

IN THE UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION FOR A RESTRICTION ORDER

BY:

'Jessica'

Core Participant

STATEMENT OF HARRIET WISTRICH

Name: Harriet Wistrich

Address: Birnberg Peirce Ltd
14 Inverness Street
London NW1 7HJ

Age: Over 21

1. I make this statement in support of an application on behalf of the above core participant (CP) in support of her application for a Restriction Order (RO) under the provisions of 19(3)(a) and (b) of the Inquiries Act 2005. I am a solicitor employed by Birnberg Peirce Ltd and one of the CP's Recognised Legal Representatives.
2. 'Jessica' has been designated as a Core Participant on account of her long-term intimate sexual relationship with an undercover police officer, Andy Coles.
3. The exposure of Andy Coles as an undercover officer has impacted on 'Jessica' significantly. She still feels very emotionally vulnerable following the discovery and has only shared this information with a very small selection of people. She does not feel robust enough to answer questions from other people at this stage when she has such limited understanding herself of what happened to her. In particular she has not [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] If her identity became public through the Inquiry she would not be able to wait to tell her [REDACTED] about the discovery in a

sensitive way at a more appropriate time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It would be very difficult for her [REDACTED] to cope with intrusive questions if her identity became public, particularly if members of the press came to their home.

4. Clearly, as set out in the application for anonymity, there is a strong argument as to the CP's right to protection of their privacy under Article 8 ECHR. Equally, there is an arguable right to anonymity under the provisions of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992, by virtue of 'Jessica' being a victim of sexual offences. Finally publication of her identity is not necessary to achieve any of the aims of the public inquiry.

I believe the facts stated in this Witness Statement are true.

Signed: 

Dated: 26/7/2018