

# Why progressives have to understand money

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Peter May, who is largely responsible for the [Progressive Pulse](#) blog (which I direct) posted [this comment](#) on this blog yesterday, and I thought it worth escalating to post status:

*If you understand where money comes from, and that its issuance is a government function in a modern democracy, then you can call out fairness and justice.*

*Because it is much more difficult to argue against fairness and justice, than the ideology of socialism.*

*Conservatism is also an ideology.*

*Yet modern Conservatism has no place for fairness.*

*It justifies its stance by the language of 'difficult choices' and by suggesting that there is no money, that we tax and spend, there isn't a Magic Money Tree and that the government is a household.*

*Once all this is shown to be a misunderstanding or even a deception, then Conservatism has to declare simply that ideologically, it is not in favour of fairness or justice.*

*Conservatives have to stop using economic arguments about money as a means of keeping the rest of us in check.*

*They are exposed as the naked and corrupt self-servers that they now are.*

*They are shown up as simply an elite wanting to keep resources for themselves with no concept of fairness.*

*That is why progressives have to understand money.*

*Even better is that all the – frankly outdated – baggage about Labour being too middle*

*class and not supporting the workers can be avoided. And of course there would be no need either to have prolonged debates on what socialism is – or isn't...*

*The requirement would simply to be in favour – or not – of fairness and justice.*

Hard to disagree with that.