

DR JOHN HARDING PRICE
In Absolute Confidence

Mento Cap



The Lawn Medical Centre
Hafod
St Anne's Close
Sewell Road
Lincoln
LN2 5QT

01522 52866

Urgent

Dear

For our loved ones

19 April 2015

HM The Queen
Buckingham Palace
London

Your Majesty

I have the honour to submit this petition on behalf of the Saunders family. His mother and grandmother instructed me on behalf of their son, Tommy Saunders, aged 19, Case No. WT45857 who, we submit, is illegally detained in HM Prison, Lincoln.

This petition is submitted without resistance to the orders of treatment which we submit are also wrong. It involves many other of Your Majesty's loyal subjects and we are grateful to Your Majesty because it exists above these problems and is an example of your duty, honour and integrity to the whole nation. Your standards have led the establishment and the people to value those standards within the concept of Britishness. These were embodied in the fighting services and in two world wars.

Your Majesty, following my request, referred these matters of clinical failure in Mental Health to the Government as the controller of the General Medical Council, the Regulator. The Regulator has, I submit, abused the powers conferred on it by the Government in the Medical Acts 100 years ago and those subsequently. I submit that the General Medical Council has abused the power conferred upon it. Furthermore, it has caused the legal system, including Your Majesty's Privy Council, to pervert the course and practices of medicine in Mental Health. This has resulted in perverting the legal department of the Privy Council, distorting the judiciary with catastrophic results in Mental Health.

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I submit that the evidence for this failure was the establishment by the General Medical Council of a Lay Committee, December 13th to 16th 2000. This was a wrong committee because I should have been entitled to a Professional Conduct Committee with all the important considerations normally accorded by that Committee to the Plaintiffs and the Defendant doctor. It was the corrupt relationship (cuckold) in which the Privy Council sat as the appellant Committee to the General Medical Council that led the then Government to sack the Privy Council as an appellant Court.

These matters were reported to Your Majesty and you, in turn, advised the Government to investigate the issues. The Government failed to do this properly or at all and the result is a series of deceptions and cover ups with the most serious consequences to the public.

The General Medical Council completely refused the standards of candour and trust embodied in the Hippocratic Tradition and respecting trust, responsibility and integrity at all layers within the Mental Health Service.

It is against this background by the General Medical Council of its abuse of power that the Mental Health Service has failed and continues to fail whilst we are encumbered with a burgeoning prison service. Within this trap we cite the case of Tommy Saunders. Therefore, this is a national issue.

In support of these arguments I report the admission of your Minister of Health, the Rt. Hon. Norman Lamb who has admitted that the Mental Health Service has failed. Much more serious is the fact that he has reported in *The Times* the failure of his family to deal with his son suffering from Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. This illustrates how even the Minister of Health, with all his power, authority and knowledge, has been unable to escape from the ravages of mental illness which afflicts so many of Your Majesty's subjects and families across the world.

Therefore, I submit that the questions of standards and leadership, justice and morality, are equally important to the standards of medical treatment in the care, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness. Psychiatrists must be familiar with all the necessary factors if they are to protect their patients and society. In consequence the organisation of the Mental Health Services with all its ramifications must be trustworthy, honourable, responsible and accountable at all points of his function.

The example given by Norman Lamb's family show that even with the most excellent support of a good family this is not sufficient for the protection of the members of the family against the problems of mental illness. Much more understanding and comprehension is necessary.

I give at this stage two examples wherein the General Medical Council has completely failed in its public duty, thereby upholding its own personal interests but ignoring its public duty.

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The first example is that of Dr Harold Shipman. Dr Shipman was referred by the Metropolitan Police in 1975 to the General Medical Council. The General Medical Council appointed a professional supervisor to the care of Dr Shipman. Under the General Medical Council Dr Shipman remained licensed and in medical practice for 25 years whilst murdering 200, almost certainly over 400 of his patients. All of this was covered up by the Government and the General Medical Council in defiance of the public interest and need for the truth.

The Government Enquiry required Dame Janet Smith not to look into the clinical problems which were at the heart of the Doctor/Patient relationship and the trust between the Regulator and the profession. Dame Janet responded by describing the General Medical Council as a club, not a responsible Regulator.

The importance of the responsibility of the Regulator has been set out in these papers and is illustrated by the Government dealing with the banking scandal in a totally different manner from its failure to handle these clinical issues.

It was these clinical issues in Mental Health practice which meant that two General Practitioners were referred to me by the Local Family Practitioner Committee and also the local Prison Medical Officer. In all these cases I admitted the patients to The Lawn and St John's Hospital complex, successfully treated them and they returned to their family practices as effective doctors. The details of these cases are of course available to Your Majesty.

Following the public disclosure of the case of Dr Shipman there was great worldwide concern about the doctor/patient relationship and the vital question of the patient's trust in their doctors.

A second issue exposing the failure of the political system in leadership and management of Mental Health is seen with the closure of the The Lawn and St John's therapeutic complex. The problem here is that the politicians swept aside all the mental hospitals, good, bad and indifferent, without examining the features and culture which operated in those hospitals.

The result of this was that patients were pushed out into the community when they had been contained within the asylum community, often for many years. The result of this was they were confused and could not cope within the community environment. This resulted patients committing suicide and murder as they struggled to adapt to community life.

The problem here was that the Government and General Medical Council cover up of their failure to understand and deal with the problem led to the aforementioned fatalities. This increased the distrust of the patients and the public in the Government services. It is for this reason that I submitted to Your Majesty the important questions of trust, relationship, duty and responsibility within the Mental Health Services.

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The failure of the medical services to come to terms with these problems is illustrated by the Trent Regional Health Authority Enquiry into the suicides here in Lincoln in the 1980's due to the change in culture forced by the politicians upon the service. These suicides were caused by the change in culture in the service without provision of care and understanding. This forced change with the Mental Health Service led to a cover up Enquiry and the scapegoating of three of my colleagues with the result that one has died and two have given up psychiatric practice.

Scapegoating has become a standard practice in the National Health Service to cover up grievous errors and mistakes.

Another example of the failure of the Service is in five independent enquiries by NHS London into catastrophic events happening in the Service. The barrister correctly reported the failure of the Mental Health Service but the NHS never took up the clinical detail and causes of its failure. The result of this is the failure in the Mental Health Service reported to Your Majesty.

The simple change of the structure of the service and the naming of it will not deal with the basic clinical problems which have to be dealt with at the professional level, both in the personal consultation and the case conference. Proper dealing with these matters at the point of clinical issue will save thousands of pounds of sterile legal investigation and anguish to the patients and their families.

The importance of properly understanding these issues is set out this week in the case cited in this letter where the patient Tommy is detained in prison. In contrast Lord Janner has been excluded from the harrows of a trial by virtue of his mental state. This makes the point that it is in the public interest to understand the clinical issues which affect their own attitude to life and thinking with their control of themselves over their minds. In this respect it is necessary for the psychiatrist to publish their report so that the public can understand the issues. Another cover up does not help the public understanding. In this connection seriously disturbed people are able to cover their inadequate personalities but continue to appear normal in life. Conversely, understanding the problem would enable the person charged to deal with his problems and obtain the necessary help.

Apart from these international problems in the doctor/patient relationship in leadership and justice resulting in the perversion of the medical and judicial services to cover up gross clinical errors I return now to the specific case of Tommy Saunders held in Your Majesty's Prison here in Lincoln.

I have of course sent a copy of this letter to Judge Pini who is the judge in charge of this case and reserved it to himself to deal with it. This judge, although clearly of excellent intent, handed the papers to Tommy's barrister instructing him to resolve the issues and bring it back before the judge. The barrister and the solicitor have failed the judge, the court and their client and it

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is for this reason that I make this ex-parte application to the court and to Your Majesty.

Tommy is held here without a trial on the issues and this denies him Clause 38 of the Magna Carta.

Clause 38 states 'in future no official shall place a man on trial upon his own unsupported statement without producing credible evidence and witnesses to the truth of it. Tommy has had no trial.

Clause 39 has stripped Tommy of his rights and necessities at a critical time in his life, adolescence, when he should be developing his personality and character and ability to act out his God given energies.

Clause 39 states 'no free man shall be seized or imprisoned or stripped of his rights or possessions or outlawed or exiled or deprived of his standing in any other way nor will we proceed with force against him or sent others to do so except by the lawful judgement of his equals or by the law of the land'.

The court official (solicitor on duty) appointed to deal with Tommy's case persuaded him that it was in his, Tommy's interest, to plead guilty to charges. There were two other men involved. One has pleaded not guilty but the Prosecution Service have failed to provide a court to deal with the issues.

Much more serious is the fact that the duty solicitor is paid when patients are liable of imprisonment, therefore by Tommy pleading guilty he has ended up in prison without a trial on his own conviction persuaded by his counsel.

In my submission even more serious is the fact that he solicitor's own self interest is governed by the new facts that he gets paid only when the charges and offences are likely to render a prison sentence. In this case the courts have not been able to produce any evidence to substantiate their behaviour.

In addition under the new legal system patients pay extra charges if they delay pleading guilty. Eventually, in this situation, they are forced not to run up a bill which usually they will not be able to meet.

The importance of this is that Tommy is now labelled a criminal but denied treatment for his mental disability of Autism, which disability has been correctly diagnosed by the educational services from his early school life. I hold all the papers available to Your Majesty.

Clause 40 of the Magna Carta details 'to no-one will we sell, to no-one deny or delay right or justice'.

The failure to comprehend this requirement is clearly indicated in this case because Tommy has been confined to Lincoln Prison for over 6 months at a critical time in his life when he needed the time, the leadership and guidance of his family and father. Unfortunately, at the juncture of this dilemma Mr Saunders senior, his father, had secured work as a builder, went to work in

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the morning but in the course of his work, died of coronary heart disease. Because of this Tommy was denied his paternal support. The family was distressed and the patient cast into prison, labelled as a criminal without a scrap of evidence heard in court, in this way he has been deprived of vital medical treatment and psychiatric help at a critical period in his life.

The court have failed to deal with this situation and it is important that these matters are cleared up by this Government and not left over to a new administration which could end up in interminable political arguments.

I therefore sent this petition to Judge Pini should he be available at the Lincoln Assizes and to the Rt. Hon. Norman Lamb, still the Minister of Health, for their urgent action to correct this situation.

I remain Your Humble Servant.

John Harding Price M.D.,BS., (Lond) D.P.M.

Independent Consultant Psychiatrist

Registered Medical Practitioner (Medical Council of Ireland)

Registered Specialist in Mental Health

Former Chairman of the Consultants at The Lawn and St John's Hospitals in Lincoln

Member of the Executive, and Press Officer of the Society of Clinical Psychiatrists

Founder Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists

Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts

German Government Scholar of Mental Health 1959

Visiting Professor of Psychiatry Lovelace Foundation 1967