## STUART LAWRENCE

THIS IS NOT MY SON'S FIGHT

DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, GRIEF, YOUTH ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Family History, Adversity, Motivation, Inspiration.

THIS IS NOT MY SON'S FIGHT

**Stuart Lawrence, Younger brother of Stephen Lawrence.** A motivational and public speaker with over 20 yrs experience as a youth engagement specialist.

**Stephen Lawrence (13 September 1974 – 22 April 1993)** was a black British teenager from Woolwich, South-East London, who was murdered in a racially motivated attack while waiting for a bus in Well Hall, Eltham on the evening of 22nd April 1993. The family's tireless campaign for justice for their son led to cultural shifts and changes of attitude towards racism within British society, the law and the Metropolitian Police Force. This fight and their story is still as impactful and important today.

"We as a family now are looking forward to the future and how the legacy of Stephen can be a driving force to help young people.

After Stephen's death, Stuart stayed in education and followed a creative path which focused on graphics and design, taking a keen interest in typographical design. After completing a course at the London College of Printing, he attended Northampton University to read Graphic Communication. His working life led him to become a teacher but also included working at the Home Office and HMP Belmarsh. His teaching career has spanned over 15 years at a secondary school in South-west London which he has recently left. Stuart is also a dedicated Football Coach, coaching young teams at least twice a week over the last 10 years.

Stuart now spends the majority of his recent time with the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust and Stephen Lawrence Foundation to help promote the Stephen Lawrence Day (22nd April) and also as a keynote/motivational speaker. His Mother, Doreen Lawrence was elevated to the peerage as Baroness on 6th

September 2013 and is formally styled Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon, in the Commonwealth Realm of Jamaica. The honour is rare for being designated after a location in a Commonwealth realm outside the United Kingdom, and due to her not being married the rights that would be bestowed on her husband pass on to her son, Stuart. Thus, his full title is now 'The Right Honourable Stuart Andrew Lawrence'. Alongside and in honour of this he has now dedicated himself full time to fighting the cause, named 'This is not My Son's Fight' to ensure that the young people of today have an idea about the consequences of their actions against others and importance of inclusion through preaching tolerance and celebrating difference.

In the past 18 months Stuart has spent a lot of his time working and talking with and in schools, presenting at assemblies, working with youth groups and youth centres and sharing his story, experiences and presenting messages of hope and tolerance.

"We want them to understand that it's all down to them - what they do with their lives, how hard they work, what they achieve - and we hope that because of Stephen they can achieve all their hopes and goals."