

Reference Code: 2019/101/2292

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Marian

Speaking on RTE Radio today Lord Denning (on the Marian Finnucane Show) said that while there was quite a good case for the Birmingham Six case to be looked into again, he would not advise the Home Secretary to do so. The case was not strong enough. There was not sufficient doubt. It has been gone into fully before. He was not 100% sure that they were guilty, he felt some "disquiet" about the involvement of the 4 members of the Serious Crime Squad in the interrogation of the Six and that there was something to be investigated but he wouldn't order it. "We can't reopen every case" unless there was new evidence. The Birmingham Six case was different to the Guildford case. He repeated and laid great emphasis on his "appalling vista" point and the damage to the system and appeared to go so far at times (although he seemed quite scattered at various stages of the interview) to suggest that this weighed more heavily than the possibility that the men might be innocent.

Mollins

8. 12. 89

cc A/Sec Gallagher Counsellors AI