



All Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition  
House of Commons

Press release

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2007 immediate release

**Following the debate in Westminster Hall this morning Andrew Tyrie said:**

Kim Howells' wriggling to avoid saying anything that might be critical of the United States Administration on rendition was an embarrassment. He flatly refused to condemn the programme of the US Administration to transfer people to places where they might be subjected to torture, or cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment. In his efforts to avoid criticising the US he found himself forced to dismiss the huge body of evidence that a US programme of extraordinary rendition exists. At one point he implied that those who give credence to that evidence are conspiracy theorists.

The government is in a state of denial. Even the former Justice Minister, Harriet Harman, has acknowledged the legal loopholes that allow for rendition through UK territory. Yet the government refuse to take seriously the widespread concerns expressed about extraordinary rendition and the measures proposed by the All Party Parliamentary Group. This can give the public no confidence.

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