

A message from Tony Bliar



thedarkman

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WARNING TO EDITORS AND CARTOONISTS

Following the ruling of Mr Justice Previt  in Cray v Hancock, the Prime Minister's Office wishes to make you aware of the following:

The commissioning of, drawing of, publication of, or distribution of, a cartoon portraying any officer of the court or government official in a demeaning, embarrassing or humiliating manner can be considered an act of harassment, and falls within the remit of the "Protection From Harassment Act", 1997.

Harassment consists of a course of conduct; a course of conduct is by legal definition a minimum of two acts. Publication to two or more persons, as for instance in two or more copies of the same newspaper, may constitute an act of harassment.

The maximum sentence for harassment is a prison sentence of five years.

The Prime Minister's Office will consider the publication of any demeaning, embarrassing or humiliating cartoons of the Prime Minister himself, his wife, the Cabinet, or any Member of the Government, to fall within the remit of the act, and will take action accordingly.

You have been warned

Tony Bliar
President

November 14, 2005