

**Evidence that media reporting of mental health issues is improving**

**MIND Press Release - 17 May 2001**

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**EVIDENCE THAT MEDIA REPORTING OF MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IS IMPROVING, AS MIND PRESENTS PRESS AWARDS**

**MIND JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR AND BIGOT OF THE YEAR SHORLIST**

The best and worst reporting of mental health issues will be recognised at the Mind Awards ceremony to be hosted by Melvyn Bragg, on Friday 18th May at the Barbican Centre, London.

More articles than ever before have been short-listed for the Journalist of the Year Award, and very few articles appear on the Bigot of the Year Award shortlist. This points, says Mind, to a gradual improvement in media reporting of mental health issues.

The shortlist includes staff reporters on national broadsheet and tabloid papers, and local papers, consumer magazines, and freelancers. The three articles on the Bigot shortlist all appeared in national tabloid papers.

The media awards are being judged by three previous winners of the Mind Journalist of the Year Award: David Brindle, Editor of Guardian Society; Ewan McGrory of the Edinburgh Evening News; Sam Hart of The Big Issue.

The Mind Journalist of the Year and the Bigot of the Year Awards will be presented along with the Mind Book of the Year Award.

Journalist of the Year shortlist:

Adam James (Freelance) Guardian (Society) and Times Educational Supplement

Wendy Moore (Freelance) Observer (Life) and Guardian (Society)

Deborah Orr Independent

Sarah Boseley Guardian

Lucy Johnston Daily Express

Anthony Browne Observer

Fergus Hewison The South London Press

Esther Armah Pride (magazine)

Matt Seaton (Freelance) Evening Standard

Emma Hibbs Caterham Advertiser

Bigot of the Year shortlist:

Neil Syson The Sun "Fire maniac lives it up at Rampton"

David Mellor The People "Insane laws that will free Beatle maniac"

Martyn Sharpe The Sun "Rampton holds gay disco for psychos"

\*\*\* Ends \*\*\*

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