

How did we reach the point where someone like Lord Freu..

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Please read [Zoe Williams's article](#) on food banks in the Guardian this morning. It is an extraordinary piece of reasoned, barely suppressed anger.

She quotes Jack Monroe, whose company I had the pleasure of sharing in Northern Ireland recently on why people really use food banks. And then she reveals just what Lord Freud, the Tory minister, really thinks of those who use food banks, which might be summarised as pure contempt.

She concludes:

But in that case, why don't we all (being rational creatures of the market) go to food banks? Because you have to be referred, by your local authority, or by the social services, or by a jobcentre; so now Freud would have us believe in a solid half a million people prostrating themselves before some or other agency, possibly — within his worldview — walking away from a job, for the sake of some stuff that is free. Some free peas. As an assessment of your fellow man, this is unhinged; I would say it bordered on a phobia. Maybe Freud was bitten as a baby by somebody he thought was poor.

What to do about this withered meanness, this denaturing mistrust of others? How prevalent is it? I have no idea. But when a Tory comes so close to saying who he despises and why (hungry people, for being so greedy), it seems important not to miss it.

I cannot argue with that. I can only ask how we reached the point that in the twenty first century such people can be in government.