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DUP NEWS

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Dodds lashes Eames-Bradley at PM's Question Time

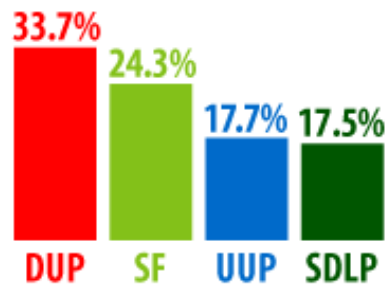
Nigel Dodds, Deputy Leader of the Democratic Unionist Party has called upon the Prime Minister to reject the recommendation of the Eames-Bradley Consultative Group on the Past to make a £12,000 payment to the families of everyone who lost their lives in Northern Ireland regardless of whether or not they were a terrorist. Mr. Dodds was speaking during an intervention at Prime Minister's Question Time when he asked:



“Will the Prime Minister agree that there can never be an equivalence between terrorists on the one hand, and the innocent victims of terror on the other? Therefore does he acknowledge the deep hurt and offence which has been caused by the obnoxious proposal in the Eames-Bradley report published today on the past in Northern Ireland which suggests a £12,000 payment to all relatives of everyone killed, regardless of their status which effectively does away with the distinction between murderers and those who they went out to murder and kill? And will he reject any definition of

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victimhood which elevates terrorists to the same status as those whom they targeted for murder and violence?"

Mr. Dodds question was greeted with loud cheers of support from all sides of the House. Speaking after Prime Minister's Questions Nigel Dodds said:

"The morally obscene suggestion of the Eames-Bradley Group concerning making payment of £12,000 to the families of everyone who lost their lives as a consequence of the so-called "Troubles" in Northern Ireland has provoked a furious backlash right across the community.

This disgraceful proposal would make a moral equivalence of the people who were murdered in the Shankill Road bombing and the criminal Thomas Begley who murdered them. I hope that the government understands and appreciates the degree of moral revulsion which exists within the community at this idea and will act accordingly. The DUP will continue to oppose this idea and will fight tooth and nail to see that it never sees the light of day."

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