

CANDIDATE FOR BRUCE GROVE TOTTENHAM



BERNIE GRANT

Bernie Grant has been Councillor for Bruce Grove Ward since 1978.

Bernie was born in Guyana in 1944 and has been in Britain since 1963. An active trade unionist, member of NUPE and NALGO, he was a full-time trade union officer for several years. At the moment he is employed in the Equal Opportunities field. He has been in the Labour Party for over ten years, and is the Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the Tottenham Constituency.

Bernie Grant has been Councillor for Bruce Grove Ward since 1978, he served on many Council Committees, and has been Leader of the Council in Haringey for the last year. As the first Black Council Leader in Britain, Bernie has been the focus of a great deal of media attention, some of it distorted or just plain untrue. Through it all, Bernie has stuck to his guiding principles: service to ALL THE PEOPLE OF HARINGEY.

Thus he has fought to maintain and extend Haringey Council's services in the face of the Tory government's rate-capping legislation. The Policy of no rent rises has been maintained, the price of school meals pegged at 45p with better quality, and a determined attack on poverty has been launched with a Welfare Rights Campaign - etcetera, etcetera. Bernie Grant has been a fervent supporter of equal opportunities and has personally contributed greatly to improving the Council's employment policies and the delivery of Council services, so that everyone is treated fairly: women and men, and members of all the ethnic communities which make up the Borough of Haringey.

A particular concern of Bernie's has been the unfair treatment of youth. In the past, young people in Haringey have had to shout to get their voices heard. Bernie wants to see that changed. Youth need better educational, recreational and employment prospects - Bernie Grant will continue to fight for young people's rights. He supports the immediate establishment of a Youth Co-ordinating Committee on the Council to implement these policies.

The abolition of the GLC was meant by the government to damage Labour's work for people in London. Under Bernie Grant's leadership, the Council has save ALL the voluntary groups in Haringey from going under - groups which provide childcare facilities, leisure opportunities, centres for people to meet, and so on.

Bernie holds regular surgeries where many of his constituents have met him and received help or advice. He has a proven track record - and will continue the good work!

PERSECUTED BECAUSE HE IS BLACK

The Black community say that it is because Bernie Grant is black and the first Black Council Leader in the United Kingdom why such blatant and racist attempts have been made to discredit him. Nothing is said about the love and respect the Black Community have for him, and his powerful influence with the Youth in Haringey.

Had there not been such a high degree of respect from him the streets of Haringey would have been filled with blood after the Broadwater Farm uprising when the police made a stupid decision to have a massive police presence on the Farm which still exists today.

False statements

The Press, Media etc have published a series of false statements against Bernie which are aimed at bringing him into hatred, ridicule and contempt in an attempt to persuade the Black and White community in Haringey to outlaw him then dump him.

Q: Did Bernie Grant ban Black plastic bags because he believes them to be racist?

A: No! The Sun admitted that they had made up the story, and told a downright lie. They were made to publish an apology.

Q: The Sun, The Mail, the Hornsey Journal, claimed that Bernie Grant owes the Council £800 rent arrears on his former Council flat. Is this true?

A: No! This is a lie from the pit of hell and these papers have to appear in court to answer libel suits.

Q: Did Bernie Grant give his sister money to set up a Crouch End Restaurant.

A: No! His sister is part of a Black Womens collective which was given a grant years before Bernie became Council Leader, and he had nothing to do with the decision which was made according to proper council procedure.

Q: Is Bernie Grant really anti-Police?

A: No! Legal proceedings have been brought for libel against the perpetrators of these lies. Bernie has correspondence to prove that he has tried to work with the police for years, and believes that they are being asked to do an impossible job in the light of social conditions and tensions generated by Thatchers economic policies should be accountable to the Community they serve, and in particular as regards their approach to The Black Youth.

Q: Has Bernie Grant had several convictions for violent offences?

A: Bernie Grant has had no criminal convictions. He shouted at someone in a public meeting and was bound over in August 1985 following a common assault case, on a matter according to the judge, "which should never have come to court and was a waste of tax payers money" because of its pettiness.

BLACK PEOPLE! WHITE PEOPLE! BEWARE!

If you take sides with the Press; The Media and the anti-Black lobby then you are under a strong delusion to believe a lie, and you would have helped to make the situation in Tottenham like that in South Africa. Luckily most sensible people are not wholly taken in by the Press and the Media

They say Bernie Grant (i) Sacked a worker for displaying a banana on her desk, (ii) Has had holidays at the rate-payers expense (iii) Ordered all Council staff to drink Nicaraguan coffee, (iv) Forbade dustmen to wish householders a Merry Xmas, (v) Ordered an African village to be built in Tottenham.

THESE ACCUSATIONS ARE DOWNRIGHT LIES AND CANNOT BE PROVED IN A COURT OF LAW. YOU WILL HEAR MORE LIES AND MORE LIES AND MORE LIES FROM EVERY QUARTER VERY SOON - DON'T BELIEVE THEM!

WE CHALLENGE ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC TO PRODUCE ANY STATEMENT MADE AGAINST BERNIE GRANT OR ANY OTHER BLACK COUNCILLOR, AND WE WILL PRESENT INDISPUTABLE AND IRREBUTTABLE EVIDENCE TO EXPOSE THE LIE AND PROVE THE FACTS.

The tactics of the Tories, the Press, the Media etc. is a device to divide and rule the Black and White communities, and an attempt to divert our attention from the real damage the Tories is inflicting on us, for example, cuts in earnings, cuts in housing, cuts in social services, cuts in hospitals, high unemployment especially amongst the Black Youth, massive policing and the introduction of plastic bullets etc; etc Black and White must unite and fight. United we stand, divided we fall.

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