

### No Justice, No Peace!

families influencing criminal and public policy & reform

By Tippa Naphtali



**Family Member & Activist** 



4WardEver UK supports affected families by giving exposure to issues and causes Please Visit: www.4wardeveruk.org | www.mikeypowell-campaign.org.uk

Contact Tippa via: tippa@4wardever.org.uk



# From Protest to Change..

"The best way to predict your future is to create it"

Abraham Lincoln





### Where it all started...

Mikey Powell died whilst being restrained in the custody of West Midlands Police on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2003 after a call for assistance was made by his mother, Clarissa Powell.

His death marked a moment that would change our lives for years to follow.



Find out more, visit: www.mikeypowell-campaign.org.uk



# Mistrust and Resentment..

Mikey's sons, like so many others, have been unwittingly thrust into an arena completely alien to them, and one that they would not have otherwise contemplated were it not for the death of their father.



We wanted to ensure that they had alternative avenues for their anger and grief.

We didn't want to diminish their grieving but did want to ensure a legacy.

Here they are pictured at the 10<sup>th</sup> memorial event held in September 2013.



### The Aftermath...

"When deaths in police custody or mental health detention occur, families are launched into a completely new world of sustained campaigning and lengthy battles with authorities of one kind or another."



The human costs are immeasurable, and can see those left behind themselves experiencing levels of distress or mental illness previously absent.



# Pauline Campbell

Pauline Campbell was found dead on 15 May 2008, not far from the grave of her daughter Sarah. Sarah died in January 2003 in HMP Styal.

Pauline was committed not just to campaigning but also to helping INQUEST's work in supporting bereaved families.



She was one of a number of bereaved parents who turned their own personal loss into a collective response to injustice and state neglect.

Read more about Pauline: www.rememberpauline.wordpress.com



## Why Protest?

National campaigners simply want answers about:

- What happened
- Could it have been avoided
- What's being done to prevent
- What role should they have





Hundreds die in 'hidden world' of mental hospitals..

Figures released by the Ministerial Council On deaths in custody in 2009 showed that in the previous 10 years 3,540 of those detained in NHS facilities, including high-security psychiatric hospitals had died.

The figures were condemned as "horrific" by the Howard League for Penal Reform, which launched a campaign soon after called 'Lost Daughters'.



IAP publish analysis of recorded deaths 2000-2010..

In October 2011 The Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) published their statistical analysis of <u>all</u> recorded deaths in state custody between January 2000 and 31 December 2010.

In total, there were 5,998 deaths recorded for the 11 years from 2000 to 2010. This is an average of 545 deaths per year. Of these deaths, 72% were of males and 28% were of females.



#### **And Then What?**

National campaigners against custody deaths and abuse influence major changes

They have reached into all corners of the political arena and influenced policy, practice and reform nationally





Corporate homicide law extended..

Police forces, prisons and youth detention centres face prosecution for corporate homicide from August 2011 if an individual dies in their custody or care.

Previously, the prison service, police forces and immigration units were not been subject to the new Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act, being held responsible for

institutional failures that have contributed to a death if someone in their care.



# **Custody of Teenagers..**

The Home Office announced extra protection for 17-year-olds in police custody would be put in place by the end of October 2013.

Ministers have proposed that parents, guardians or adult representatives must be informed about a 17-year-old's detention and / or an "appropriate adult" must be contacted.





# High Court rules on investigations of psychiatric deaths..

On 10th October 2013 The High Court handed down judgment on whether the UK should create a system for independently investigating the deaths of detained psychiatric patients.

The Court ruled such a system was not required under law but raised the possibility that the UK may wish to create such a system on grounds of public policy.

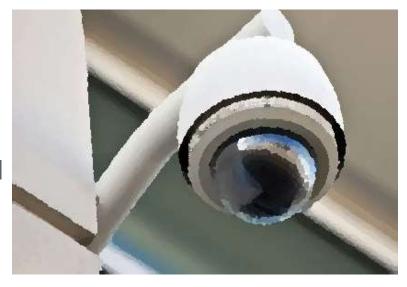
#### Deborah Coles, Co-Director of INQUEST said

"It is timely that today, World Mental Health Day, the battle for independent investigation into the deaths of detained psychiatric patients continues. As politicians celebrate the positive steps that have already been made towards ending mental health discrimination, we call on them to pledge their support to end this unfair and discriminatory practice".



#### Role of CCTV...

The Mikey Powell family had campaigned for better CCTV in police stations since the criminal trial against 10 West Midlands police officers revealed flaws in the systems at that time.



In October 2013 the late Police and Crime Commissioner, Bob Jones, revealed that the force was 'assessing whether all their officers will wear special mini cameras as a matter of course.'

A number of forces already use such systems.



### MP's concerns raised...

Conservative MP Charles Walker spearheaded a Commons debate on custody deaths and said he "felt ashamed" about the incidents of detentions and deaths of black people in custody.

He also said "over the past 30 years, we have allowed the causes of these deaths to go unaddressed".



During the debate at Westminster Hall, Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East: said: "My hon. Friend will be pleased to know that, as a result of the work done by INQUEST and others, the Select Committee on Home Affairs will be looking into this issue, with a possible report next summer."



# College of Policing Review...

In December 2013 The College of Policing Pledged a review of its training to try to prevent More deaths in police custody in the UK.

It will be looking into areas such as how and when people should be restrained and how to deal with those who have mental health problems.

More than 1,300 people have died in police custody over the past 20 years.





## Street Triage...

Several police forces are piloting a scheme whereby mental health nurses accompany officers on call-outs where vulnerable people may be involved.



Paramedics will join patrols and may assist on emergency calls and in control rooms as part of the street triage scheme.

Trials have already been established in Leicestershire and Cleveland in 2013, and others have followed since.



# **Custody Deaths Review..**

In July 2015 Theresa May announced the launch an independent review of deaths in police custody.

She vowed to stamp out the "evasiveness and obstruction" suffered by families at the hands of the authorities.

The review will be led by Dame Elish Angiolini QC with input from various independent bodies such as the national charity, INQUEST.



'The review has been heavily influenced by the constant and sustained campaign work of organisations such as The Institute for Race Relations, United Families & Friends Campaign, Black Mental Health UK, Migrant Media, 4WardEver UK, government ministers, MP's; and many others working collaboratively over many years'



People Like You...



# Medium to long-term programmes..

- MASH Support Hub
- National Family Fund
- Custody deaths research
- Red Alert Helpline



Over period 2017 - 2019



# Research Partners...

4WardEver UK and the United Families
& Friends Campaign (UFFC) are putting
their support behind new research to be
conducted by Dr David Baker of Coventry
University, examining custody deaths
from the viewpoint of the families that are affected.



#### Please feel free to contact Dr David Baker for further details:

Email: d.baker@coventry.ac.uk

Call/text: 07796 163825

Visit Website: www.coventry.ac.uk

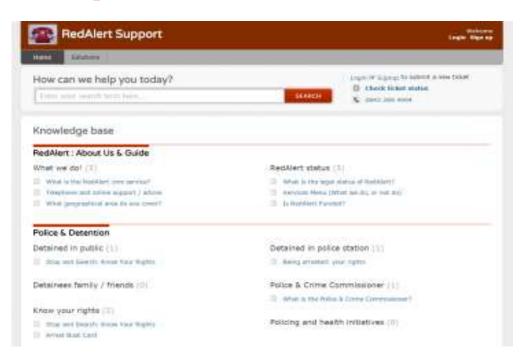


## Red Alert DIY Help..

Red Alert HELP! provides an interactive online advice portal available 24/7 x 365 to help you find the information, services or support that you need.

An initiative supported by The Edge Fund.





#### **Check it out, visit:**

www. 4wardeverukredalert.freshdesk.com/support/home



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