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NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY



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DUP NEWS

Latest News: **Wilson blasts UUP duplicity**

Sammy Wilson MP MLA said:

"The Ulster Unionist Party will stop at nothing in their attempts to re-write the past and blame the DUP for just about anything. The claim by Reg Empey that the DUP helped to block Ulster Unionist attempts to change the definition of a victim during the passage of the Victims Bill is nothing short of fantasy and is plain wrong.

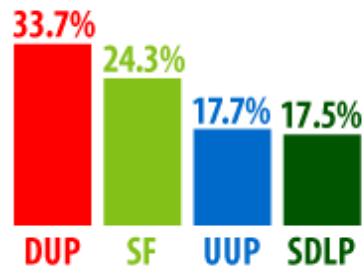
Sir Reg would be better to discuss the definition of a victim with his former, though some would argue current, leader Lord Trimble. It was when the Ulster Unionist Party was the lead unionist party that this definition was put in place. Sir Reg will know that the definition was used in the OFMDFM Victims Strategy long before the DUP was the largest unionist Party at Stormont. When seeking someone to blame for the definition he should look closer to home.

No matter how much smoke the UUP would seek to produce, the innocent victims will always view the UUP as the Party which allowed terrorist prisoners to walk free from jail.



ELECTION RESULTS:

DUP: Leading for Ulster



2005 Westminster Results

The DUP opposes the current definition of a victim and we opposed its introduction. There is no equivalence between the perpetrator of an act of violence and the innocent victim.

Despite those who would seek to mislead and misrepresent the situation the DUP has been delivering for victims in a way which others failed to do. It was under DUP leadership that £36 million was delivered to assist in the work of victims. While others sidelined those most affected by the Troubles we have placed them at the centre.

During the passage of the Victims Bill the UUP attempted to amend this legislation to change the definition but they did not bring forward the amendment in the appropriate manner. We have great sympathy with what the UUP were trying to achieve but it was simply beyond the scope of that legislation to affect the definition of a victim. The attempt by the UUP during the Victims Bill was clearly nothing more than a gesture and a stunt designed to deflect from the fact that whilst they were the lead party within unionism this outrageous definition was put in place.

The DUP will work through the Assembly, to amend the current immoral definition of a victim as the Shankill butchers cannot be placed on a par with their innocent victims. We will bring the appropriate amendment at the appropriate time."

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