

High Court judge and the child sex ring: Adviser to Queen was founder of paedophile support group to keep offenders out of jail

- Lord Justice Fulford was named last year as an adviser to the Queen
- He was a key backer of the notorious Paedophile Information Exchange
- Police suspect the group of abusing children on an 'industrial scale'
- He is revealed as a founder member of campaign to defend PIE
- At the time it was calling for the age of consent to be lowered to just four

By [Martin Beckford](#)

PUBLISHED: 22:02 GMT, 8 March 2014 | **UPDATED:** 13:58 GMT, 9 March 2014

One of Britain's most senior judges actively campaigned to support a vile paedophile group that tried to legalise sex with children, The Mail on Sunday can reveal.

Lord Justice Fulford, named last year as an adviser to the Queen, was a key backer of the notorious Paedophile Information Exchange (PIE) which police suspect of abusing children on an 'industrial scale'.

An investigation by the Mail on Sunday has discovered that Fulford was a founder member of a campaign to defend PIE while it was openly calling for the age of consent to be lowered to just four.



Whenever you see this image, tap to view all the images in a gallery

Ok

+9

Implicated: Lord Justice Fulford, pictured in his full legal regalia, was named last year as an adviser to the Queen

It can also be revealed that the Appeal Court judge and Privy Counsellor:

- Planned demonstrations outside courts where defendants – described by prosecutors as ‘sick’ and a ‘force for evil’ – were on trial.
- Wrote an article claiming PIE, now under investigation in the wake of the Jimmy Savile scandal, was merely a way for paedophiles to ‘make friends and offer each other mutual support’.
- Sought help with the campaign from future Labour Minister Patricia Hewitt, then in charge of a controversial civil rights group.
- Attended meetings to discuss tactics with PIE chairman Tom O’Carroll, who has since been jailed for possessing thousands of pictures of naked children.
- Was praised by the paedophile group for coming to its defence.

Fulford was a founder member of an organisation called Conspiracy Against Public Morals set up to defend PIE leaders facing criminal charges.

It later published a sickening pamphlet claiming that children would be freed from the oppression of the state and their parents if they were allowed to have sex with adults.

The 60-page document, unearthed by The Mail on Sunday, is adorned with disturbing child-like pictures and sexual cartoons.

At the time the organisation went under a slightly different name but had the same postal address as Fulford's group had.

When asked last night about his involvement in the group, Fulford said: 'I have no memory of having been involved with its foundation or the detail of the work of this campaign.'

HIS 'ABOMINABLE' ARTICLE

Fulford was a founder member of the Conspiracy Against Public Morals group convened in 1979 to support leaders of the Paedophile Information Exchange who were charged with 'conspiracy to corrupt public morals' after police seized their contact adverts. In October 1979 Fulford wrote in *Broadsheet*, a gay equality magazine....

"A Vice so Abominable"

— how the charge of conspiring to corrupt public morals can be used against gays.

ADRIAN FULFORD*

A senior Judge, Lord Devlin, has written of homosexuality that it is: "A vice so abominable that its mere presence is an offence . . . I do not see how society can be denied the right to eradicate it." It is due to that belief and similar attitudes, which charge of "conspiring to corrupt public morals" has over the last two decades been brought so successfully against gay activities. The use of the charge against gays is rooted in the belief that homosexuality is corrupting. What is conspiracy?

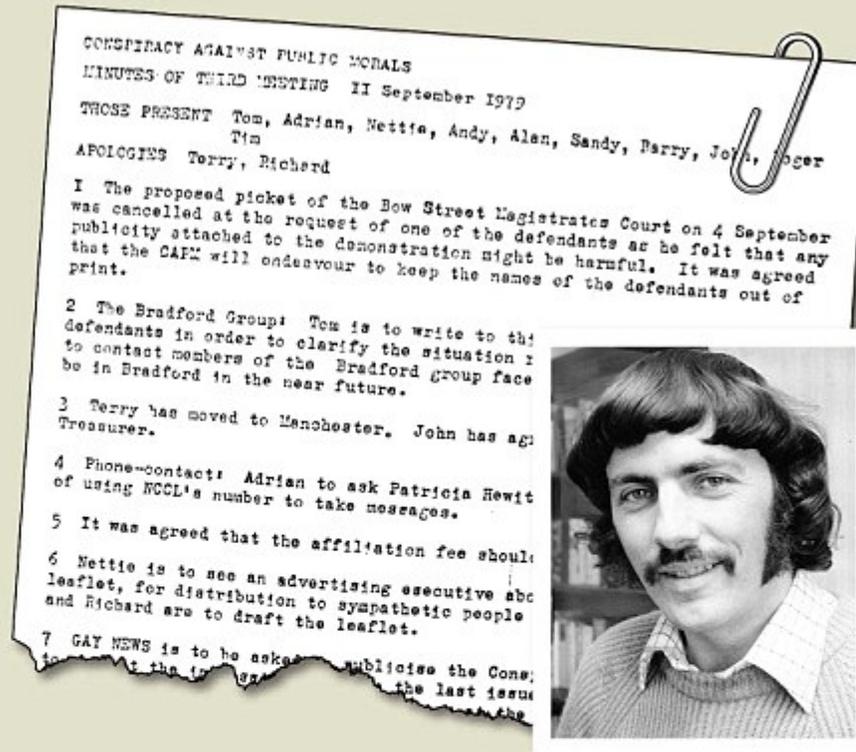
Conspiracy is simply an agreement between two or more people to do something wrong. That "wrongful" act need not be against the law—it is sufficient if it is merely in conflict with "public morality". It is irrelevant that the agreement may never be carried out or that one of the accused may have a change of mind and have totally withdrawn from the enterprise.

If this charge against the PIE members is successful, its consequences for society generally and gays in particular will be devastating. It would mean that paedophiles are not even allowed to contact each other in this way so that they can simply meet and talk with each other. It forbids them to make friends in this fashion. It would be quite possible for a paedophile never to have had sex with anyone and intend never to have sex with anyone and still be open to this charge. These prosecuting the members of

What corrupt acts had these people perpetrated to justify this serious indictment being laid against them? Occasionally, in a document which was only circulated amongst PIE members, adverts were placed by paedophiles who wanted to correspond with, and meet, any other paedophiles. The idea of the contact page was simply to enable paedophiles to make friends and to offer each other mutual support.

HIS MEETING WITH PIE LEADER

Fulford met with PIE chairman Tom O'Carroll, pictured right, and National Council of Civil Liberties member Nettie Pollard in September 1979 and discussed staging protests at O'Carroll's trial. The minutes show Fulford agreed to garner support and seek help of Patricia Hewitt, the future Labour Minister then NCCL general secretary.



Adrian [Fulford] agreed to contact members of the Bradford group face to face as he is due to be in Bradford in the near future.... Phone-contact: Adrian to ask Patricia Hewitt about... using NCCL's number to take messages... Nettie [to organise] leaflet for distribution to sympathetic people and groups.... Nettie, Adrian [Fulford] and Richard are to draft the leaflet

+9

He added that any contribution he made would have been in general terms against a law banning 'conspiracy to corrupt public morals' which he believed 'could be used against a wide variety of people in potentially inappropriate ways'.

'I have always been deeply opposed to paedophilia and I never supported the views of the PIE,' he added.

Fulford is the most senior public figure to be implicated in the work of PIE.

Today's revelations follow controversy over the roles of Labour grandees Patricia Hewitt, Harriet Harman and her husband Jack Dromey, who were all involved in the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL) when it counted paedophile activists among its members.

Last night Fulford said: 'On reflection the NCCL gay rights committee should never have allowed members of PIE to attend any of its meetings.

'I am very sorry for what happened. I have never espoused or in any way supported the objectives of PIE – the

THE PAEDOPHILES CELEBRATE

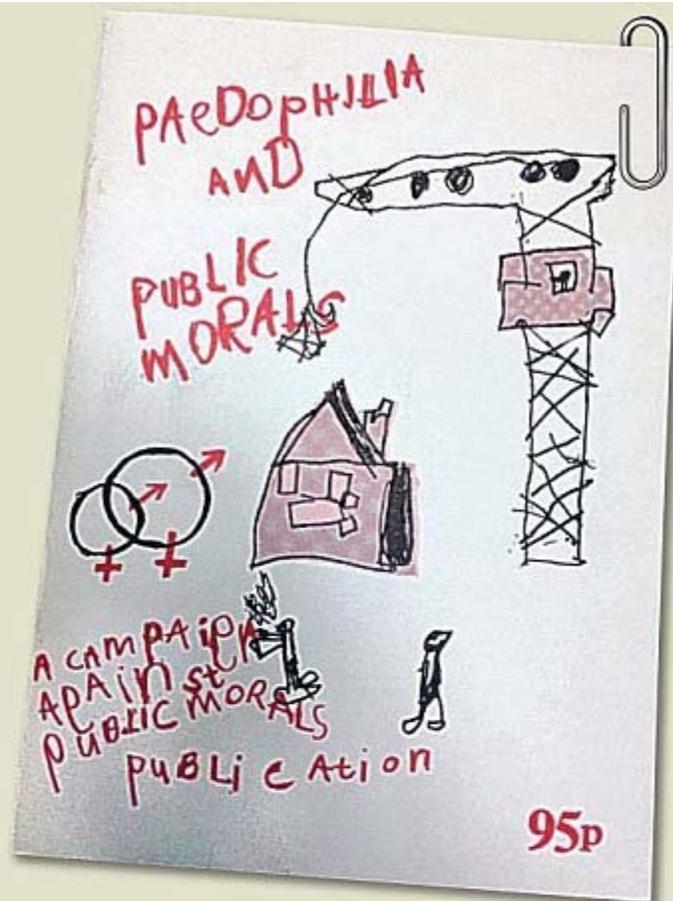
Fulford got the established gay rights organisation Campaign for Homosexual Equality (CHE) to back his new group at a conference, and to demand that charges against the paedophiles be dropped. His actions were praised in PIE’s own magazine, *Magpie*, in its October-December 1979 issue...



Conspiracy Against Public Morals... has been formed to support PIE in its legal battle – and already the Conspiracy has had its first success, by securing CHE’s affiliation to the campaign, at its annual conference in Brighton. The Conspiracy’s Brighton triumph owed much to a speech by barrister Adrian Fulford, which Gay News declared to be the best made at the conference.

THE VILE PAMPHLET

In 1980 this pamphlet, illustrated with crude sexual cartoons and containing the statement below, was published by a Marxist group using the same address as Fulford's organisation and an almost-identical name – the Campaign Against Public Morals. It too sought to stop the PIE trial, but also called for the legalisation of child sex. Fulford's name does not appear in it



Paedophile relationships do however shift the balance of power ... away from the adult and in favour of the child. Does that mean we believe that abolishing the age of consent can be presented as an isolated demand? The answer is no. It is a demand that is integral to the liberation of children – integral to their economic social and political liberation.

+9

Nonetheless, the revelations are likely to raise questions about what vetting he underwent during his career.

However Fulford insisted 'There was nothing to report to the Lord Chancellor's department... at the time of my various appointments.'

The revelations also prompted fresh calls for a full investigation of the links between the Establishment and paedophile groups, following long-running allegations of cover-ups.

Scotland Yard is already looking into PIE as part of Operation Fernbridge, its probe into allegations of a child sex ring involving senior politicians at a south London guest house.

Judge ruled on sex cases

LORD Justice Fulford has presided over several high-profile trials, including those of the 21/7 London bombers. As an Appeal Court judge, he has reviewed the sentences of several paedophiles, both reducing and increasing their sentences:

CASE 1

2014: Fulford and two other judges rejected the appeal of Ambrose Clifton, 72, who was jailed for 14 years after he raped and molested a young girl. Fulford said the judge in the original 2012 trial had been 'unimpeachable' in his handling of the case.

UPHELD

CASE 2

2013: Senior Buddhist monk Pahalagama Somaratana, 67, carried out four sexual attacks on a girl aged eight or nine, after luring her into a room with sweets. Fulford and two other judges cut his sentence from seven years to six.

REDUCED

CASE 3

2013: Jade Cook, 23, was jailed indefinitely for public protection after admitting four counts of sexual activity with a child aged 13. Fulford and two other judges cut that to six years and three months, followed by three years on licence.

REDUCED

CASE 4

2006: 'Baby rapist' Alan Webster was sentenced to life with a minimum of six years. After public outcry, the Lord Chief Justice and a panel, including Fulford, increased the minimum term by two years.

INCREASED

CASE 5

2005: Fulford and two other judges reduced the sentence on Nigel Simmonds, 40, who had befriended two single mothers before molesting their young children. Simmonds had offended before, but his term was cut from six to five years.

REDUCED

As The Mail on Sunday revealed last year, the Home Office is also carrying out urgent checks into a whistleblower's claims that taxpayers' money was handed to PIE.

Labour MP Tom Watson said: 'Today's revelations reinforce the argument that there should be a full investigation into the role of PIE.

'It's incredible that someone of such distinguished legal authority could misunderstand the need to protect children.'

Tory MP Sir Paul Beresford added: 'I find it staggering. It wasn't a clever or appropriate campaign. They were a paedophile group and at the end of the chain were little children'.'

Peter Saunders of the National Association for People Abused in Childhood, said it was 'more than alarming' that anyone in the judiciary could be linked to PIE.

Fulford, now 61, is the most senior public figure to be exposed as an apologist for paedophiles among Left-wing political groups of the 1970s and 1980s.

He has enjoyed a stellar rise through the legal profession, becoming a QC in 1994 and a part-time judge the following year.

In 2002 he became the first openly gay High Court judge, being nominated for a knighthood by Tony Blair, and in 2003 took up a prestigious role at the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Last year he was nominated as an Appeal Court judge by David Cameron and appointed to the Privy Council, the elite group of senior politicians, judges and clergy who advise the Queen on constitutional matters.

Back in the late 1970s he was a newly qualified Left-wing barrister when he joined the NCCL, now known as Liberty, which had links to known paedophile groups and attempted to lower the age of consent to 14 and water down child pornography laws

Fulford's involvement with the radical movement to legalise child sex goes even further than that of the Labour Ministers, documents uncovered by The Mail on Sunday show.

He personally set up a group to support the 'executive committee' of PIE in the summer of 1979, after they had their homes raided by police.

Images of child abuse and group literature were seized and five leaders, including chairman O'Carroll, were charged with the rare offence of 'conspiracy to corrupt public morals'.

Fulford and his colleagues called the organisation the Conspiracy Against Public Morals (CAPM), and it went on to distribute leaflets calling for the PIE 'show trial' to be dropped, and held protests outside courtrooms.

In October 1979 Fulford wrote a full-page article in gay rights magazine Broadsheet, in which he was described as 'the founder' of the PIE support group.

He claimed that classified adverts placed by PIE members, which led to the trial, were 'simply to enable paedophiles to make friends and offer each other mutual support' rather than to contact children or exchange banned images.

A leaflet distributed by CAPM and available through PIE's mailing list went further, claiming: 'This is a trumped-up charge designed to silence a group merely because it is unpopular with the guardians of public morality.'

And the prosecution was condemned as 'an attack on PIE's right to freedom of speech and freedom of association'.

A longer briefing note put together by the CAPM called the paedophiles a 'minority group ripe for bashing' because they were open about their aims.

In 1980, a Marxist collective used the almost identical name, Campaign Against Public Morals, and the same

Central London PO Box address as Fulford's group to publish a 60-page diatribe that called for the age of consent to be scrapped 'for the liberation of children'.



+9



+9

The revelations follow controversy over the roles of Labour grandees Patricia Hewitt, left,

and Harriet Harman, who were all involved in the National Council for Civil Liberties when it counted paedophile activists among its members

Fulford successfully proposed a motion at the August 1979 conference of an established gay rights group, the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, that it should affiliate itself to his new group and also call for the PIE leaders to be cleared.

His actions were praised in the paedophiles' in-house journal, Magpie, which declared: 'No longer alone – new group to support PIE' and said they 'owed much to a speech by barrister Adrian Fulford, which Gay News declared to be the best made at the conference.'

The following month the CAPM held its third meeting at which Fulford and O'Carroll himself were present, as well as several members of the NCCL gay rights committee.

Minutes of the gathering show that they discussed picketing the magistrates court where the PIE defendants appeared and state 'Adrian' would 'ask Patricia Hewitt about the possibilities of using NCCL's number to take messages'.



+9

Probe: Labour MP Tom Watson said there should be a full investigation into the role of PIE

Records show PIE leader O'Carroll – who was jailed for two years in 1981 – was a member of the gay rights committee at the same time as Fulford.

The paedophile group was often discussed at the gay rights committee's meetings, and O'Carroll was given its support as he came under increasing public pressure.

Last night, Fulford admitted he attended meetings of the NCCL gay rights committee when O'Carroll was there, but added that his presence 'left me feeling extremely uncomfortable'.

He added: 'In the main, I provided some legal advice in the context of general civil liberties objections to the wide-ranging charge of conspiracy to corrupt public morals.' And he stated that he has never wanted the age of

consent to be lower than it is now.

PIE folded in 1984 after the arrest of several more leading figures, including one – Steven Adrian Smith – who had worked at the Home Office.

Miss Hewitt, Miss Harman and Mr Dromey have now expressed regret for the paedophile activists involvement with the NCCL, while insisting they never condoned child sex and that PIE did not influence their policies.

However archive material shows the NCCL's Nettie Pollard actually invited PIE to become an affiliate group in 1975, offering them the chance to propose motions and take votes at its conferences.

Last night, Fulford said: 'On reflection, the NCCL gay rights committee should never have allowed members of PIE to attend any of its meetings and a clear separation should have been created with the two organisations.'

- *Additional reporting: Stephen Johns, Paul Cahalan and Peter Henn*