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Omagh row will not help victims

Pro Fide et Patria

Editorial

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AS a former policeman, the lord chief justice and various politicians engaged in a war of words yesterday over comments made about key prosecution witnesses at the Omagh bombing trial, it illustrated once again how, as the father of one of the victims put it, "the criminal justice system had failed them".

It is hard to disagree with Michael Gallagher, whose son Aiden died that awful day. Since 1998 the families of all the victims have waited in vain for a successful prosecution. They have listened to promises from government spokesmen among others that those responsible would be brought to book.


This dispute involving the evidence of two police officers has done nothing to increase confidence in the criminal justice system.

It is important to remember the victims who lost so much on that day almost 11 years ago. The only way they can have some resolution is to get to the bottom of what happened.

This current catfight does not help them.

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