



Domestic terrorism at Mon Repos condemned

Jul 07, 2022 Letters

Dear Editor,

OWOC denounces the domestic terrorism on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, meted out to innocent, defenseless market vendors working hard to sustain their families. When the day started for the vendors, little did they know they would have to run for their lives abandoning their meagre possessions, as marauding bands of thugs descended upon them violently as they sat in their stalls waiting for customers and earnings for the day to feed their families.

Vendors struggle daily to eke out a living in these hard, "guava season" times. For them to abandon their phones, moneybags, vehicles, and goods to flee from the attacks of the domestic terrorists, has traumatised the most vulnerable among us. As we witnessed tears flowing down their faces recalling their trauma, we wonder where our society is heading under the current trajectory, where the PPP Government is unable to keep its citizens safe.

Many questions come to mind. The group that started out from Golden Grove was on the road for almost three hours. Where were the police? Why did the police not take action earlier before the Mon Repos vendors were robbed and pillaged? Did police "Intelligence" not know this event was going to happen? Who instructed the police not to take pre-emptive action? Did the so-called "protest" activity have a permit? Why was there no police presence at the Mon Repos Market? Why were the vendors not informed to lock up their stands and take preventative action? The Police Force and Government must answer these questions.

We advise the Opposition PNC not to delight in the woes of the Government because "a hole in the boat, is a hole in the whole boat." Violence by perceived PNC supporters against perceived PPP supporters does not score points for the PNC.

We offer our deepest sympathy to the Quindon Bacchus family who allegedly was shot by a policeman. Families deserve answers when their loved ones die under questionable circumstances. However, we note that when citizens feel aggrieved about police actions, the law and inquiry processes must be allowed to take its course. A Civil Society cannot survive if people are impatient and take matters into their own hands. Terrorising innocent people must be condemned by all. We look forward to policy and policing changes to prevent such terrorism in the future. OWOC expresses its sympathy and solidarity to all the victims.

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