

An Introduction: **Joint Enterprise**

What is Joint Enterprise?

Joint Enterprise is a law meaning that more than one person can be charged with the same crime. For example: if a group attacked someone and killed them, the whole gang could be convicted of murder, instead of just the individual that stabbed the person with the knife. The police and prosecution don't have to prove that everyone in the group planned to kill their victim. They just have to show that people in the group thought one of their group 'might' **commit murder**.

The New Ruling:

In February, the Supreme Court decided that the Joint Enterprise Law had been wrongly understood and unfairly used for 30 years. They decided that it was wrong to convict people just based on whether someone could guess their friend was going to **kill someone**.

Well Known Joint Enterprise Cases:

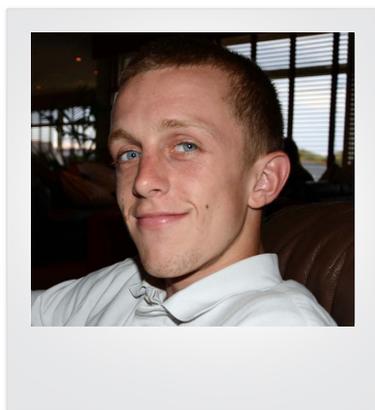
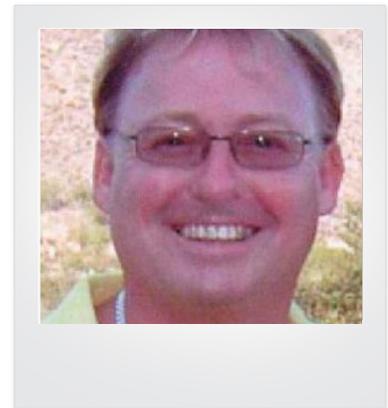


Stephen Lawrence:

David Norris and Gary Dobson were finally convicted in 2012 for the 1993 murder of Stephen Lawrence who was stabbed to death by a gang in a racist attack. Without the Joint Enterprise Law, they could not have been convicted as there was no way of knowing which of the men inflicted the blow that killed Stephen.

Gary Newlove:

Adam Swellings, Stephen Sorton and Jordan Cunliffe were all jailed for life for the 2007 murder of Gary Newlove. One of the unique factors about this case was that Cunliffe suffered from a degenerative eye condition that qualified him as a registered blind person. Despite barely being able to see and therefore judge what was happening, he was still charged under the Joint Enterprise Law.



Taqi Khezih:

Alex Henry was jointly convicted of the 2013 murder of Taqui Khezih under the Joint Enterprise Law and is serving a life sentence with a minimum term of 19 years. Alex was involved in a fight that resulted in the stabbing of Khezih. Despite expressing remorse for his involvement and saying he was unaware that his friend was carrying a knife, Alex was still convicted.