

Are trials to find out the truth?

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“The purpose of a trial is to find out the truth. But we no longer have trials about who did it – the trial is always about whether somebody broke the rules in trying to find out who did it”. Sir David Phillips, former Chief Constable of Kent.

How true and, unfortunately, a sad indictment of our times. The former Chief goes on to describe the justice system and that there are too many laws and regulations that give privileges to defendants. Most people now believe that criminals run little risk of getting caught and those that are caught will be given short sentences by elite, out-of-touch judges. This is slightly unfair to judges, who come under unending pressure to keep the prisons from overflowing and so are reluctant to hand out prison sentences unless they absolutely have to.

It's time for a re-think and the very least the Home Secretary must do is start deporting the thousands of foreign criminals held in our jails which will free up places for our own home-grown criminals.