

In response to the above case I would like to answer the points raised as follows:

1. I can confirm that the Facebook account in question is indeed my own.
2. I can also confirm that I did share the comments in question.
3. The comment meant what it said, but as a joke. Hence LOL (laugh out loud).
4. I didn't give a lot of thought to what Arse-Ache referred to. With hindsight perhaps I should have given more.
5. I guess I thought the post in general was about witch hunters within the Labour Party. I am a supporter and member of Labour Against the Witch Hunt (LAW) whose unofficial Facebook page the posts were erroneously made. I strongly believe that the witch hunt against lifelong antiracist campaigners (many of whom have been suspended, expelled or forced to resign) such as Jacqueline Walker, Tony Greenstein, Peter Gregson, Ken Livingstone, Marc Wadsworth and ultimately Jeremy Corbyn himself needs to stop. However, I am now aware the comments in question were totally counterproductive towards this end.
6. I am now aware that if taken the wrong way (i.e. not as a joke) my comments could have been interpreted as threatening and/or abusive and this is something I already apologised for on the Facebook page in question (see my response to item 9).
7. I accept that if not taken as a joke my comments may have been in breach of Rule 2.1.8.
8. Probably not.
9. With hindsight I definitely regret posting the comments in question (see item 6 above) and I posted an apology on the page in question within 24 hours or so. It read something along the lines of :

I shouldn't have said what I did. I am very sorry if I caused any offence by my reply to a post on LAW unofficial. I can sincerely say that it was meant as a light hearted joke, I now understand why it wouldn't be perceived that way. I hope you can all accept my apology and be reassured that there was no harm intended. I did not think it through properly and it will not happen again.

Clearly this was either not reported to the complainant or ignored assuming it was not included in the complaint against me.

10. I have no intention whatsoever of ever posting content such as this on social media ever again (see above item 9).

11. I might be willing to undergo training although I don't think it's really necessary in this case given that I publicly expressed regret within about 24 hours of the offending posts and continue to do so. There's also a potential logistical issue given I am overseas most of the time, but if my membership of the Labour Party were to depend on it and we were able to overcome the logistical problems then I guess I would be willing to undergo training.