[Not published]

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Dear Spectator Editor,

Peter Hitchens in ‘War on Words’ (18 August) has only scratched the surface of Wikipedia’s greatest problem. I know, having suffered the same experience of being driven off the site for false crimes against ‘admins’.

There is no question that Wikipedia, with its astounding breadth, is a wonderful asset. This is especially true regarding its myriad of facts which are largely accurate because of the universal editing facility. There is, luckily, a sufficiency of fussy and tidy people in the world who will light on any such mistakes or under-referenced sources.

However control of opinion has been seized by radicals. Most ‘controversial’ articles have been hopelessly compromised as dedicated Wiki Warriors, expert at propaganda, pile in relentlessly to angle and distort. Alternative writers are then hounded off as ‘sock puppets’, or even ‘meat puppets’.

Nowhere is this truer than with Irish historical articles. An illustrative example, where I have written, is the Dunmanway Massacre of April 1921 when 13 Protestants were murdered over several nights in Co. Cork. The term ‘Massacre’ has now been censored out of the title despite other mass Irish killings being so described. The article instead is devoted to minimising the significance of the killings, explaining, indeed justifying the murderers, confusing attribution with spurious assertions, and, worst of all, blaming the victims, even in some cases, for being related to the intended targets!

Does Jimmy Wales know or care?

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**WARNING: ACTIVE ARBITRATION REMEDIES**

The article [Dunmanway killings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunmanway_killings), along with other articles relating to [The Troubles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Troubles), is currently subject to active arbitration remedies, as laid out during [**a 2007 Arbitration case**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Requests_for_arbitration/The_Troubles#Final_remedies_for_AE_case), and amended by community consensus in 2008, 2009, and 2012. The current restrictions are:

* **Neutrality**: All editors on Troubles-related articles are directed to get the advice of neutral parties via means such as [outside opinions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:RFC).
* **Limit of one** [**revert**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:1RR) **in 24 hours:** An administrator has placed all articles related to The Troubles, defined as *any article that could be reasonably construed as being related to The Troubles, Irish nationalism, and British nationalism in relation to Ireland* under [**WP:1RR**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:1RR) (one [revert](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Revert) per editor per article *per 24 hour period*) as a [page restriction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Arbitration_Committee/Discretionary_sanctions#Page_restrictions). When in doubt, assume it is related.
  + Clear vandalism of whatever origin may be reverted without restriction. Reverts of edits made by anonymous IP editors that are not vandalism are exempt from 1RR but are subject to [the usual rules on edit warring](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:EW).
* Editors may be subject to [discretionary sanctions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:AC/DS).