

# Myths of Capitalism

Part two

By

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## Introduction

Are you bullied, overworked or underpaid? Has £20 been taken from your universal credit? Are you fed up with a tiny minority having almost all the wealth and power? Do you hate the racism Islamophobia and anti-immigrant Xenophobia? Are you threatened with eviction because you cannot pay the exorbitant rents? Are you food or fuel insecure? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then this pamphlet is written for you.

Oxfam tells us “that just eight men own the same wealth as the poorest half of the world. As growth benefits the richest, the rest of society – especially the poorest – suffers. The very design of our economies and the principles of our economics have taken us to this extreme, unsustainable and unjust point.”

The crisis of 2008-9 tells us that the economic system that has brought this unprecedented wealth inequality is unstable.

The greedy hunt for short term profits is destroying the planet. Not only is it immoral, it is unsustainable. The rich and powerful do all they can with their considerable power to maintain their system of blatant privilege.

Huge resources are needed to shift to a green economy. Instead, the various military industrial complexes are shifting their gears in expectation of a power confrontation between the USA and China. World expenditure on weapons has never been [higher](#).

So how do these greedy myopic, power-hungry swine manage to hang on to power? How do they convince us to read their blatant propaganda in the millionaire press?

There are a set of ideas that most people accept without question. The aim of this pamphlet is to identify these ideas. The ones I have chosen are myths supported (or at least tolerated) by the rich and powerful. When we have ditched the myths, we can start recognising and rejecting, blatant propaganda and replace capitalism with something nicer.

Human beings have lived through a number of modes of production. We have lived through hunter gatherer times, the Asiatic mode of production, slave societies, feudalism, and capitalism. The cartoons roughly follow human development.

Ideas that seem eminently sensible in one epoch, are tossed away as ridiculous by the next. Our current immoral and unstable system survives by setting human against human. It perpetuates a view of humanity as selfish violent and ugly. These are features of our rulers. We need to reject their view of humanity as we reject their power over us. By looking at what we are asked to believe in a historical context, I hope to show the absurdities of capitalism and that it is well past its sell by date.

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## Men are innately sexist

Like all myths at first sight, it looks true. Men have dominant positions in society. Men pay themselves more than women. Men abuse women in the home and in the streets.

The key false word is “innately”. For the vast bulk of human history humans were hunters and gatherers. We lived in small groups, looking for edible vegetation and animals to hunt. It seems that survival dictated a high degree of [egalitarianism](#). There was a sexual division of labour. Women, much of the time with children, tended to focus on gathering. The males would carry out the more hazardous and haphazard hunt. It appears that women provided the more reliable food supply. Evidence indicates a matrilineal society. Some hunter gatherer societies believed that a baby inherited traits from all of the sexual partners of the mother. Multiple male sexual partners would cement ties between the child and potential fathers.

The sexism that we are all too familiar with is a cultural inheritance not a genetic one. That means that the ideas can be overcome. There is a potential for males and females to unite in struggle.





# Humans are innately racist

Trump, le Penn, Farage, Orban Trump seem to seem to be able to call on a large number of racists without too much effort. They seem able to spread Islamophobia and hostility to immigrants with depressing regularity.

Looking down on blacks did not exist in hunter gatherer societies. We were all black.

The first Britons were dark or black skinned. The [image](#) in the cartoon used DNA, for a reconstruction of man who lived 10,000 years ago in Somerset.

If human beings were genetically racist the slogan “Black and White Unite and fight” becomes useless. If human beings are genetically racist then a world where human beings live in peace is impossible. If we cannot have a better world there is no point in struggling for it. Fortunately, racism is a relatively new invention.

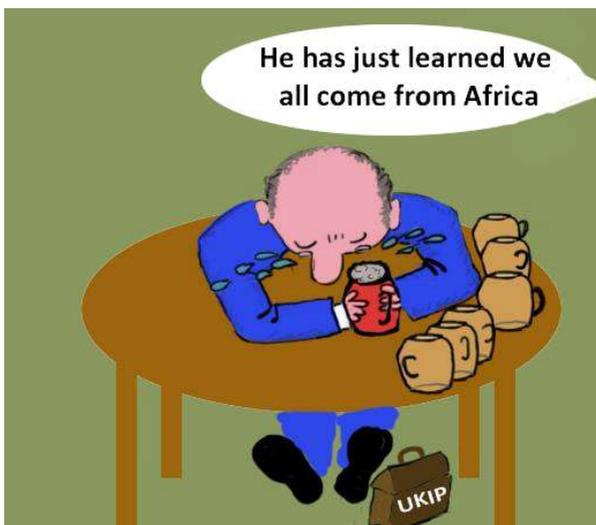
# Somerset 10,000 years ago

One day son  
white men will hate us  
because we have  
black skin

What is a white man?



He has just learned we  
all come from Africa

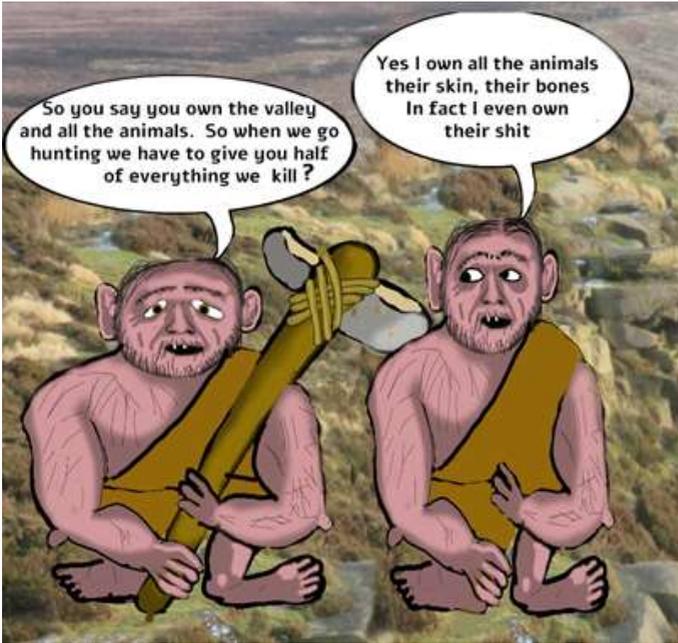




# Humans are innately greedy

When rich people like Bezos (who has a wealth [estimated](#) to be \$200,000,000,000) or their spokespeople are asked why they have to gather so much wealth, they usually reply “Humans are innately greedy”.

For most of human history we lived as hunter gatherers. There was no way of storing wealth. Land ownership was not recognised. There was no money. food did not keep. Avarice for hunter gatherers was limited to enough food for the group for a few days.





# There have always been wars

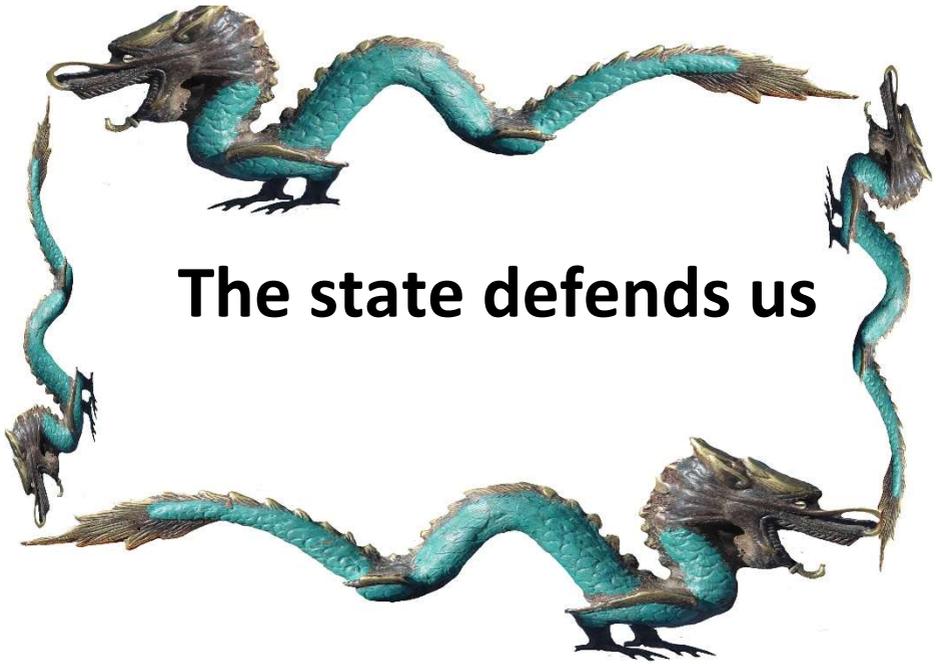
There have been wars almost every year in the [twentyith](#) century. When those of us who hate war, ask why we have to raise vast amounts of money, for killing people, we get this reply.

We are told it is human nature, and that humans are inately violent. The key point is that hunter gatherers had no state machine, and no military.

Seventy thousand years ago, [human](#) beings numbered tens of thousands. On the rare occasions they would meet up, they would be more interested in 'trade', seeing relatives, or finding a mate outside the group. No doubt as numbers grew, and at times of scarcity, there were relatively small scale conflicts.

The invention of wars can only come after the establishment of a state machine.



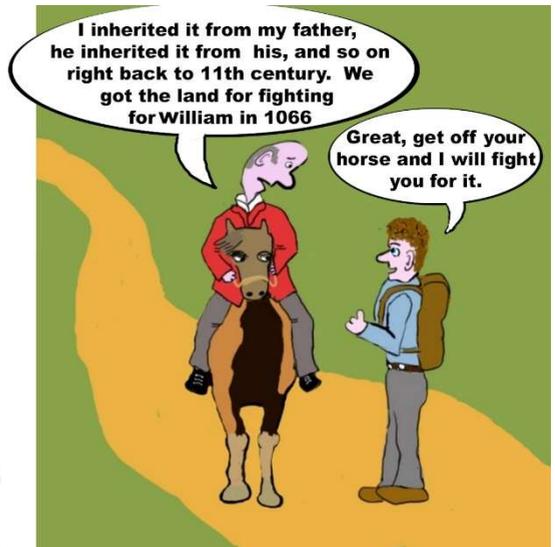
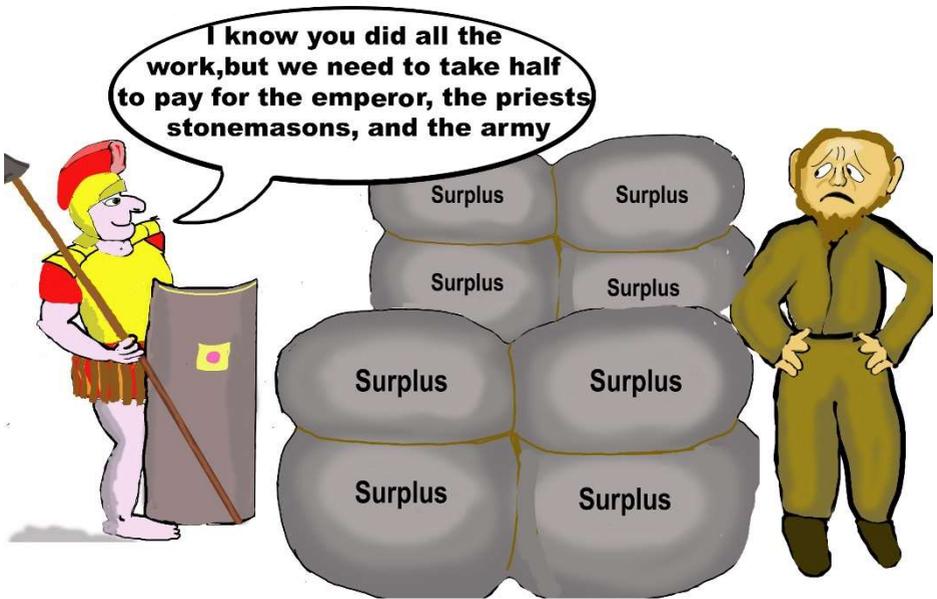


## The state defends us

For the bulk of human history there was no state machine. Human beings developed agriculture, and domesticated dogs, cattle and horses. For the first time theft of accumulated wealth became a possibility.

New trades were developed. There became stonemasons, woodworkers, traders, a priestly caste, slavers and so on. These specialists had to be fed. That meant that some of the food produced by the peasants had to be taken from them (willingly or unwillingly). The state was born, with it the standing army. With the standing army came the ruling class.

The state machine enforces the rule of the ruling class including taxation and land rights.





# Men are misogynists

People form their ideas within a material context. The new trades were dominated by men. It was ruling class men that controlled the new trades. It was ruling class men that suddenly had a material interest in the domination of women by men.

It was estimated that between a third and a half of the population of Athens were slaves. They had no property to leave. Poor men had no material interest in the domination of women.





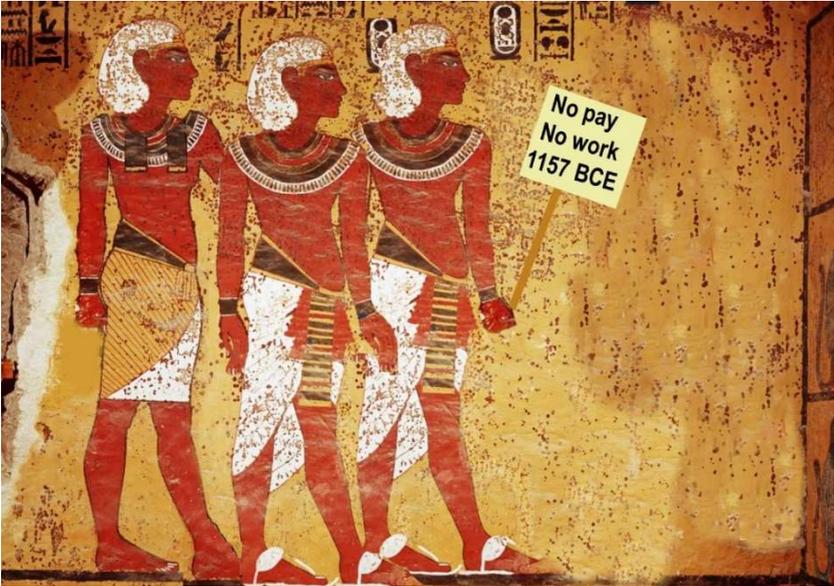
# We are all in it together

Once you have classes you have class conflicts.

There was a number of slave revolts against the Roman Empire. The most famous was the Spartacus revolt. There were revolts of oppressed peoples like the one led by Boadicea of the the Iceni. Her army destroyed London.

The first ever recorded strike was by craftsmen working at Royal Necropolis at Deir el-Medina in about 1157 BCE.

[Sir Philip Green](#) and family milked British Home Stores of “£586m in dividends, rental payments and interest on loans during their 15-year ownership of the retailer”. He then sold the bankrupt firm for £1. There was a massive hole in the pension pot for the 11,000 redundant workers. Green bought a new yacht for £100 million just as BHS stores started closing. (Green did later pay some money to pension fund.)



No act of resistance is too small.



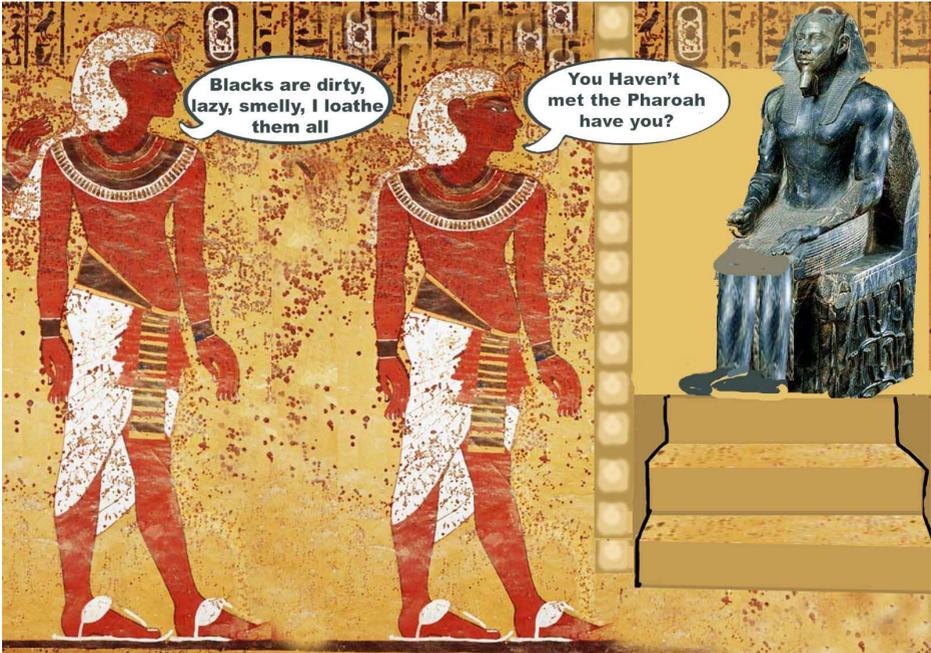


# Humans are innately racist

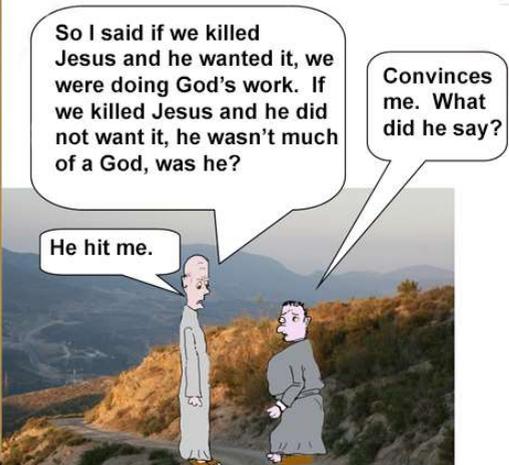
Ancient class societies were brutal. Slavery was everywhere, women's oppression was disgusting, but they were not racist. It would not occur to ancients to hate and look down on Black people. Some of the Egyptian Pharaohs were black as were some of the Roman Emperors. It was not an issue.

In ancient times blacks were portrayed as [beautiful](#). The eighteenth century slave trade, would be impossible if black people were viewed as equal to pink ones (aka white). Hence the rise of modern slavery was tied to the rise of anti-black racism.

Anti-Jewish racism arose from religious conflicts from very early Christianity. The Bible is very clear that Jesus was a Jew who wished to preserve the 'laws of Moses'. Jews viewed Christians who believed Jesus was a God, and ignored those laws as having rejected Monotheism and Judaism. They threw Christians out of the Synagogues. Christians started spreading the nonsense that Jews killed Jesus.



Jesus was killed by a Roman spear, after a Roman trial, and a Roman form of execution. However Christians started to blame Jews for his execution





# Human beings are Innately warlike

Once a society created a standing army, it created wars. If a neighbouring area is weak, it could be conquered. If it was strong, then alliances must be made to defeat it or more resources ploughed into defence. Every area with a standing army is in one of three states. It is preparing for war, at war, or recovering from war.

The Roman empire was essentially parasitic. The army would approach an area, either it would demand and get tributes. Or it would go to war. A successful war used to bring plunder, land, slaves and conscripts for the army. This system of growth is self-sustaining. When the empire ceased to expand it was in trouble. Instead of plundering its neighbours it paid them to protect its borders.

A large formation of soldiers in yellow and red armor, holding spears, is shown. A speech bubble in the center contains the text: 

**The army costs a lot  
isn't there somewhere  
we can attack**

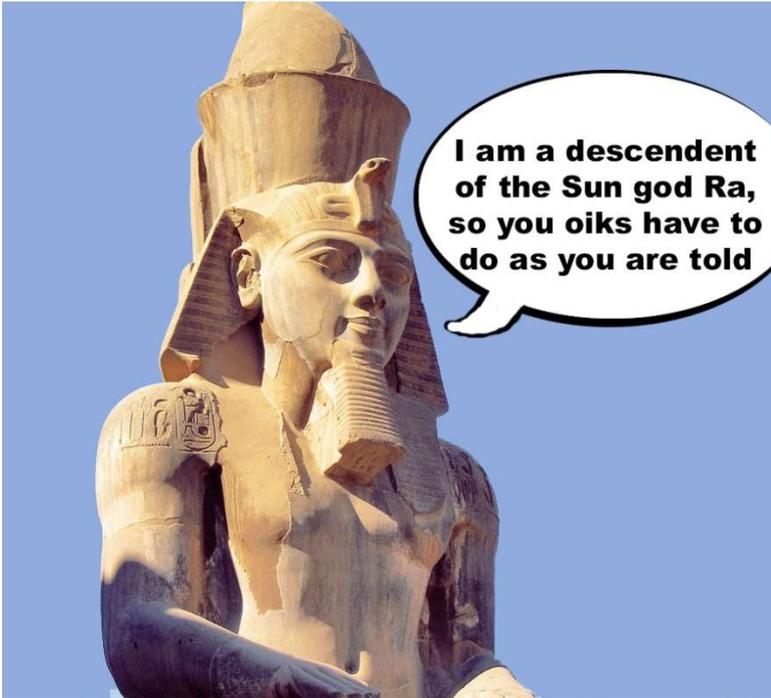


## God is on our side

Our ruling class have two main weapons. The first is its state machine, an armed body of men, the army and later the police. It has always had a second weapon, the policeman of the mind.

Initially Pharaohs, as did many of the Roman Emperors, claimed to be Gods, or descendants of Gods. They needed a layer of priests to spread this idea. If the ruling elite is backed by the Gods, opposing taxes, opposing the rulers or their agents, would be doomed to failure.

In a class society the oppressed tend to choose a version of the dominant ideology that favours them.



**I am a descendent  
of the Sun god Ra,  
so you oiks have to  
do as you are told**

**With class society  
came the priest**



**The Pharoee  
is the Sun  
God**

**So do as  
your told**



# Human beings are innately greedy

Private property was established, the state created, trade, and gold became a medium of exchange. These developments enabled a tiny number of members of the ruling class to become wealthy beyond all rational needs.

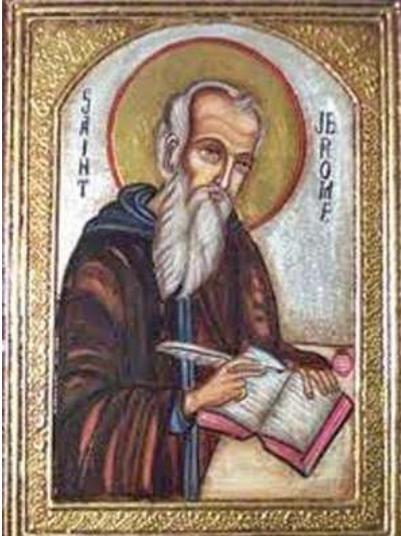
A section of the ruling class became addicted to wealth and power. Their own faults are projected to all of us for all time.

Crassus, the Roman General who defeated Spartacus, accumulated wealth to the tune of 229 tonnes of gold. At modern prices this represents about US\$13.3 billion.

The Bible tells us that early Christians were a sort of Communists. Acts states “All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.” Various, mainly religious, groups hold their wealth in common. There is nothing that forces human beings to display the unbridled greed of our rulers.

Remember the golden rule ‘he who has the gold rules’

**Human beings have choices. Only a few display the selfish greed of our rulers.**



**All riches come from iniquity,  
and unless one has lost, another cannot gain.  
Hence that common opinion seems to me  
to be very true,  
"the rich man is unjust,  
or the heir an unjust one."  
Opulence is always the result of theft,  
if not committed by the actual possessor,  
then by his predecessor.**

**St. Jerome (340-420)**

www.meditation.com



# Muslims threaten our culture

Human beings make decisions within a material and ideological world. If an idea is useful, people will adopt it.

In the dark ages, the Islamic Empire was the most advanced culture in the Mediterranean area. Muslim scholars had translated scientific ideas from Greece, Roman and Persian Empires, and developed them. The Royal [library](#) at Cordoba had over 400,000 books in the tenth century.

Key ideas from mathematics, biology, chemistry, philosophy and astronomy were preserved and developed by the Muslims. Those ideas were passed on to Western Christian thinkers.

West European culture without Muslim influence is like a log cabin without the wood.





**We are all in it**

**Together**

Under feudalism a highland clan leader's job was to divide up clan lands for families to live on tiny bits of land, crofts. Should an attack occur, say an invasion by the English, the highlanders, would repay the use of the land by fighting with the clan leader.

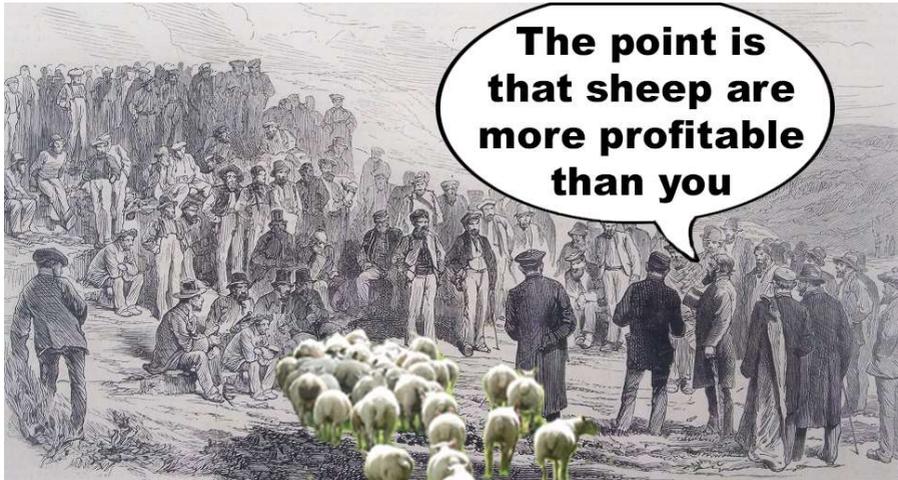
In the 1800's this balance of rights and obligations was destroyed. The clan leaders evolved or were replaced by land owners. The landlords had no obligation to the crofters. Their key drive was to make profit from the land. Their solution was to drive the crofters off the land and replace them by sheep. There was a string of conflicts, part of it was called the [crofters'](#) War.

With the help of police and navy, the highlands were depopulated. Some of the crofters went to Canada (perhaps to oppress the natives), some of them joined the army to build the Empire (and oppress others).

The law locks up the man or woman  
Who steals the goose off the common  
But leaves the greater villain loose  
Who steals the common from the [goose](#).

Peasants in 1381 rose up against excessive taxation and serfdom.

**What happened to the highlanders? The sheep ate them.**



John Ball was a radical priest at the time of the peasants' revolt. "When Adam delved and Eve span, Who was then the gentleman? From the beginning all men by nature were created alike, and our bondage or servitude came in by the unjust oppression of naughty men" is attributed to him. King Richard did a deal with the peasants. He later reneged on the deal and executed the ringleaders.



# We are all in it Together

During WW1 the position of the British soldiers was similar to the German one. Living in trenches, in mud, with intermittent deafening noise and the constant fear of death.

Along the front there evolved a strategy of live and let live. Each side would fix the time and place of artillery fire. That meant that it was perfectly safe provided that you avoided the given place and time.

The attitude of live and let live was highlighted by the [Christmas](#) truce in 1914. Each side left their trenches and sang carols together and played football.

Cotton workers in Darwen were being hit by Gandhi's boycott of British textiles. One of the textile workers took his daughter to meet Gandhi, he wanted her to meet "a brave man". [Gandhi's](#) sympathies lay with the workers, not the textile manufacturers. He said: "They treated me as one of their own. I shall never forget that."

Christmas truce 1914

Given that we are in this together, shouldn't we shoot the enemy, the officers.



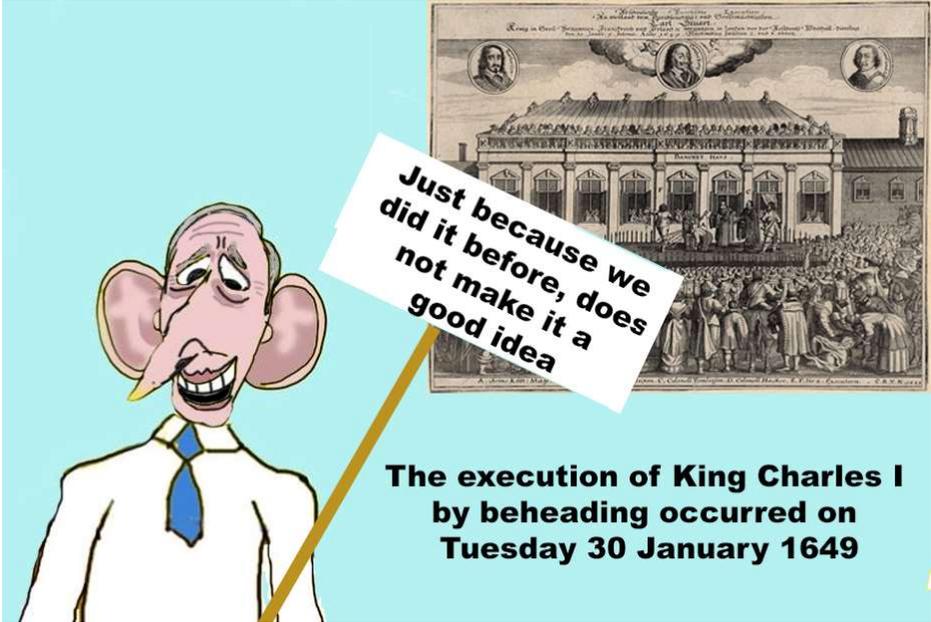


# **We must defend our Traditions.**

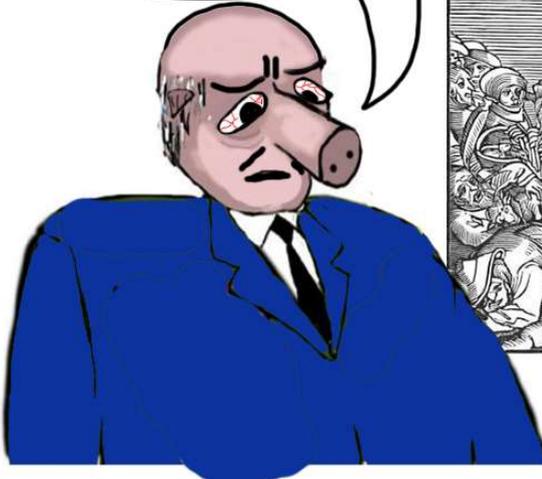
Our country, like all countries, has two distinct sets of traditions. On the one side is those of the ordinary people who create the wealth, on the other is those of our rulers, who take as much of that wealth as they can get away with.

So the UK has the tradition of the Iceni, led by Boadicea against the Romans, the barons who demanded the King John sign the Magna Carta, the people who fought to defeat the poll tax in 1381, the Tolpuddle Martyrs who wanted to form a union, the Chartists, and so on.

Part of the battle is their claim that there is only one tradition, theirs.



Just because Jesus drove out the money lenders, and the Catholic Church denounced usury as a sin does not mean we still have to ban it.



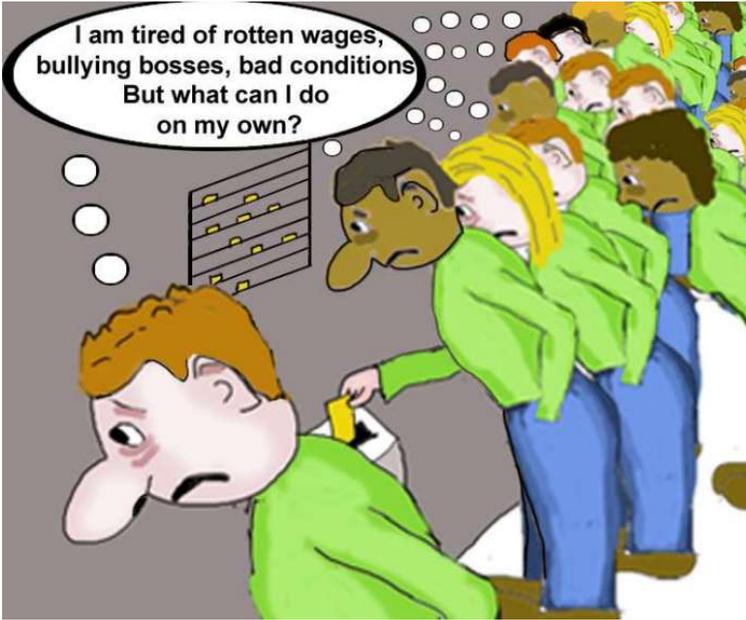


## **We are powerless**

Our rulers cannot afford to be constantly fighting opposition. They use a mixture of force and persuasion.

The persuasion is split into three parts. They claim the status quo is brilliant (which it is for our rulers). The second is to convince us that we should hate someone else – Jews, blacks immigrants, Muslims etc

The third part is to convince us that we are powerless. If we are powerless there is no point in trying to resist, no point in unions, no point in tenants' associations, no point in organising. It is probably the most devastating myths of Capitalism. Each of us has a tiny grain of power. Together we become an all-powerful sandstorm.





# Terrorists are evil

Socialists know that change for the better can only come when the majority are prepared to fight for a better world. Terrorists think that if a minority kill some people, it will improve the situation. One of the problems is that Western powers, treat any opposition as terrorist. So, Nelson Mandella and the ANC were denounced as [terrorist](#) by the USA until 2008.

Britain declared Mahatma [Gandhi](#) a terrorist in 1932 while General [Rawlinson](#) who said he used terror to keep Indians in order, was a respected soldier. A suicide bomber is not more or less moral than someone guiding a drone or a ballistic missile. Western leaders have murdered far more innocents than all the terrorists in the world.

Israel has recently named six civil rights groups as [terrorist](#) 'Al-Haq, a human rights group founded in 1979, Addameer, Defence for Children International – Palestine, the Bisan Center for Research and Development, the Union of Palestinian Women's Committees and the Union of Agricultural Work Committees' as terrorist.

I opposed Apartheid.  
For that they called  
me a terrorist.



I am responsible for hundreds of  
thousands of deaths, in Iraq and  
Afghanistan. So they call me  
a statesman.



"in dealing with natives  
of all classes you have to  
use terrorism whether  
you like it or not."



General Henry Rawlinson

He supports terrorism,  
supported shooting of  
unarmed demonstrators.  
Britain has declared  
me a terrorist.





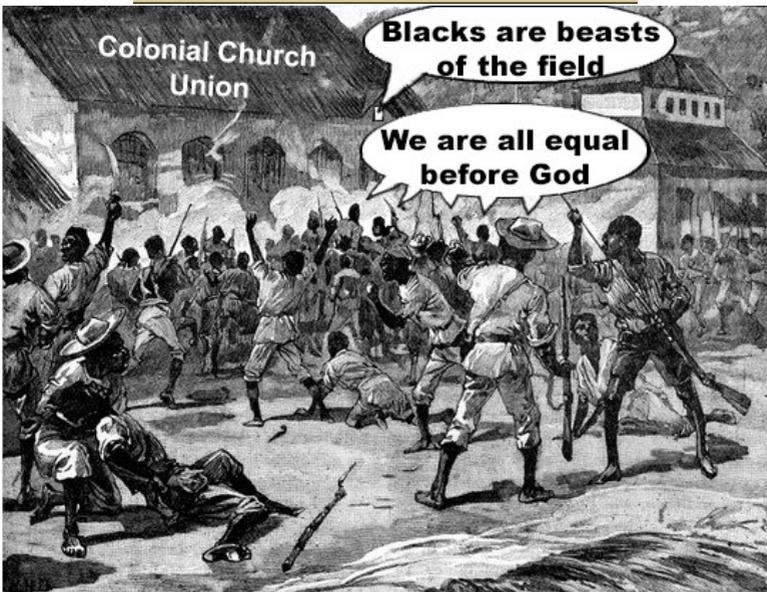
## God is on our side

Throughout recorded history our rulers have told us that "God is on our side." When there are international conflicts each rival ruling class claims an ally of God. The German army under the Nazis, in WW11 had belts buckles with an engraving. 'Gott Mit uns'. (God is with us.) They cannot all be right.

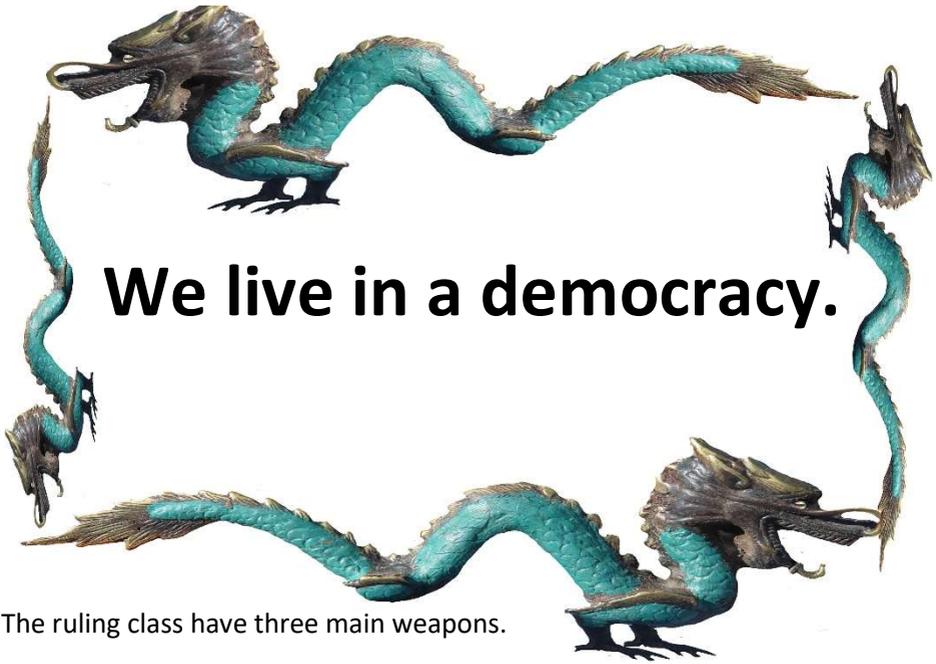
But religions are more complicated than that. Ordinary people can read the Bible and draw the conclusion that God is on the side of the poor. Didn't Jesus throw money changers out of the temple? Didn't Jesus say "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Liberation theology is an interpretation of Catholicism that insists you must read the Bible through the eyes of the poor. The statement "the meek shall inherit the earth" should be read "the poor shall inherit the land". This was seen as unwanted radicalism by the big landowners.

Slaves in Jamaica heard that God gave the Jews in Egypt their freedom. The slave strike in 1831 was called the Baptist War. The slave owners supported the Colonial Church Union, and (said they) believed that blacks were the beasts of the field and that (white/pink) men were rulers over them..



The Baptist revolt started 25 December 1831



# **We live in a democracy.**

The ruling class have three main weapons.

They have the force of the state machine.

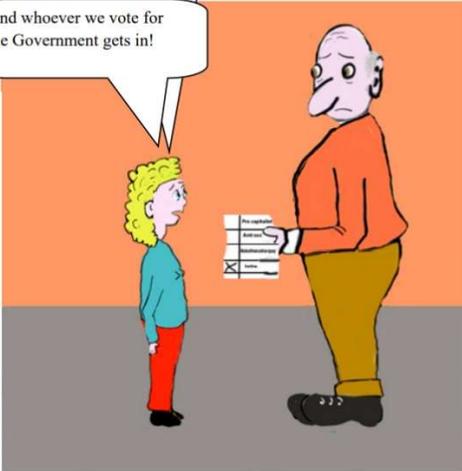
Chile used to be called the Britain of Latin America, till the people voted for a 'Marxist' Allende. The military organised a coup. The ruling class insist on a monopoly of power. They use that power to break our strikes and organisations and if necessary, our governments.

The second means of control is the media. If they can manipulate our ideas, they need not use physical force. Corbyn was destroyed by the media. As a matter of record, Corbyn was the most anti racist MP in parliament. Yet the media with the help of right-wing Labour and the pro Israeli lobby destroyed his reputation. The press never shows this sort of venom to the likes of liars Boris Johnson and Nick Clegg.

The final weapon that the rich and powerful have is the control of their wealth. Every Labour Government has suffered a run on the pound.

So I get one X on a ballot form every 4 years or so. That means about 15 Xs in my whole life. That is about 20 seconds worth of democracy.

And whoever we vote for the Government gets in!



If voting changed anything they would ban it.

**How many votes does it take to change the system?**

**One more than the electorate.**



“The Law in its majestic impartiality forbids both rich and poor to sleep under bridges and steal bread” . Anatole France.

We might be in the same boat, but some of us are chained to the oars.

“The great appear great because we are on our knees, let us rise.”

Proudhon



# The Labour Party can bring Socialism

At first sight this seems odd for a myth of Capitalism. But our rulers need the Labour Party for political stability.

Before the first world war When our rulers wanted to run an imperialist war. They needed the Labour Party to convince workers to volunteer. It was the first time Labour MPs became ministers and part of the Government.

You cannot claim a democracy if there is only one party. The rich and powerful need a reliable reserve. So, they tolerate the Labour Party.

The workers organisations were strong in the early 1970s. They broke the Industrial relations Act and the Heath Government. It was the Labour Party's job to curb the militancy. The Wilson/ Callahan Government did just that. The Observer commented "The last twelve months have almost certainly seen the sharpest fall in the real living standards of Britain's working population in any year for at least a century" May 1st 1977

This is why the millionaire press hated Corbyn. He could not be trusted to carry out the wishes of the elite, so they destroyed him.





# **School is to prepare children for life**

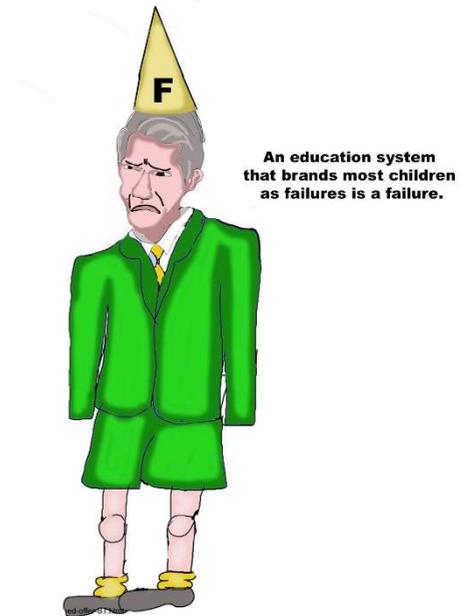
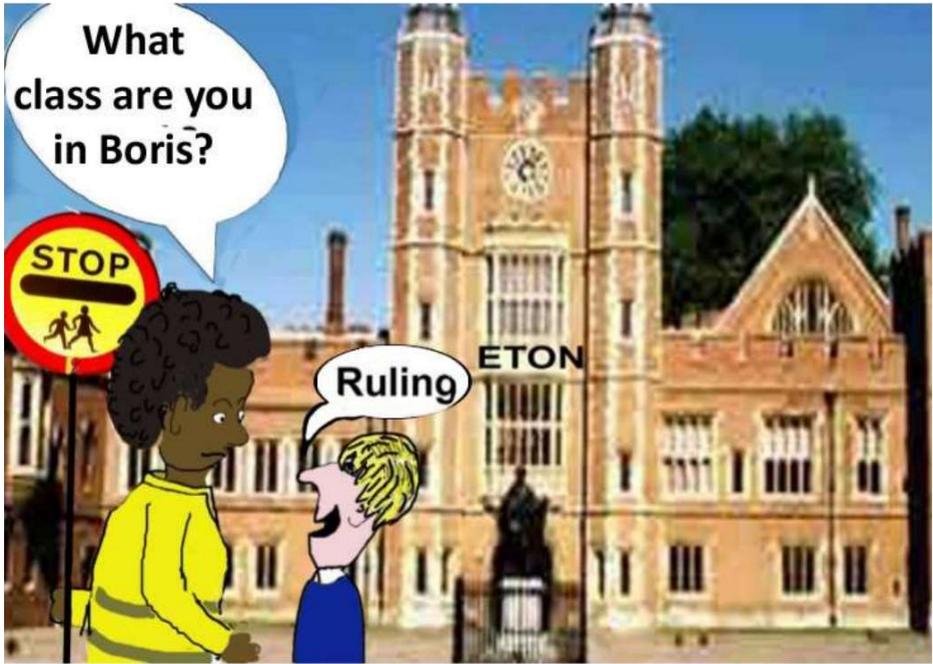
There are two sorts of school. The likes of Eton and Harrow are where children are taught that they are superior, and that they will run things when they are older.

The other sort of school educates people to hold down a job. As a byproduct it brands the vast bulk of kids as failures.

They are taught reading and writing and so on, but key skills are not taught.

Working class children need to learn how to defend themselves. The syllabus does not teach them how to build a union, resist racism and sexism, nor how to build a tenants group nor what your rights are when accosted by a policeman.

School educates for the status quo.





# The Empire was a force for good

The Empire was founded on plunder. Initially it was the Irish. Cromwell led an invasion in 1649. His armies were brutal. The warfare, the ensuing famine and disease reduced the population in Ireland by a perhaps a half (other estimates range from 15% to 83%). The invasion was paid for by plunder.

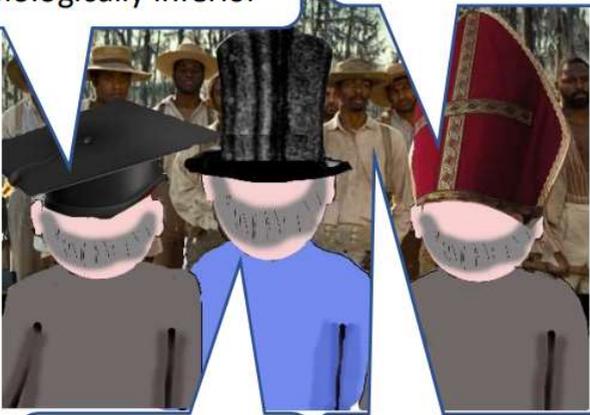
Later the Empire moved to profiteering in the slave trade. It is impossible to maintain a slave trade if you regard Black people as equal human beings. Priests taught that blacks were the beasts of the field. (Pseudo) Scientists claimed that blacks were stupid. Politicians claimed that white (pink) people were morally superior. Racism was born.

When slavery was abolished in 1837, 40% Of the UK's income, £20 million was handed over to the slave owners. Slave owners were guilty of kidnap, assault, rape and murder. Yet they were compensated for their loss of property! It was finally paid off in [2015](#).

UK became endemically racist with invasion of Ireland, the slave trade and Empire.

Blacks are biologically inferior

Blacks are 'beasts of the field'



Blacks bring me big profits

We will be free.





# The Empire was a force for good 2

The truth of the Empire was [suppressed](#). There is so many lies told about the British Empire it is hard for a UK audience to accept the truth. We only have space for a few indicative anecdotes. In Britain went to war in [1839](#) to force China to accept opium from the Empire.

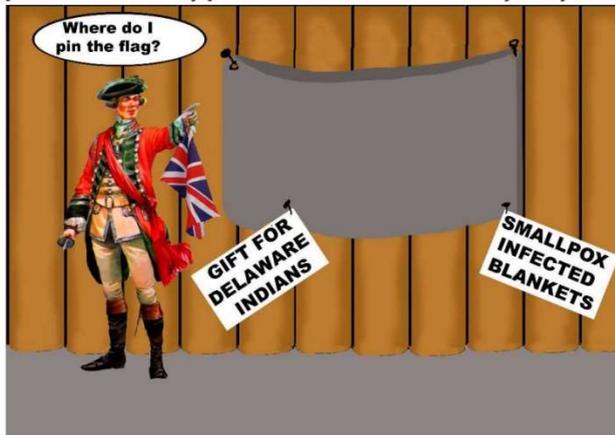
Under control of the British, India's share of the world economy collapsed from 24.4% in 1700 to 4.2% in 1950. It is estimated that 85 million Indians died in famine in the period 1760 to 1948. There has been no famine in India since its independence 1948. (See *Inglorious Empire*, Shashi Tharoor)

Britain tortured and raped in Kenya. (In 2013 Britain paid £19.9 million in compensation for abuse, rape and torture in Kenya to 5,000 people. Another 40,000 came forward with claims later.) See *Britain's Gulag: The Brutal End of Empire in Kenya* by Caroline Elkins.

The British deliberately spread smallpox to native Americans.

There was a failure of the potato crop in Ireland in 1847. Absentee landlords were exporting food to Britain while the Irish starved. See *The Blood never dried*, By John Newsinger.

William Trent wrote "Out of our regard for them, we gave them [native American Chiefs] two Blankets and an Handkerchief out of the



*Small Pox Hospital. I hope it will have the desired effect.*<sup>viii</sup>

**4,000 vessels carried food from Ireland to the ports of Bristol, Glasgow, Liverpool and London during 1847, when 400,000 Irish men, women and children died of starvation and related diseases.**





# My country right or wrong

The Nuremberg trials established that doing acts out of loyalty to the nation was not a legal defence, nor is it a moral defence.

If your country, say the UK, was doing wrong, say presiding over a famine (say in Ireland or Bengal) we all have a moral obligation to stand up and say 'this is wrong'.

Suppose your country rapes and castrates people (as in Kenya say) you must say this is wrong.

The class that calmly presides over an [austerity](#) that two academic papers claim killed over 100,000 (others estimate excess deaths at 50,000) people is not one that acts with a deal of humanity.

The history of the Empire on which the sun never set and the blood never dried is shameful. We should have no loyalty to the 1% who while imposing austerity on us, wallow in unprecedented wealth, and prepare for new wars.

# Free trade



The first opium war in 1839  
forced China to accept British opium

I learned to be proud of  
things I have not done,  
and hate people I have  
not met.





# Peaceful progress is the only way forward

Socialists start from the position that we are all equal and that violence is an assault on another human being, and we don't like it. However, we do claim the right of self-defence.

The elite feel differently. The current Capitalist class did not quietly take power. The first area in the world to break free of feudalism was Holland. Holland had to fight the eighty years war to get independence from Spain.

England had to have a civil war to break the power of feudalism and the absolute monarchy. The United States waged a revolutionary war to get independence from England. The French had a bloody revolution and so on.

The current ruling class took power by wars and revolutions. Today they laud pacifists while ensuring a monopoly of power. They also show a depressing willingness to use that power.

WW1 recarving up of territory between the big powers.



Bush and Blair used awesome power to invade Iraq.



# **Labour can Bring socialism**

The Labour Party has been in office six times. Each time it has carried out minor changes, only in 1945 was there any radicalism. Then it has handed office back to the Tories.

The media effectively destroyed the 1924 Labour Government. It looks as though a person with connection to British intelligence wrote the Zinoviev letter. The Daily mail printed the letter. In the 1924 election the forged letter made the electorate believe that the Labour Party was under the influence of the Russian Communists.

Every Labour Government since has suffered a run on the pound, a hostile press, and occasionally subversion by the military.

The key weakness of Labour and reformism is that at core they believe that they can achieve something for us.

**No socialism** **Labour Government 1924**

**No socialism** **Labour Government 1929-31**

**No socialism** **Labour Government 1945 - 51**

**No socialism** **Labour Government 1964-1970**

**No socialism** **Labour Government 1974-1979**

**No socialism** **Labour Government 1997 -2010**

Labour Governments have been undermined by economic crises in 1929, 1947, 1964, 1977, and 2008.

I am having a run on the pound.

Only an idiot expects a different outcome from the same situation.

You go home  
I will do it for  
you.



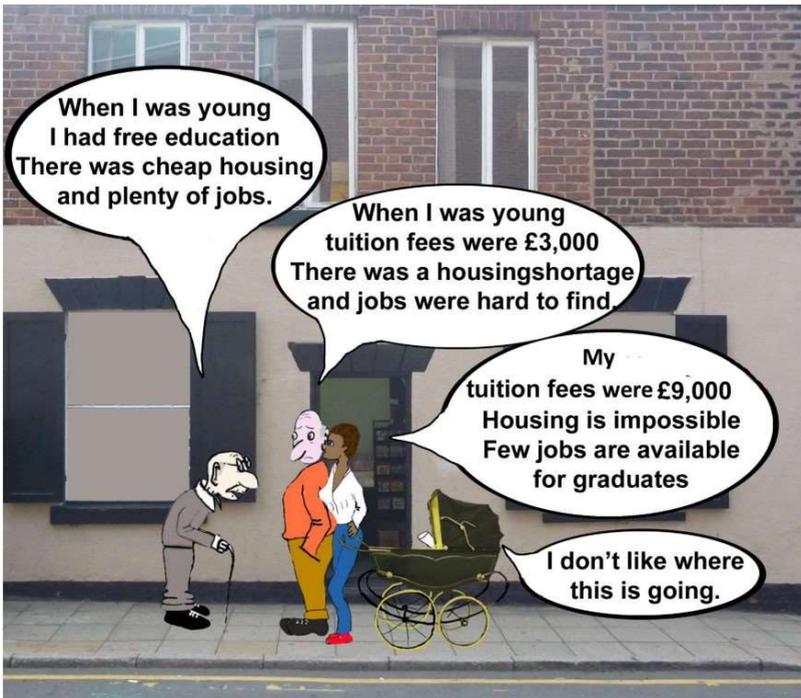
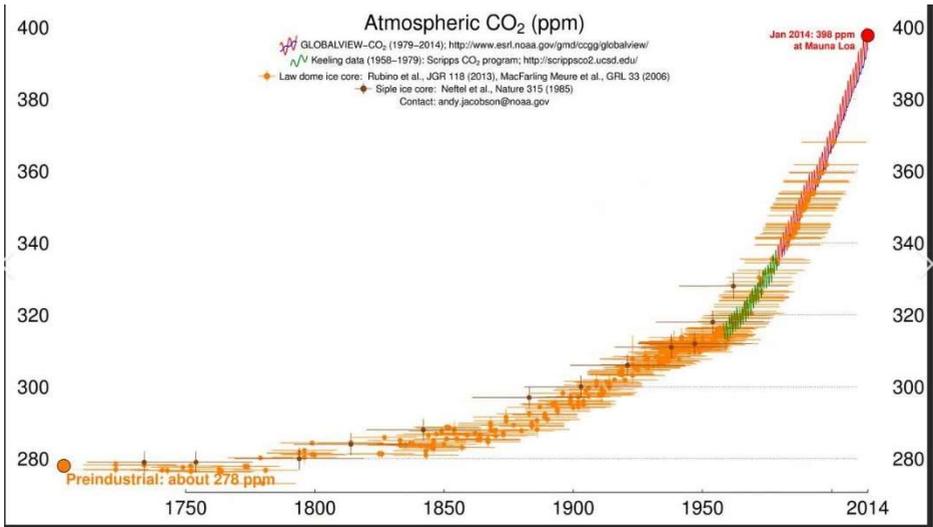


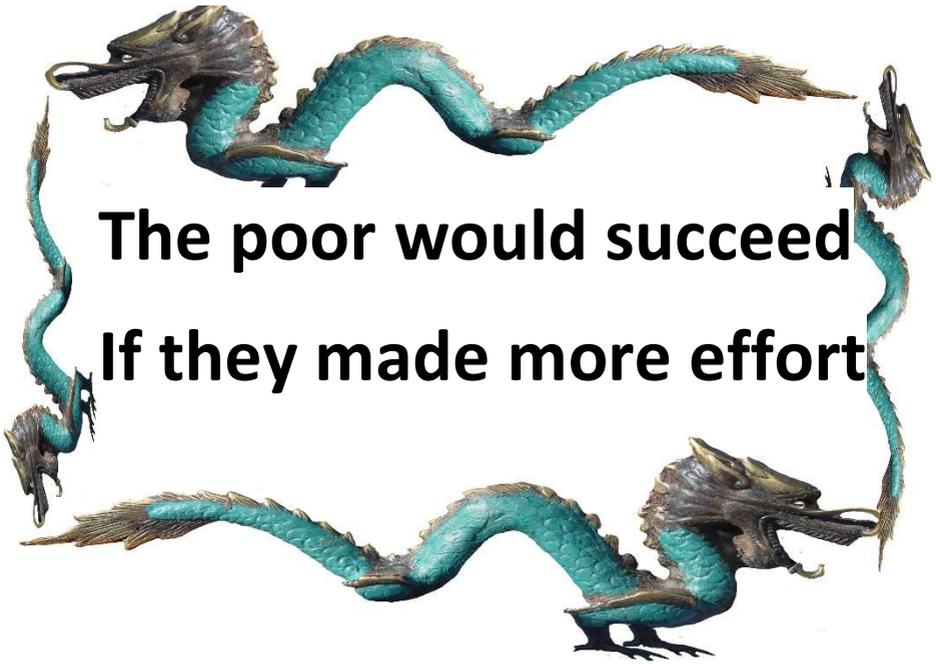
# Capitalism will last Forever

Everything changes in time. Hunter gatherer societies were replaced by the Asiatic mode of production or slave society, they were replaced by Feudalism, which in turn was replaced by capitalism.

As capitalism ages the many small firms get replaced by a few huge monopolies. Over time dynamic capitalism is being replaced by sclerotic Capitalism. Rather than spawn new industries, today's businessmen seek profits from privatised health, water, gas etc. The notion that production for short term profit can continue is being shown to be not true. The environment is being destroyed by Global warming. We are in the process of a great extinction. If that is not enough the number of nations with nuclear weapons is up to nine, USA, Russia, UK, France, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel. World military spending is at a [record](#) high.

It is odd that people can assume that the sun will turn into a red giant, but Capitalism will go on forever.





# **The poor would succeed If they made more effort**

Rich children go to Public Schools, they start off with a lot of money, they have a network of contacts from parents, school and college.

About 4.3 million children in the UK are living in poverty. They lack sufficient food, fuel, and security. They are surrounded by a layer of people who have been battered into low pay low status jobs.

Bezos is the richest man in the world. He owns \$200 billion. For a worker on £10 an hour, working 40 hours a week for 50 weeks earns £20,000 a year. The worker would need seven million years to reach that wealth.





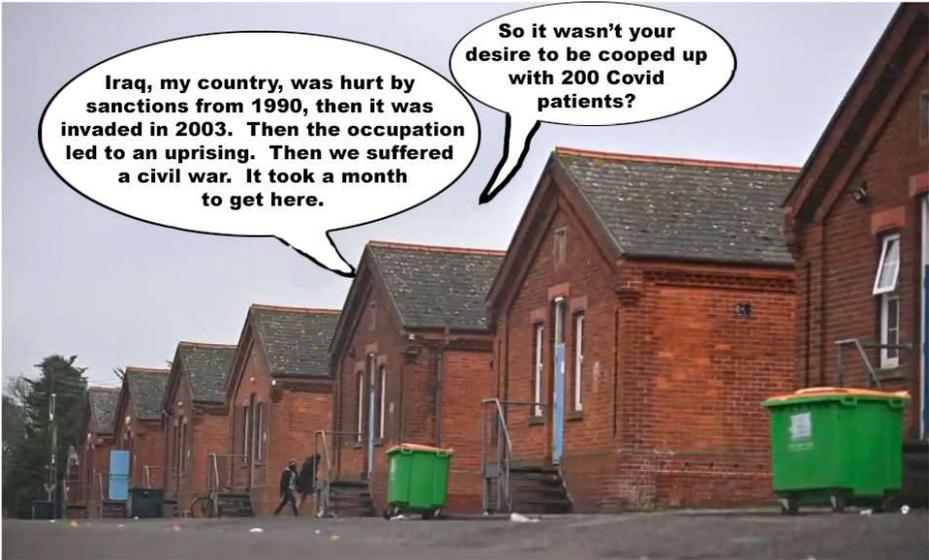
# Refugees come here because of our generous benefit system

The Tory Home Secretary, Priti Patel put asylum seekers in Napier barracks. This was ruled illegal by the High Court.

"[Abandoned](#), ramshackle military barracks are totally unsuitable sites to house anyone, much less victims of torture or trafficking and people fleeing atrocities. To do so was a cruel and politically motivated decision from a government that consistently puts people's lives in danger..."

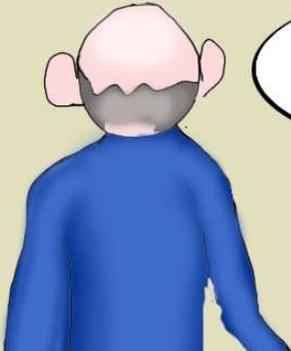
"During a recent hearing at the High Court, lawyers for six asylum seekers described the camp as 'squalid, ill-equipped, lacking in personal privacy and, most fundamentally of all, unsafe', with no mental health support and only one nurse on site."

About half caught Covid.



**Refugees are fleeing from**  
Afghanistan  
Iraq  
Syria  
Libya

**Countries invaded by Britain**  
Afghanistan  
Iraq  
Syria  
Libya



It cannot be a coincidence can it?





# You can trust private enterprise.

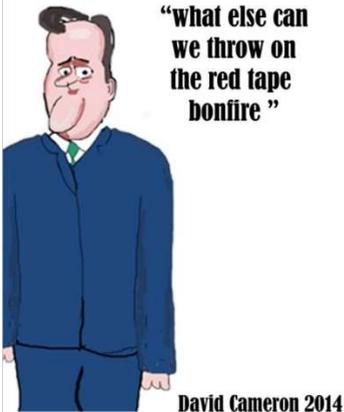
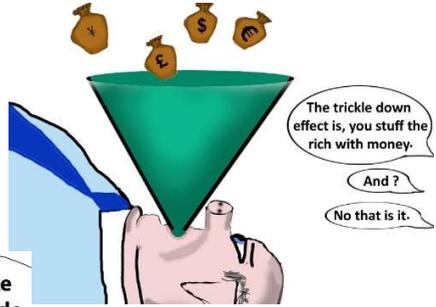
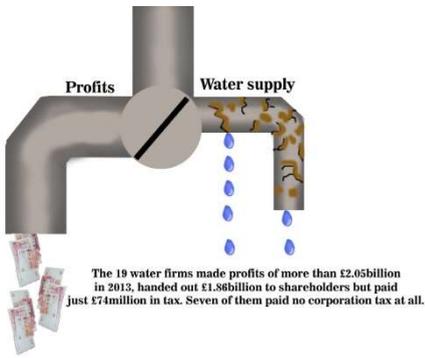
In its youth capitalism was truly revolutionary. It swept aside the old feudal rulers and introduced efficient production methods. (The fact that those methods were to bring major environmental threats were not at first widely appreciated.) The rich and powerful of today have created a myth that free market capitalism is efficient and self-correcting. The parasitic nature of sections of our rulers can be seen in

\*The privatisations. Branson said of rail privatisation “It is a licence to print money”. When there is a threat that the captains of industry may actually lose money they simply walk away from their binding contracts.

\*Businesses can be expected to maximise profits, bend/ defy regulations, and run from their obligations.

\*Vast amounts of money can be made from speculation. Soros made a £billion by betting that the £ would fall in value.

\*The dodgy deals between Tories and their pals (in track and trace for example).



<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/architecture-design-blog/2014/jan/27/david-cameron-bonfire-of-building-regulations-future-homes>

Capitalism is past its sell by date.



# Developing countries are poor because they are corrupt

This myth does two things. Firstly, it blames the victim. Secondly it absolves rich countries from wrong doing.

“HSBC was guilty of a "blatant failure" to implement anti-money laundering controls and wilfully flouted US sanctions, American prosecutors said, as the bank was forced to pay a record \$1.9bn (£1.2bn) to settle allegations it allowed terrorists to move money around the financial [system](#).” George Osborne intervened to prevent any directors going to prison.

“The US government decided not to pursue criminal charges against HSBC for allowing terrorists and drug dealers to launder millions of dollars after George Osborne and the UK banking regulator intervened to warn that prosecuting Britain’s biggest bank could lead to a “global financial [disaster](#)”

“Tony Blair's role in terminating a major corruption investigation was exposed today following the disclosure of Downing Street documents.

The papers reveal how [Blair](#) put enormous pressure on Lord Goldsmith, his attorney-general, to force him to put an end to the embarrassing investigation into a huge Saudi arms deal”.





# Socialism will never Work

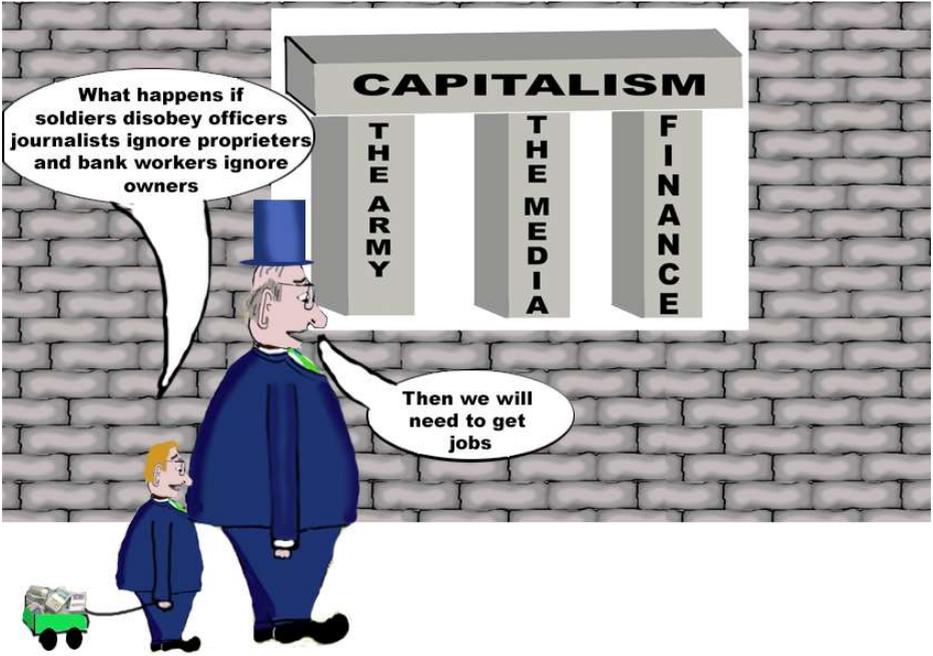
Socialism has been attempted a number of times. The Paris commune, Russia in 1917, Spain in 1936, Chile in 1973, Iran in 1953, Guatemala 1954, Hungary 1956 and so on.

Whenever workers take control, it inspires workers in the surrounding area. The idea "If they can do it so can we" is very infectious. The result is that every time workers take power, rulers from surrounding nations attack or undermine the new regime.

When the Russian working class took power in 1917 they inspired workers across Europe. The rulers of Germany, Czechoslovakia, Britain, France, Belgium, Romania, Greece, Poland, Canada, Italian, Japanese, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Australia sent in troops to destroy the young state.

After the invasions, the conditions in Russia deteriorated until Stalin took power. He instituted a regime of terror.

Socialism will work when we prevent the capitalist class from breaking it.



**Rise, like lions after slumber  
In unvanquishable number!  
Shake your chains to earth like dew  
Which in sleep had fallen on you:  
We are many—they are few!"[4]**



'Politics is what they do in Parliament'

The word "idiot" originates from "the ancient Greek word ἰδιώτης (idiōtēs), meaning a private person, a person who is not actively interested in politics".

To me whenever people act to defend their basic rights, living standards, and jobs, that is politics.

Change comes when enough people organise together to push the politicians into some reform. If we wait for politicians to act, we will wait forever.

If and when people are sufficiently organised, we can replace the society founded on individual greed and short term profit and replace it with one based on from each according to their ability to each according to their needs.

The author is a member of Socialist Workers Party.

This is what I think about parliamentary politics.

## Politics



**Poli - many  
tics-blood sucking parasites**

Go to <http://itisnotfunny.co.uk/> for further cartoons.