

Dear Sirs,

I support Hacked Off's campaign for the implementation of Leveson's proposals. The British media at present is disgusting in the way that it prints sensational stories about peoples' private lives. There are limits of decency in the extent that the lives of celebrities should be invaded and this is consistently breached to create entertainment. Even more disgusting is the way that victims of tragedy are fed to the baying mob by the media who then stand back and permit vicious anonymous comments on the online editions of these articles. Lessons do not seem to be learned along the way.

A few weeks ago I watched in horror as Katie Hopkins wrote a poisonous article about Kate and Gerry McCann. Not just poisonous, but it was actually a repetition of a false story that TheTimes had retracted and apologised for a few years ago. As a result, a whole new phase of abuse began against the couple and it must feel to them like the nightmare of 2007 all over again. I feel very sorry for the McCanns and others in their situation. It's heartbreaking that their misery can be worsened in this way.

The media **MUST** be held accountable for this kind of action. We each of us have one life and with it the opportunity to be responsible human beings. That must surely start with an obligation not to behave in a way that will make another person's life unbearable. The media has the potential to be such a force for good yet they repeatedly behave in a reckless and often cruel manner.

Please, please recommend to Parliament and the Government that section 40 be "commenced" as soon as possible.

This may seem like such a tiny thing in the grand scheme of things, but to those affected, it is massive.

Jackie Martin