INSIDE: Housing in East Jerusalem: international legal mission report

The 2011 riots sentencing: unfair, inconsistent and unequal?

The fight for land rights in Mexico; the end of the Basque ETA armed struggle

Austerity cuts; job seekers allowance challenge; news, reviews and more
Contents

News & comment .......................................................................................................................... 4
Colombia, Employment Tribunals, Stephen Lawrence, Francis Khoo and more

Young Legal Aid Lawyers ......................................................................................................... 11
Connor Johnston on an illuminating report on the costs of cutting legal aid

Paramjit Ahluwalia asks why these basic tenets are absent from the post-riot sentencing

Housing in East Jerusalem ........................................................................................................ 14
Marina Sergides reports on an legal mission to the Occupied Palestinian Territory

‘No event is ever correctly reported’ .......................................................................................... 18
Jim Duffy on the case of Cait Reilly’s battle over Jobseeker’s Allowance

The struggle for land rights ........................................................................................................ 22
Fiona McPhail meets people driven from their homes and a battling lawyer in Mexico

Britain’s hidden slaves .............................................................................................................. 26
Sarah Steinhardt on the individuals who live in servitude in 21st century Britain

Justice should not depend on luck .............................................................................................. 28
Gabe Tan argues that fresh evidence should not be needed to prove innocence

Why did ETA call it off? ................................................................................................................ 30
Brian Currin on the Basque seperatists decision to end its armed struggle

‘Their cuts not ours’? .................................................................................................................. 34
Paul Heron argues that Labour councils should not carry out austerity measures

Reviews ........................................................................................................................................ 37
Films: The Enemy Within and Impunity

Socialist Lawyer

Number 60 – February 2012 – ISSN 09 54 3635
Editor: Tim Potter
Special thanks to: Liz Davies, Russell Fraser, Stephen Knight and Declan Owens
Cover picture: Jess Hurd (Report Digital)
Luis Eduardo Garç – a trade union member at Coca Cola – living under paramilitary death threat at Bucharamanga in Colombia.
Many thanks to all our other contributors, readers and members who have helped with this issue.
Design: Smith+Bell (www.smithplusbell.com)
Print: The Russell Press (www.russellpress.com)

Socialist Lawyer

Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers
PO Box 64195, London WC1A 9FD
www.haldane.org

The Haldane Society was founded in 1930. It provides a forum for the discussion and analysis of law and the legal system, both nationally and internationally, from a socialist perspective. It holds frequent public meetings and conducts educational programmes.

The Haldane Society is independent of any political party. Membership comprises lawyers, academics, students and legal workers as well as trade union and labour movement affiliates.

The list of the current executive, elected at the AGM in November 2011 is as follows:

President: Michael Mansfield QC
Vice Presidents: Geoffrey Bindman QC, Louise Christian, Tess Gill, Tony Gifford QC, John Hendy QC, Helena Kennedy QC, Imran Khan, Kate Markus, Gareth Peirce, Michael Seifert, David Turner-Samuels, Phil Shiner, Frances Webber, Professor Lord Wedderburn QC
Chair: Liz Davies (lizdavies@riseup.net)
Vice-Chairs: Kat Craig (katherinem@christiankhan.co.uk) and Anna Morris (annam@clgw.co.uk)
Secretary: Chris Loxton (chrisloxton@yahoo.co.uk)
Assistant Secretary: Sophie Khan
Socialist Lawyer Editor: Tim Potter (tim.potter@4bc.co.uk)
Treasurer: Declan Owens (declanowens@hotmail.com)
Membership Secretary (job-share): David Renton (davidkrenton@googlemail.com) with Debbie Smith (debbie-smith1@hotmail.com)
International Secretary: Bill Bowring (b.bowring@bbk.ac.uk)
Executive Committee: Martha Jean Baker, Jacob Bindman, Sarah Collins, Rheian Davies, Russell Fraser, Joanna Gilmore, Margaret Gordon, Mike Goold, Agnieszka Grabianka-Hindley, Owen Greenhall, Richard Harvey, Paul Heron, John Hobson, Natalie James, Angus King, Stephen Knight, Saleh Mamoon, Carlos Orijuela, Ripon Ray, Brian Richardson, Hannah Rought-Brooks, Marina Sergides, Adiam Weldensae, Azam Zia.

PO Box 64195, London WC1A 9FD
www.haldane.org

1. Be friendly to your school fellows remembering that they will be your fellow workers in life.
2. Love learning which is the food of the mind.
3. Make every day worth while by good and useful deeds and kindly actions.
4. Honour the good, be courteous to all, bow down to none.
5. Do not hate or speak evil of anyone. Do not be revengeful, but stand up for your rights and resist oppression.
6. Do not be cowardly. Be a friend to the weak and love justice.
7. The wealth of the world is produced by labour and should be shared, each according to his needs.
8. Observe and think in order to discover the truth. Do not believe what is contrary to reason and never despise yourself or others.
9. Do not think that because we love our own country we should hate other nations or wish for war.
10. Work for the day when all men and women will be free citizens of the world and live in peace.

Pages 20–21: Precepts
(Socialist Fellowship), Ruth Ewan, 2012. Letterpress print featuring text appropriated from the Socialist Precepts, originally published 1966 by the Socialist Fellowship, formerly the National Council of British Socialist Sunday Schools.