

29 November 2013
The Editor
The Courier-Mail
BRISBANE QLD 4000



I write in protest to the article "*Gangsta Rap*" which appeared on the front page and page 4 of the paper on Friday November 29 2013.

The article reports two decisions made by a magistrate sitting on the Sunshine Coast.

In one decision, her Honour dismissed a prosecution against "*T-Dub Woodrow*" on an allegation that he threatened to kill a man. There is nothing in the article which suggests that her Honour's decision was not a sound one made according to law. The second decision of her Honour's was a penalty imposed upon Mr Woodrow on a charge of drink driving. There has, I understand, been no appeal from that sentence and the Queensland Police Service (who prosecute such things) have obviously accepted that the sentence was within the range of a sound exercise of sentencing discretion.

The article then proceeds to record that Mr Woodrow, described by you as "*criminal rapper*" thought that his sentence on the drink driving charge was lenient. This opinion expressed by Mr Woodrow is then used by you in the article to denigrate the reputation of the magistrate.

This is not the first time that you have published articles criticising this particular magistrate.

It is apparent that you are conducting a campaign against her Honour. Such a campaign is an offensive abuse of the power you exercise and the privileges you possess as the editor of a widely circulated newspaper.

You should desist this conduct forthwith.

Yours faithfully,


Peter J Davis QC
President

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