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Friday, February 08 2008

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## Lenihan says no proof of IRA link to Quinn murder

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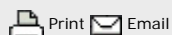
By Aine Kerr and Fionnan Sheahan  
Friday, February 08 2008

**U**RGENT: Gardaí have no information to say the IRA was involved in the murder of Paul Quinn in Monaghan, Justice Minister Brian Lenihan said yesterday.

And Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness said he doesn't believe the IRA was in any way involved in the "terrible murder" of the 21-year-old.

The rejection of claims of paramilitary involvement came as Fine Gael leader Enda Kenny said the IRA's structures must be urgently dismantled because it is creating an atmosphere of intimidation and fear.

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He said if there was to be any legacy for Mr Quinn, the IRA should be abolished.

"What concerns me, having met many people from that locality, is that the structure still exists whereby if people want to speak out or if they feel intimidated they are likely to be beaten up and bullied," he said.

The Fine Gael leader made his remarks after a Dail debate on Mr Quinn's murder, attended by the Quinn family and Dominic Bradley of the SDLP. Labour's Liz McManus yesterday said she had no doubt members of the IRA carried out the attack.

Speaking after the debate, Mr Quinn's father Stephen Quinn claimed that if Sinn Fein was so confident about the identities of those not involved in the murder, then they should be able to clarify who was involved. He further called on Sinn Fein to join other parties in conclusively stating that his son was not a criminal.

- *Aine Kerr and Fionnan Sheahan*

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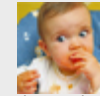
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