

A budget for the children of the best off

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I look at the world through the eyes of the least well off, even if I am aware that my own circumstances are more financially fortunate.

Today's budget will leave very large numbers of disabled people, and their families and carers, much worse off. That is the stated intention.

And today's budget will, by seriously cutting the business rates income that is to now fund local authority services, threaten the future of many social services on which a great many people rely.

At the same time the children of parents well enough off to be able to save £4,000 a year for them will be given a straightforward gift of £1,000 a year in the new younger person's ISA scheme.

Think of it as a subsidy to the school fees.

Or as a contribution towards the cost of going to university for the very wealthiest that the rest will never get.

Think of it as a deliberate increase in inequality in this country.

Think of it as something we simply cannot afford to do when so many other children live in poverty, and yet will be doing none the less.

And hope that a big enough stink might end this planned gross injustice.