

# Gay Mitchell

By Javed Bhayla, Aaron Duggan, and Conor O'Leary

**Gay Mitchell was born in Inchicore, Dublin in 1951. He has 8 brothers and sisters, one of them, Jim Mitchell, is a former Fine Gael TD and a former government minister. Gay has previously been a spokesperson for Health, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Public Service and constitutional Reform, Tourism and Transport, European Interrogation, Urban Renewal, Health Board Reform. He also served as Lord Mayor of Dublin.**



*Gay Mitchell with 6 other candidate on The Late Late show*

**On July 9 2011, Gay was chosen as the Fine Gael candidate. He appeared on The Late Late show where he announced that his campaign would cost 350,000 Euro. He also said that he tried to bring the summer Olympic games to Dublin but was unsuccessful.**



*Gay Mitchell on  
The Late Late  
Show, talking  
about his  
campaign*

**Mitchell is a member of the European Parliament Committee on Development, the Special Committee on the Financial,**



**to**

**Economic and Social Crisis and the delegation the ACP-EU Joint**

**Parliamentary Assembly. He is also a substitute member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and the**



**delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China.**

**He is currently on second last place with 11 percent according to recent polls, closely followed by Rosemary Scallon at 6 percent**

**On the 12th August 2011 in a radio interview with Pat Kenny when asked for his views on same-sex marriage, Mr. Mitchell said he did not want to do anything that “weakens marriage” but had supported civil partnership. In 2004 Mitchell defended Italian MEP Rocco Buttiglione's remarks when he referred to homosexuality as a sin.**

**Mitchell has been questioned as to whether or not he is a member of the European Catholic group *Dignitatis Humanae Institute*, which he denied on the same radio interview with Pat Kenny. However according to Benjamin Harnwell, the institute's founding chairman Mitchell helped formulate the charter that became the institute's declaration. In the same interview Mitchell was also asked whether or not he is a member of the Iona Institute (who reject the notion of same-sex marriages), which he also denied, however**

**in September 2007, he did host a conference (*The Fragmenting Family*) on behalf of the Iona Institute.**