNMENT TO IGNORE.

