

# Tommy Robinson's offer of MEP salary rejected by charities

*Some charities. Not necessarily charities that were going to be offered a portion of the MEP salary (thinking positively that he is indeed elected) From the Guardian*



Tommy Robinson's pledge to donate his hypothetical European parliament salary to child victims of sexual grooming has been criticised as "an insult to survivors of abuse" by women's groups who said he was "no ally for the children he claims to stand up for".

More than 40 women and charities including the End Violence Against [Women](#) and Girls Coalition declared in a letter to voters and community leaders in the north-west that they would not accept money from the English Defence League founder, criticising Robinson for "factually incorrect messages about grooming".

"We, as organisations and individuals fighting tirelessly against the abuse of women and girls, as survivors of abuse and their families, and as people who care about our communities, do not want your money, Tommy," the letter read...

"Tommy Robinson's factually incorrect messages about grooming, and his attempt to portray himself as a champion of the cause, are an insult to survivors of abuse.

"They are also a profound insult to the women who have spent

their whole lives building support services for survivors and working to ensure some cases finally got to court. Where were you during that work Tommy Robinson?"

Signatories also included author and Women for Refugee Women founder Natasha Walter, Rape Crisis Surrey and Sussex, Rape Crisis South London, the Women's Centre Cornwall and Gurpreet Virdee, a director at the Women and Girls Network.

*I might ask where were you Natasha Walter and Rape Crisis Surrey, Sussex and South London? Who was in, for example Rotherham as the most famous town, to help the abused girls. Well 'Women for refugee Women' were not set up to help working class girls of the indigenous population. I'm sure they are well-meaning and do a lot of good, but by their very name the indigenous population of England is NOT their client group. And the cynical amongst us might wonder do Miss Walter's books subsidise the charity or does the charity publicise the books?*

Matthew McGregor, from anti-racism campaigners Hope Not Hate, said: "This is one of Tommy Robinson's most cynical stunts. Abuse survivors don't need someone whose main interest is in funding his already lavish lifestyle and spreading hatred."

"They need to think of the victims, not of their own politicisation of the situation, that money is to go to any victims of sexual exploitation, including Muslims," Robinson said of the letter's signatories. "They are in no position to turn down money, they shouldn't be. They should be in the position to help victims and if that money helps victims, which it does, gets them off the waiting list for counselling, then they are playing with the victims, not me."

*From the [Karen MacGregor](#), 58, offered what appeared to be a safe haven for troubled teenagers in Rotherham. As a carer, she was a familiar and trusted face at children's homes across South Yorkshire. She lured two of the victims into her house,*

*befriending them and behaving like a second mother but then forcing them into sexual relations with men who would hang around the house. . . several young girls into the hands of the Hussain brothers – known as Mad Ash, Bash and Bono.*

One of the victims described MacGregor's house as akin to the Hansel and Gretel fairy tale, inviting to begin with but soon descending into terrifying sexual crime. She told the jury how she felt MacGregor was like a second mother, listening to her problems, buying her food and clothes. But within days she was assaulted. She was plied with vodka and after passing out awoke to find a man abusing her.

MacGregor allowed the girls to be abused and kept captive, telling them they needed to "earn their keep" by having sex with a succession of visiting men.

She even went as far as to establish a support group – called Kin Kids – for family members looking after children whose parents could no longer cope. Kin Kids, which had the support of Wentworth and Dearne MP John Healey, was due to be given charitable status when MacGregor was arrested. [\*Other MacGregor went down for 13 years.\*](#)

*Then there is Shafina Ali a white convert to Islam about whom I have been able to find out very little, other than that she died in 2009. [authorities in Telford](#) repeatedly failed to stamp out a network of abusers. . . Council staff viewed abused and trafficked children as "prostitutes" instead of victims, according to previously unseen files*

The girl ...says she reported her abuse to the council and school but does not believe action was taken. She says her doctor said she was mentally ill and should take medication.

When Professor Alexis Jay published her investigation into Rotherham abuse last summer, she [The police](#) told Maggie (a mother) that Sarah's (her daughter) behaviour was a "lifestyle choice"...She's similarly disgusted by her two social

workers, who used to moan about their caseload and treated both Sarah and her mother with disdain. . . Sarah was briefly moved to a care home, the staff there were fully aware of the abuse but would ask, "Who are you sleeping with tonight, Sarah?," as though paedophilic rape was an acceptable norm.

"Even five years ago, people were talking about the [Risky Business](#). When that Home Office researcher (above) was working with them she wrote a report containing the information that showed that Muslim men were consistently raping under-age white working class girls. She was reprimanded and told never to bring up that little fact again.

"She (*a council official*) said you must never refer to that again. You must never refer to Asian men. And her other response was to book me on a two-day ethnicity and diversity course to raise my awareness of ethnic issues."

*Later her computer was accessed, files were removed or altered, somebody got into her office and removed hard files from the filing cabinet.*

*['a nuisance'](#). Four years later there were efforts to re-open it as it was needed more than ever and there [£250,000](#) grant towards reinstatement. That may well be what Tommy has in mind. Fear not ladies of virtue running your projects in areas where the gangs have not yet been uncovered – you will not be corrupted by filthy EU lucre.*