Ulster Unionist MLA Billy Armstrong has condemned as foolish and disgraceful the comments of Hollywood actress Rose McGowan - star of the film "Fifty Dead Men Walking" - who has claimed at the Toronto Film Festival that she would have joined the IRA if she had lived in Belfast during the Troubles.

The Mid-Ulster Assemblyman said

"The comments attributed to Rose McGowan are deeply offensive to the people of Northern Ireland and all the victims who suffered at the hands of the IRA. I wonder just what it is about the murderous activities of the IRA which she finds appealing.

As an IRA member would Miss McGowan have been happy to participate in the abduction, torture and murder of Jean McConville, a widow and mother of ten?

Does she wish she had been involved in the bomb attack on the La Mon hotel killing when twelve people were killed in 1978?

Perhaps she wishes she had murdered shoppers in a bomb outside Harrods?

Or does she wish she has been responsible for the murder of two young boys in Warrington?

If Miss McGowan can develop such a misplaced sense of sympathy for murdering terrorists after making a film about the IRA, I sincerely hope she is never asked to make a film about the terror attacks on the Twin Towers, lest she come out with some rubbish about sympathising with Bin Laden and wanting to join Al Qaida."