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The truth and Paul Quinn

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Friday February 08 2008

Some of the comments in the Dail yesterday on the murder of Paul Quinn were almost Jesuitical in their avoidance of what appears to be the truth about that savage crime.

The Minister for Justice Brian Lenihan stated that the gardai have no information to suggest that the murder was authorised by, or carried out on behalf of, the Provisional IRA.

Sinn Fein's Caoimhin O Caolain condemned what he called a despicable act of brutality carried out by people who deserve only the contempt of society, but went on to say that the political persuasion of the killers,

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KEVIN MYERS OPINION



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It was just one of those things, the straws in the wind suddenly taking shape into a haystack. Day one, and the British Ministry of Education announced its new policy that teachers may not refer to mothers and fathers in the classroom, lest such language marginalise the children of homosexual couples.

whoever they may be, is irrelevant.

Just before Christmas, Mr Lenihan acknowledged for the first time, in an interview with this newspaper, that there could be a Provisional IRA link to the murder of Paul Quinn, but said there was no evidence to indicate that the murder had been sanctioned by the IRA leadership.

He was commenting following a meeting with Mr Quinn's parents and went on to endorse the view expressed by International Monitoring Commission member John Grieve that former members of the terrorist organisation, or their associates, could have been responsible.

Mr Lenihan should acknowledge that If Paul Quinn was beaten to death by Provos it is irrelevant whether or not the murder was "authorised" by some sort of command structure.

Mr O Caolain should understand that if a bunch of Provos can still get together to commit murder, it makes a mockery of assurances made by the republican movement.

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IAN O'DOHERTY ISPY



• **The Nintendo Brain Trainer -- is it racist?**

They talk about golf widows, but they never talk about Nintendo widowers. Having made the mistake of buying the better half a Nintendo DS for Christmas -- the moral of the story? Just don't buy Christmas gifts -- the last five weeks have been spent watching someone hunker over the console doing her level best at a thing called Brain Trainer, the computer based quiz, which is meant to improve your IQ.

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