

### **L001 - Homophobia in *Times* Law**

Alex Wade (Law 26 April) says Jonathan King is confused, but it may be he who is confused. He calls King a paedophile when he is really a pederast – a very different thing. He appears to think no boy of 14 or 15, however willing, can *enjoy* sex with another male – and that every one of them is a “victim”. [His piece seems to be homophobic.]\*

The numerous boys who are growing up gay, who are probably gay already, will not thank him for it. But many boys growing up straight also enjoy willing sex with other males, usually age mates. It is a shameful feature of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 that it punishes this.

The age at which it is medically acknowledged that the male has maximum sexual potency is fifteen. Yet this is below the age of consent. What sort of society dismisses such a person as sexually a “child” and says he is “abused” if he has willing sex with another male – even an age mate? I would say that sort of society is cruel and perverted.

\*The words in square brackets were deleted from the published letter