



Ten things you need to know about the fascist Tommy Robinson

Tommy Robinson has become a rallying point for the racist and fascist right. He is a fascist with a long history of involvement with the far right. He has received support from the far right internationally and from the racist and fascist right in Britain. Now UKIP's leader Gerard Batten has made Robinson an adviser to the party.

It's vital that we know the facts about Robinson. Far from championing the rights of ordinary people he wants to help spread the politics of divide and rule – racism, Islamophobia and antisemitism.

Robinson is out to create a fascist street movement that is a threat to all of us. He is trying to emulate the successes of the far right in the US and Europe. Our movement needs to stop him.

'Tommy' isn't really Tommy

1 His real name is Stephen Yaxley-Lennon. Robinson lies about his real name. The wealthy businessmen who bankrolled the English Defence League told him to change his name because it exposed his Irish roots.

Robinson has a Nazi past

2 He has a long history as a far right activist. He was a member of the Nazi British National Party (BNP) from 2004-5. The BNP emerged out of the fascist National Front. At their height they had 2 MEPs and over 50 councillors.



Robinson with some of his EDL mates

The Nazi terror group Combat 18 was the BNP's security team. It carried out attacks on students, Jews and the left.

The BNP's headquarters was based in Welling, close to the spot where Stephen Lawrence was murdered. Three other racist murders occurred in the area while the HQ was based there.

Robinson and the English Defence League

3 Robinson co-founded the violent, racist, English Defence League (EDL). Although it was launched in 2009 as a supposedly 'non-political' organisation, it quickly turned to a violent campaign targeting trade union demos, anti-racist and socialist

meetings and anti-cuts protesters – as well as Muslims.

The EDL attempted to march in Muslim areas but suffered serious defeats in Walthamstow and Tower Hamlets at the hands of Unite Against Fascism and other anti-fascists, leading to the organisation's collapse.

Robinson is racist and Islamophobic

4 EDL supporters were filmed chanting "Burn a mosque down" and its members were frequently photographed giving Hitler salutes.

Robinson once described Muslim babies as "time bombs". Famously, he threatened that "The Islamic community will feel the full force of

the EDL if we see any of our British citizens killed, maimed, or hurt on British soil ever again.”

Robinson is a violent thug

5 Robinson is a fraudster and has been involved in criminal violence. He was convicted in April 2005 for assault occasioning actual bodily harm. He had assaulted an off-duty woman police officer who had intervened to stop a domestic confrontation between him and his partner.

In 2010 Robinson issued threats to students protesting over tuition fees.

In November 2013 he was convicted of mortgage fraud and sentenced in 2014 to 18 months imprisonment. He had conspired with a crooked mortgage broker.

In 2017 he was filmed assaulting a man at a race meet at Ascot.

Robinson inspires violence and terrorism

6 Following a violent street protest by his supporters in early 2018 (after his arrest for contempt of court in Leeds) a Gurdwara (Sikh temple) and a Mosque were firebombed.

His supporters assaulted trade unionists following a “free Tommy” protest in London in July 2018.

Where Robinson goes, violence follows. His supporters have a tendency to turn his words into lethal action.

In 2010, two murderers of a vulnerable Lincoln man had links to the EDL, according to police.

Darren Osborne, who attacked Finsbury Park mosque, said Robinson had influenced him.

Anders Breivik the Norwegian Nazi mass murderer, carried out an attack on a Norwegian Labour Party youth camp and bombed the country’s parliament. He mentioned Robinson’s EDL over 80 times in the manifesto he wrote justifying his actions. Breivik killed 77 people, most of them young.

Robinson surrounds himself with racist friends

7 After leaving the EDL, Robinson made racist speeches to gatherings of the Islamophobic Pegida movement in Germany.

He has recently received support from the far right internationally, including Islamophobic Dutch politician Geert Wilders and the Belgian Vlaams Belang party.

The ‘alt right’ has also mobilised



to back Robinson. Most importantly Trump’s former chief strategist, Steve Bannon, has championed his cause.

Last year Robinson joined a mass demonstration led by Polish Nazis in Warsaw.

Who funds Robinson?

8 Robinson has always had rich backers. Alan Lake (real name Alan Ayling) is a city banker who helped to fund the EDL with his rich friends.

Lake, who was removed from his job after his EDL links were revealed, was at Robinson’s recent appearance at the Old Bailey.

Now Robinson’s main funding is coming from a rightwing American think-tank, the Middle East Forum.

This Trump-supporting outfit have poured tens of thousands into Robinson’s campaigns, including substantial legal aid.

After a recent appearance at the Old Bailey Robinson was wined and dined by UKIP’s Lord Pearson in the House of Lords.

The founder of the far right InfoWars website, Alex Jones, also donated £20,000 to Robinson.

Robinson doesn’t care about the victims of grooming gangs

9 A “senior member” of the EDL, Leigh McMillan, was jailed in February 2018 for sexually abusing a schoolgirl. He had been involved in the notorious EDL campaign around the murdered soldier, Lee Rigby.

Richard Price, the ex EDL Midlands leader, admitted four counts of making indecent images of children in 2011. The EDL actually launched a campaign to free him!

Both of these individuals were prominent in the EDL under Robinson’s leadership.

He has never commented on their cases or condemned their actions.

Robinson claims to be exposing Muslim grooming gangs across Britain. But at the recent abuse trial in Leeds he put the entire case in jeopardy with his contempt of court.

He would rather see the victims go without justice in order to promote his own agenda. Despite this, UKIP leader Gerard Batten has appointed him as an adviser to the party on the issue!

The appalling crime of child sexual exploitation should not be used and distorted to fuel racism.

Robinson is not a working class hero

10 The far right claims that Robinson is a working class hero. But he is nothing of the kind.

A recent planned speaking tour in the US and Australia was set to rake in up to \$1 million for him.

As Unite the union leader Len McCluskey said: “To Stephen Yaxley-Lennon I say this. You do not stand for my working class which have always rejected and fought against the racist filth that you spout. If you come for our Muslim brothers and sisters you come for all of us and we will resist you”.

Saturday 16 March
UN anti-racism day
protests
In London,
Glasgow
and Cardiff



Organised by Stand Up To Racism
For updates go to tinyurl.com/SUTR19m