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NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY

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DUP NEWS**Latest News:****Sinn Fein youth wing condemned - Wells**

South Down DUP Assembly Member Jim Wells has described as disgusting the agenda for the Sinn Fein youth wing conference to be held in Newcastle which includes a trip to the Narrow Water site where some 18 soldiers were murdered by IRA criminals. The press statement issued by the group also made reference to the colour of Newcastle Orange Hall being changed for the weekend. Jim Wells MLA said:

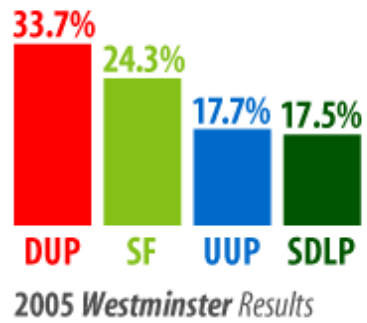


“Everyone knows that the Sinn Fein Youth Wing is an embarrassment to their more senior colleagues: this after all is the group whose contribution to delivering a united Ireland has been to run around the countryside painting post boxes green. On this occasion however they have crossed the line from crankish foolishness to gratuitously offensive behaviour.

The Warrenpoint ambush perpetrated by criminals claimed the lives of some 18 soldiers. On the same day IRA murderers killed Lord Mountbatten, an elderly gentleman holidaying in the Republic of Ireland as he had done for many years. Despite the green-tinted, “Wind that shakes the Barley” interpretation of history that the Sinn Fein youth wing may possess the fact remains that they are attempting to glorify what was a cold-hearted and heinous act of murder carried out by wicked terrorists.

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For some time now the Sinn Fein Youth Wing have engaged in offensive and insulting behaviour which I believe is deliberately designed to have a negative effect on community relations and cause hurt to the Unionist community. It must be very easy for a bunch of foolhardy adolescents who weren't actually alive during the Troubles to glorify in past terrorist atrocities, but for those of us who lived through the terrorist campaign of murder, such events evoke nothing but revulsion.

It is now time for the Sinn Fein leadership, including Caitriona Ruane and Barry McInduff who are billed as headline speakers at this event to distance themselves from these actions. The united Ireland project having been defeated, one can understand Sinn Fein Youth's determination to engage in displaying the ugly face of Republicanism, but such behaviour is entirely unacceptable. Northern Ireland is moving on. It's about time the Neanderthals in Sinn Fein Youth did the same."

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