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Creator of Raoul Moat Tribute Page Self Censors

Following the outcry about two Facebook tribute groups to Raoul Moat, including an official complaint by the UK Prime Minister, Facebook refused to censor the page.

However, the woman who created the Group has now opted to delete it, although she has not said that she will not put it back up.

Siobhan O'Dowd told Talksport radio that she did not condone the actions of Raoul Moat, but that "*everyone is entitled to their own opinion.*"

> We don't condone what he did, as what he did was wrong. I feel sorry for the families but he was still a human being at the end of the day.
>
> He had problems and needed help and he didn't get any help.

Ms O'Dowd said that she was surprised by reactions to the page. When asked why Moat was a 'Legend' she replied "*Legends get talked about – and he is getting talked about.*"

> I think he's a legend for keeping the police on their toes.

Ms O'Dowd hasn't yet explained exactly why she felt the need to remove the group, whether it be out of sympathy for the families, the result of the publics reaction or even if she's been receiving threats.

However warped her opinions may be, Freedom4All must defend Freedom of Speech and Expression. If Ms O'Dowd has been pressured into self-censoring then that is a serious cause for concern.

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> I dissaprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.
> *The Friends of Voltaire*, written by Evelyn Beatrice Hall

Tags: Cameron, censorship, Facebook, Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Speech, Group, Gunman, Human Rights, online, Prime Minister, Raoul Moat, Siobhan O'Dowd, Site

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