

Lies, lies, damned lies and the 50p tax rate

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As Philip Stephens [says in the FT this morning](#):

Those demanding the chancellor should “cut and be damned” present a confused case. On the one hand they say that the 50 per cent rate stifles enterprise by taking too much from wealth creators; on the other, that it is not raising revenue because it is easily circumvented by clever accountants. It is hard to reconcile the two propositions.

That's because they're irreconcilable.

That's because those making them know they're lying.

The 50p tax rate is raising tax - a great deal if it. [I've shown it has to do so](#).

And it's also absolutely untrue that cutting it will change the rate of growth in the economy by encouraging enterprise - when that is taxed at corporate rates of little more than 25%. So that's also a lie.

So let's move on and talk about what is really needed - which is state investment in jobs, because that's the only thing that will break this economic downturn.