

- this is a copy of letter sent to David Trimble.  
Monica Williams - thank to you and those other brilliant women.  
If only we had more of you and on the Executive

The Hon David Trimble  
First Minister  
The New Northern Ireland Assembly



Dear David

Time is running out. The date has been set. Soon it will be too late.

As leader of the largest political group you are the key man and the power rests in your hands. But sadly you have not taken any real steps forward since that special Good Friday.

I did write to you at that time and expressed gladness about the prospects for the future. Like so many we had thought that this was the end of a horrible, ghastly, destructive civil war, which had been stirred up by certain politicians. I welcomed your role in forging the way forward, and pointed out that you would get support from all sides of the 'divide' and indeed from unexpected sources - including Sinn Fein, the Republic and the Commons. I pointed out that the whole business of 'decommissioning' was a complete red herring: an utter nonsense.

#### Nonsense

Decommissioning was nonsense then and it is nonsense today. It is meaningless waffle. The only possibly logic indicates some sort of political 'surrender', and more importantly Sinn Fein can not deliver this ultimatum. The real significance lies with the people who vote for Sinn Fein - they want the Good Friday Agreement to be implemented and see the most significant and basic pact to be the setting up of the Executive; not decommissioning or the release of prisoners. Everything else will follow on as smoothly as is possible in all the circumstances.

Sadly, you have not made any public effort to build up a relationship with Adams and others. It was pathetic to see the 'carry on'. Surely you must now see the silliness. I am not IRA or Sinn Fein, but I do have a real knowledge about 'the goings on' in Northern Ireland over the past 75 years. And senior Unionist politicians elected as representatives of the community and being paid such large salaries and then not wanting to communicate or sit with or shake hands with highly respected and responsible politicians representing a large section of the Nationalist people is pathetic, to put it mildly. And reference to 'blood on their hands' from people who think that they have clean hands is part of the blindness and sickness of a community whipped up and stirred to hatred and rage over the past 50 years.

#### Mo Must Stay

David, your outburst about Mo Mowlan, today, is yet another silliness. That woman has worked day and night. She is extremely highly regarded and admired by people from all walks of life and by everybody here in the Commons. She is a big woman and does not suffer fools gladly - as is often the way with clever go-get-on-with-it A Types. She has got a hell-of-a-lot of clout. I can understand that there may be some personality clashes and that is to be expected. But do not think that a new Secretary of State will bring any change of resolve.

There are signs David that you do not measure up to the job. At this late date, you are calling Mo to go and still brandishing Gerry Adams and his colleagues as unfit to share with. I do recognise your position and your difficulty with senior members of your organisation, but the leader needs to see the whole scenario and focus on the ultimate objective - to bring peace, hope, charity and good sense to the whole community with all its peoples.

#### The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour

We need to face up to the situation. The time for dilly-dallying is over. The timing is not right. David Trimble can not take this Agreement any further. He lacks the leadership and the maturity, which this most important role demands. His Unionists do not understand that Northern Ireland and its people are part of the UK and it is part of Ireland. The Unionists need to understand that the Unionism is as dead as the Dodo and all that business about the Crown and the Queen's Shilling is pure nonsense.

### Face the Facts

The game is over. David do you and your associates want to run the ball or do you want to pass it to the Reverend Paisley? Ian Paisley has had the ball at his feet for the past 40 or 45 years. If you and your senior advisors prefer to pass the ball to Ian, so be it: but it will most certainly not bring peace or reconciliation to the people. Indeed Ian Paisley's role in stirring up this enormous hatred goes deep and must be investigated in due course (We really must investigate the past and discover just who has been responsible for so much hatred.)

Tony Blair and his team and the Taoiseach and the President of the USA have made enormous efforts and over a long period of time. Now we expect action. If you, David Trimble, can not advance this Agreement, then say so loud and clear, and leave the scene.

Indeed that may be the best thing to do. Oh. It is not the end of the peace or the progress. The people of Northern Ireland will continue to seek a fresh way forward: they must do. In the meanwhile the New Assembly should be disbanded and the No-go politicians told to get a real job.

### The Women's Coalition

Monica Williams, Brid Rogers, Ms Hinds and their colleagues deserve a big stake in Northern Ireland. They are brilliant. If only we had one of these ladies in your role of First Minister. Certainly these people deserve some role in the Executive. They are honest and positive and have an enormous amount of plain ordinary wonderful common sense. They are marvellous and they are one of the good things about this past year. Frankly I would prefer any of them to anyone on your team. We must find a way of rewarding these ladies.

### Sinn Fein

Stand by your guns! If this Agreement fails it is not the end of the world. Please, please be patient. Please, please do not blame the mainland. We are trying very hard to get things right. We do understand the problems and we do want to bring peace and reconciliation to all the people there. But there is a big job to do, educating certain politicians that the people of Northern Ireland need time to discover who they really are and where they come from and where they are going. There are big questions about policing and recourse to legal rights.

### PM and Taoiseach

Thank you for all your efforts. Yes. You do need to draw a line at 30 June 1999. The ball is with David Trimble. The question of 'decommission' is pure nonsense. David Trimble has not matured enough to accept the Executive or his Unionists have not read or understood the script. Please do not push for finalisation of this Good Friday agreement. If Trimble is not ready, then it is better to scrap the whole idea and seek to contain the present *status quo*. Please do not comprise. Adams, Maginnis, and Sinn Fein are a very responsible lot and I really believe that they will prevail on the IRA to refrain from violence at least on the mainland.

### The End is Nigh

So there you are David Trimble. It looks easy, but it is not. We know that. So sign up if you are prepared to move forward and bring New Hope. If you really do feel that you can not get along with Adams & Co then do say so and run off into the sunset. Sinn Fein and those Women and certain Paramilitaries like David Irvine will eventually win the respect of the people for they are not blind to the truth; and we can expect a new and maybe a very different Agreement to this one that you find so despicable.

But whatever the outcome on 30 June 1999, there is a need to investigate and discover the truth about the causes of all the hatred and certain events and why things developed as they did, and why people killed in cold blood. I do believe that truth is a prerequisite to reconciliation and peace. And the truth must be set out in black and white so that the people can understand and come to terms with the events and certain people responsible for stirring up hatred and fear in the community must be brought to book.

