

Asking the right questions

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Neal Lawson, the chair of Compass, is [asking the right questions in the Guardian](#) this morning:

To take back some semblance of control [in our lives], we can't start from a position of trying to humanise a turbo-consumer society whose every premise, process and principle is about not being human. What place can there be for people if what matters most is profit? What hope is there for compassion in a world of endless competition? When the rewards of those at the top crush every hope beneath them, and the ruthless logic of the market tramples all over our planet, how can we hope to find any meaningful sense of control and therefore freedom in our lives?

Neal is asking exactly the right questions.

I admit I begin this year pessimistic: the state of the economy to which I have referred in the previous blog is not good. It seems fairly obvious we face a significant period of economic change which require a significant change in thinking if they are to be managed effectively. I see no sign that the ConDems have any appreciation of this: worse, their behaviour on the NHS shows they want to increase the stress, uncertainty and straightforward fear that far too many in society suffer from. A few of their MPs may like the idea of chaos. The reality is that 99% of the population do not, and do not want it unleashed on them.

Neal Lawson asks the right questions, and many people will feel them resonate with their inner being.

We urgently need an alternative to the bankrupt thinking of neoliberalism because it is the anti-social nature of its thinking that has created so many of the problems we face.