

[Most Popular](#)[Most Emailed](#)

[Breaking](#)[Sport](#)[Business](#)[World](#)[Gossip](#)



Issue Changer:



[NEWS](#) >

Quinn family challenge SF over IRA claim

By Diana Rusk

14/02/09

THE parents of murdered south Armagh man Paul Quinn have challenged a Sinn Fein minister to give police the names of the IRA members who assured him the organisation did not carry out the brutal killing.

Stephen and Breege Quinn made the plea to Conor Murphy in the wake of senior republican assurances that anyone passing information to the PSNI would no longer be labled an 'informer'.

Paul Quinn, (21) from Cullyhanna in Co Armagh, died after being bludgeoned with iron bars by a gang of men in a barn across the border in October 2007.

Following his murder, the Sinn Fein MP for Newry and Armagh, and regional development minister, Conor Murphy said members of the IRA in the area told him they were not involved.

The Quinn family last night said they wanted Mr Murphy to bring his information to the police following senior republican insistences earlier this month that reporting crimes by republicans should no longer be taboo.

"We can't help wondering if the people he spoke to have been held for questioning yet on either side of the border," Paul's father Stephen Quinn said

"We want to know if Mr Murphy has told the police exactly who gave him this assurance as this would be very important and in line with the advice given by Gerry Adams," he said.

He also called on Mr Adams to accept "the possibility" that members of the south Armagh Provisional IRA could have killed their son.

"We have no doubt whatsoever about this but simply ask Mr Adams to open his mind to the possibility that he has been told lies by those who have knowledge of this most brutal of murders," he said.

Mr Quinn said such a public assertion would help their quest for justice.

"Every other organisation and set of people such as the IMC, the guards, the police and the Dublin government say it was the IRA and I think if Gerry came out and said there was a possibility instead of digging his heels in the ground, there may be some movement."

Mr Quinn vowed they would continue to speak out about their son's murder.

"Everyday I go to the graveyard to my son's grave and that is not an easy thing to do," he said.

"That's the way it is going to be from now on until we die – in many ways, we are in the grave with him."

A spokesman from Sinn Fein said they were unable to say whether Mr Murphy had spoken to police because he was not in Northern Ireland last night.

"We have consistently called for anyone with any information regarding the brutal murder of Paul Quinn to bring it forward to the guards or the PSNI. And we would again repeat that call today," he said.

“The guards and the PSNI need to be allowed to get on with the job of putting the killers of Paul Quinn behind bars.”

 Print  back to top

Bookmark:  Delicious  Digg  Reddit  Facebook  StumbleUpon

 Email this story