HIDDEN STORIES

 Of the

STEPHEN LAWRENCE INQUIRY

Personal reflections

RICHARD STONE OBE

**Background**

*Dr Stone is a Visiting Fellow at the Dept of Criminology, University of Westminster; and patron of ROTA (Race On the Agenda), and of the Cambridge academic ‘Centre for Jewish-Muslim Relations’ (CMJR) within the Woolf Institute. He has also been President of the Jewish Council for Racial Equality (JCORE), and Vice Chair of the Runnymede Trust.*

Dr Stone has observed that there are only two equalities being discussed now: gender (inequalities for women), and the gap between the poor and the very rich. In the Introduction to his book he writes:

"I have found anger and disappointment to be even greater now than it was then, which are justified by the lack of progress in achieving equality of treatment and equality of opportunity in policing. The time has come for leaders of institutions, heads of businesses and activists to take sustained action" (Stone 2013: xi-xii).

In an attempt to raise issues of racism in public discourse, Dr Stone plans to revisit Bristol, Birmingham, East London, Manchester and West London. He hopes to inspire all communities to push forward the race agenda at the local level.

Dr Stone’s small team will collaborate with community based organisations to:

* Understand community concerns about disproportionality in the Criminal Justice System; racist incidents and community engagement.
* Learn how progress has, or has not been made in the area of racism, overt and institutional in East London.
* Encourage the development of a locally owned action plan and strategy outlining how each area will take forward the race agenda at the local level;
* Encourage local authorities and criminal justice agencies to work with community organisations to gather and disseminate key data on race disproportionality which can be used to encourage partnerships which engage communities and promote accountability and transparency on the issue of race.
* Work towards the development of a working group to gather and present evidence to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Reports into the United Kingdom (next review into the United Kingdom 2014)
* Develop and publish a report on the six inner city meetings, which will be used to spearhead a campaign of action on the issue of race at the local and national level.

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**RICHARD STONE OBE**

Wednesday 6th November 2013

Room CC.G.05

University of East London

Stratford Campus

Water Lane

London

E15 4LZ

**Programme**

**17.30** ***Registration***

**18:00** ***Welcome and Introductions***

 ***Chair, Barry Mussenden***

**18:10** ***Reading from Hidden Stories***

**18:35** ***Q & A with Dr Stone***

**18:50**  ***East London contributors to the Inquiry***

**19:10 *Race in East London - Understanding the Current Situation***

**20:15 *Next Steps***

**20:30 *Close and Thanks***

**E-mail: hiddenstoriesmedia@gmail.com I Web: www.hiddenstories.co.uk**

**Twitter: @\_hiddenstories I Mobile: 07964 706 471**