



crusade against him, was a big factor in his decision to retire from politics". Simon Power was Judith Collin's predecessor as Minister of Justice.

Fran O'Sullivan, a financial and business commentator for the NZ Herald wrote on 3 September "That's the question the Government must address after the disquieting claims in relation to the attempts by the trio allegedly working for Hanover Finance to discredit the SFO and FMA and prime potential witnesses in any resulting court cases.

Prime Minister John Key sacked Judith Collins from the Cabinet after allegations surfaced that she was in cahoots with blogger Cameron Slater in a smear campaign against former Serious Fraud Office boss Adam Feeley.

A cache of emails appears to reveal that three people - Carrick Graham, who was former Hanover Finance director Mark Hotchin's PR man, tax lawyer and blogger Cathy Odgers (aka Cactus Kate) and blogger Cameron (Whale Oil) Slater - were running campaigns apparently on behalf of Hotchin to try to discredit the SFO and the Financial Markets Authority as they investigated the failed finance company."

Is this the 21<sup>st</sup> century version of "thoughtcrimes"?

But what does this have to do with inequality? Much has been said and written about the need to lift the incomes of the very poor so they can live in dignity but little appears to have been said about the power that comes with great wealth. The experiences of both Wendy Nissan and Adam Feeley, who were just trying to do their job, does show how much power the super-rich, be they individuals or corporations, can wield. And we should not have to rely on investigative journalists and whistle blowers to uncover the blatant abuse of wealth and power. A number of politicians, and some in the media, have lamented the lack of debate about "policies" in this election campaign. Yes it is important that we hear and can understand, and question the policies, of those wishing to govern us for the next three years in freedom. But it is equally important that New Zealand does not become a part of the Airstrip twenty one a province of Oceania as described by Orwell where the right to question government has been removed.

**The Archbishop of Canterbury talks about Fundamentalism, and relationships between Christianity and Islam.** An extract from an interview by Marcelo Schneider of Archbishop Justin Welby during a visit to Brazil in early September 2014.<sup>1</sup>

*"Fundamentalism is more of a sociological issue than merely a religious one. It can exist in any religion. Fundamentalism, in the sense we use it today, is usually a response from a group of people who find it difficult to cope with change in the society around them. So they try to create a place in which there is no change, in which they are safe. On exclusion from the society, fundamentalists end up very quickly opposed to the mainstream of society. So fundamentalism is a general characteristic that we find throughout history.*

*Following my meeting with the Christian leaders from the Middle East in England, we describe the trauma faced by people in Iraq and Syria as worse as anything that has hit the Christian community in the region since the invasion of Genghis Khan in 1259.*

*So how should we respond to that? <http://www.projectact.org/>*

*We have seen a number of young Muslims in Europe, the United States and the United Kingdom who find a purpose in life by being involved in Jihad. This understanding of Jihad which implies violence is rejected by the vast majority of Muslims. The only way we can address this issue is not to simplify but to take into consideration all aspects. This issue must be addressed in a way that brings together all religious traditions that value a nonviolent approach to dealing with conflict.*

*The question that was raised with Pope Francis was how we should respond immediately to these issues. And he said he was not calling for bombing, nor am I, but we do need to look at all possible means of creating a safe haven for Christians in that region. That may involve soldiers and intelligence operations. The governments need to decide how that is done. But one of the things that changed my mind came after a meeting with leaders in the Middle East who said, "we don't want asylum. We want to be in the area in which we lived for 2000 years." Finally, relations with Islam are complicated because there is this particular, very small minority, who are incredibly dangerous. But on the 3rd of September there was a meeting outside Westminster Abbey with Muslim, Jewish and Christian leaders in a vigil for peace in Iraq and Syria.*

*One danger is to simplify what is an incredibly complicated problem. The other danger is to think that we can deal with this quickly. It's going to take years of building relationships, of dealing with social and economic problems, but, above all, of enabling young people to tackle issues of materialism in society so that they realize a spiritual purpose in which they can serve God faithfully within the great tradition of an internal Jihad for peace and justice in our lives."*

Archbishop Welby also talked about human trafficking and slavery after meeting with Pope Francis. He said in the interview:

*"The Spirit of God is at work overcoming denominational differences to address the issue of human trafficking and slavery. The dialogue between Pope Francis and me on this particular subject has been positive. He is a man with humour and a depth of spiritual life which is challenging and wonderful. We spoke about an initiative between the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion on human trafficking and human slavery. The project is supported by an Australian source deeply committed to end human trafficking and slavery.*

*This is for the first time since the Reformation that we have a major joint global project to challenge human trafficking and slavery, together with the NGOs, charities and churches that have been working on these issues for many years. This is a massive challenge.*

*The Anglican Communion has a global network for a campaign against domestic violence and gender-based violence, particularly in conflict situations.... I really want to say that a global church that seeks afresh the presence of Jesus Christ will find itself centred by the Spirit in a pilgrimage of justice and peace and will change the world."*

In New Zealand Nvader and Tear Fund have launched **Project Act - Against Human Trafficking**. More information at <http://www.projectact.org/>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/archbishop-of-canterbury-reflects-on-the-2014pilgrimage-of-justice-and-peace2014>