FROM: **NO CCTV Press Release**6<sup>th</sup> June 2014 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** 

Attn: News Desks

-- BEGINS -



## 8th June 2014 - Campaigners Call For Retirement Of Iconic Anti-hero

This Sunday (8th June) the national anti-hero Big Brother will reach pensionable age and campaigners in the UK and elsewhere will take to the streets to call on the government to let the geriatric surveillance icon finally retire with disgrace.

George Orwell's dystopian novel '1984' was first published on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1949 thus leading to his fictional character's aged status. '1984' was meant to be a warning of how totalitarianism can take hold even in so-called western liberal democracies such as Britain. However it appears that governments view the novel more like a code of practice.

But now that Big Brother is about to hit the big Six Five perhaps the UK government will need to be mindful of the maze of bureaucratic rules and regulations that they have created for dealing with elderly members of society. For instance the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Workplace Pension Rules, the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000, the National Service Framework for Older People, the National Service Framework for Mental Health, the possibility of action being taken in the Court of Protection created under the Mental Capacity Act 2005, and of course continuing to work Big Brother so hard at his age could lead to issues under the Modern Slavery Bill which was introduced under the Queen's speech this week.

No CCTV will be staging anti-surveillance street theatre in central Birmingham on Sunday afternoon. For details of the performance/interview requests contact Charles Farrier at press@no-cctv.org.uk

8<sup>th</sup> June is 1984 Action Day [1] and anti-surveillance campaigners around the world will mark the day with a series of actions.

Photos of the human CCTV street theatre are available at: http://www.flickr.com/photos/no-cctv/sets/72157633948273944/



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## References:

[1] See http://www.no-cctv.org.uk/1984.asp , http://1984actionday.wordpress.com, http://www.iwgvs.org

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

1. No CCTV is a UK group campaigning against the excessive use of surveillance cameras. Their homepage is at www.no-cctv.org.uk

- 2. For further information contact Charles Farrier at press@no-cctv.org.uk
- 3. 1984 Action Day is an annual event on 8th June, the date of the publication of '1984' it came about at the Freedom Not Fear event in Brussels in September 2011, after a meeting of campaigners opposed to the ever increasing levels of state surveillance. The annual Freedom Not Fear demo in Berlin regularly attracts thousands of people.