

# Justice

## Paulo from Brazil<sup>1</sup>

Paulo Guajajara, a 28 year old indigenous land defender, has been shot dead by illegal loggers in Brazil's Amazon. He was reportedly attacked and shot in the head while hunting on Friday inside a reservation in Maranhao state.

Paulo was a member of Guardians of the Forest, a group formed to combat illegal logging gangs in the area. He said earlier in the year: *"I'm scared at times, but we have to lift up our heads and act. There is so much destruction of nature happening, good trees with wood as hard as steel being cut down and taken away. We have to preserve this life for our children's future"*. Paulo's young son is now fatherless.

The APIB, which represents many of Brazil's 900,000 indigenous people, said *"The Bolsonaro government has indigenous blood on its hands. The increase in violence in indigenous territories is a direct result of his hateful speeches and steps taken against our people."*

A football pitch size area of the Amazon Rainforest is destroyed every minute.

## Peter from Dorking

I met Peter<sup>2</sup> at the Dorking Food Bank back in April this year. He is a broad man with a weather-beaten face, and had recently agreed to welcome his nephew, Alan, to stay at his home. Alan

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<sup>1</sup> Information from BBC News Website on 2 November 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Name and some details changed to protect privacy.

is a troubled young man and his mother has been struggling to cope with him. But Peter's kind action has had consequences. Peter works but the work is really badly paid and so he relies on government benefits to help meet his family's basic needs. The government officer told him that, because the number of people in his household has changed, his case will need to be reassessed. But while this happens his benefits will be completely stopped. So Peter's act of kindness will tip his household into crisis.

Some facts:

- The UK is the world's 5th largest economy.
- In Mole Valley 20,000 children live in poverty.
- 60% of people who have to use emergency food banks in the UK are in work.