

# Did Keir Starmer admit Labour has died yesterday?

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What is the point of a political party that cannot make up its mind?

The most successful parties in the UK right now are two that seemingly can. They are the SNP, which does so based on common principles (broadly speaking) and the Conservatives, who do so based on a common lust for power. The LibDems were cast adrift because any such identity was lost after 2010. It's clear Labour is now going the same way.

I am well aware some do not agree with my criticisms of Corbyn. And for the record, let me be clear that the other three leadership candidates in 2015 were all hopeless, so I am not moving mindlessly right. What I am saying is that a party where the shadow minister can stand at the despatch box and say that the biggest political issue of the day presents it with immense difficulty because it cannot form a common approach to the issue has lost its purpose.

There is simple reason why Labour has reached this position. It has forgotten who it was meant to represent. It compromised to secure the support of others. And in the process it came so pragmatic that it forgot its principles. The result is that when needed it is now failing almost everyone.

Labour was a party for working people. It unashamedly sought to increase their share of the overall economic returns in the economy. To do so it protected their interests and jobs. But in the process it also fought to preserve the industries in which they worked. As a result it was dedicated to a mixed economy, modest risk, innovation that improved well being and access to justice. Social and other justice was secondary, but the idea of equality (even if it took some a long time to understand it) underpinned its logic.

And now? I can't explain what Labour is for. And nor can, I suspect, many within it. They can explain their own motivation but the essence of Labour as a party has died and I think that was what Keir Starmer was left to say yesterday.

This leaves just two questions, which is how long does it take to build an alternative, and

what principles should underpin it?