

10<sup>th</sup> March 2009

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**RE MEETING WITH ALAN JOHNSON/RESEARCH INTO CONTAMINATED BLOOD**

Dear Jim,

I recall in numerous discussions over the years that you did promise me one meeting with the Secretary of State for Health and said that the timing was crucial. Well Jim, I believe that time has now come and I request a meeting with Alan Johnson at the earliest opportunity.

As you will no doubt be aware from recent press articles, BBC2 Newsnight and other programmes, Lord Archer has now concluded his findings into how haemophiliacs came to be infected with HIV/HCV through contaminated blood see [http://209.85.229.132/search?q=cache:BBmZ4uuMnmcJ:www.archercbbo.com/files/report/76\\_Lord%2520Archer%2520Report.DOC+archer+inquiry+report&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=2&gl=uk](http://209.85.229.132/search?q=cache:BBmZ4uuMnmcJ:www.archercbbo.com/files/report/76_Lord%2520Archer%2520Report.DOC+archer+inquiry+report&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=2&gl=uk)

As you know I also wrote my own research into the politics of the global blood trade and the impact on UK haemophiliacs two years prior to the Archer Inquiry and the documents I fought to have released for my own study were then released to the Inquiry panel and formed a significant part of the submitted evidence. This dissertation has now been awarded the Michael Young Prize set up by the Economic and Social Research Council in honour of Lord Michael Young, Baron Young of Darlington see <http://politics.co.uk/opinion-formers/press-releases/economy-and-finance/esrc-michael-young-prize-winners-announced-1274895365399.htm> I won this jointly with Dr Mark Reed whose research focused on environmental issues.

One of the aims of this prize is to support the recipients to disseminate their research beyond academia and to that end I feel it is very important that Alan Johnson takes into account my own study which complements the Archer report and indeed many of our findings and conclusions are similar. I have worked very closely with the Archer Inquiry panel over the last two years and Lord David Owen provided a

reference as someone who had used my dissertation to assist him with evidence to the Inquiry when his own ministerial health documents were "inadvertently" destroyed.

The government has always claimed that the reason that they did not hold a public inquiry was that "all the evidence was in the public domain". This was found to be not the case and indeed my dissertation included documents from America on past blood policy regarding plasma and in particular prison blood exported to the UK that Alan Johnson will not have seen.

The Government will soon be responding to the recommendations of the Archer Inquiry and therefore it is important that the Department of Health have all the necessary evidence before them including my own report.

Thank-you as always. I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

Carol Grayson

Cc ESRC

Haemophilia Society

Archer Inquiry Panel

Newsnight

Jenny Willott MP

Lord David Owen

Lord Morris of Manchester