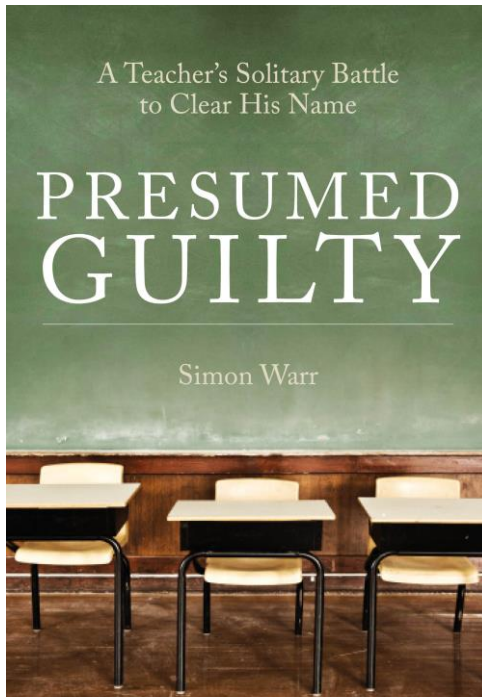


ADVANCE INFORMATION

PRESUMED GUILTY

A teacher's solitary battle to clear his name

Simon Warr



On 18 December 2012, Simon Warr's life was changed irrevocably.

A respected boarding school teacher, described by his peers as 'one of the outstanding schoolmasters of his generation', Warr was arrested following an allegation of historical child abuse. The complainant was a former pupil at a school where Warr had taught over thirty years previously. Although horrified by the claim, Warr was confident that without conclusive evidence the case would be dropped immediately. Instead, he spent an agonising 672 days on bail, waiting first to be charged and then for the case to go to trial.

It took a jury less than forty minutes to acquit Warr unanimously on all charges. But despite being exonerated by the court, the damage to his reputation was irreversible. And while he struggled to cope in the devastating aftermath of the false accusations levelled against him, his complainants walked away cloaked with anonymity and impunity.

Presumed Guilty is a harrowing true story that examines our flawed justice system and an impassioned plea for us to reconsider the way our police handle cases of alleged historical child abuse, to protect innocent people against further false claims.

- Harrowing account of a star teacher's wrongful accusation of historical child abuse and its handling by the state.
- An important critique of the police and CPS's handling of historical child sex abuse allegations disclosing a worrying trend for opportunistic false accusations of teachers in this country.

Simon Warr MA has spent his entire career teaching foreign languages at secondary schools, while producing major plays and musicals. Since 1999, he has also worked as a broadcaster for BBC Radio. He has made various television appearances, most notably as headmaster in the successful Channel 4 series *That'll Teach 'Em*. Passionate and erudite, he is also regularly heard proffering his views on Radio 2 and LBC. This is his second book. Simon lives in west London.

"The infuriating, terrifying true story of how Simon Warr – one of life's great characters – was almost destroyed by someone else's lies." **Jeremy Vine**

"A gripping, at times chilling, account of a dedicated teacher's fight for justice. Beautifully written." **Matthew Wright**

"A typically brave book and strident defence of the innocent in the face of a moral panic about sex abuse in our society. Notwithstanding the genuine problem that this issue is today and the real victims out there, it still cannot be a licence to destroy the reputations and lives of innocent people. This account speaks to all interested in fairness and justice." **Donal MacIntyre**

PUB DATE: 14 February 2017

ISBN: 9781785901812

PRICE: £20

EXTENT: 400pp

DIMENSIONS: Royal hardback

ILLUSTRATIONS: 16pp photos

CATEGORY: Biography

BIC CODE: BG

REGIONS: WORLD



Biteback Publishing

BITEBACK PUBLISHING, WESTMINSTER TOWER
3 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, LONDON, SE1 7SP

INFO@BITEBACKPUBLISHING.COM

UK sales by Compass
Great West House, Great West Road, Brentford TW8 9DF
Tel. 020 8326 5696
Email: sales@compass-ips.london

Distributed by Marston Book Services Ltd
Unit 160, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX1 4SD
Tel. 01235 465500