

Say no to unethical politics

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I posted this thread on Twitter this morning:

After 12 years in office I have had enough of Tory corruption. Whether it is ignored security leaks, or the failure to act when that is required to protect people, or policy and politics that is solely designed to undermine society, it is time to #SayNo. A thread.

I #SayNo to:

- Destruction of our democratic rights
- Attacks on migrants
- Targeting of the poorest when cuts are made
- Climate change inaction
- Unfair taxation
- Increasing inequality
- Failure to help those with disabilities
- Discrimination of all sorts
- Austerity

I #SayNo to cuts in:

- The NHS
- Social care
- Benefits
- Pensions
- The justice system
- Defence
- Environmental protection
- Climate change measures
- Overseas aid
- Housing

I #SayNo to:

- Increasing interest rates that will force millions out of their homes
- Missing climate targets
- Corruption
- The bias to the rich in our society
- Balanced budgets that matter more than people
- Economics that says there is no money, when there obviously is

I #SayNo to:

- Foreign owned media controlling UK politics
- The removal of our right to demonstrate
- Measures making it harder to vote
- Party funding by wealthy donors
- The unfairness of first-past-the-post elections
- Contempt for the EU

I #SayNo to:

- Deliberately breaking international law
- Corruption
- Inference to Putin
- The failure to condemn the far-right, whoever they are
- Anti-EU rhetoric
- The flying of flags as if we were still an empire

I #SayNo to

- Pandering to wealth
- Concessions for real businesses, and especially smaller ones
- The punishment of constituencies that do not vote Tory
- Bias towards landlords

I #SayYes to

- A bias to those least well off in all policy
- An end to discrimination
- A reduction in inequality
- Redirection of wealth to social purpose
- Support for those with additional needs so they can live well
- Good housing for all
- Access to society for all

I #SayYes to:

- Fair pay for public workers
- Improving pensions and benefits
- An end to student loans
- Lower taxes for those on lowest pay
- Higher taxes for those who can pay
- Proper funding for HMRC to close down tax cheating

I #SayYes to

- Concerted action to tackle climate change
- A Green New Deal
- Every building a power station
- An end to fossil fuels
- The transformation of transport
- Protection for nature, habitats and wildlife
- A world with the hope of a future

I #SayYes to:

- Public services that meet need
- Public accountability of those services
- Proportional representation
- State funding of political parties
- An end to the House of Lords
- Devolved power
- Independence for countries that want it

I #SayYes to:

- Ending Bank of England independence
- Monetary policy under democratic control
- A policy of full employment
- Progressive business policies
- Measures to tackle monopoly power
- Rent controls
- Low interest rates

I #SayYes to

- Progressive taxation
- Increased taxation of wealth
- An end to unfair tax reliefs for the wealthy
- Fair pensions for all
- Higher taxes on banking

I #SayYes to:

- Utilities under public control
- Fair energy and water prices for everyone
- A national bank to meet most people's needs without being exploited
- National pensions, ethically invested

I #SayYes to

- Access to education for all
- An understanding that education is for life, not work
- Inclusiveness in education as in life
- Genuine equal opportunities
- Respect for difference

I #SayYes to:

- Honouring obligations to refugees and migrants
- Honouring international commitments
- A friend to the planet on which we are all dependent

I #SayYes to:

- A world where all are valued
- Where intolerance is condemned
- Where difference is respected
- Where others are our friends
- Where there is hope
- Where no one need live in fear.

I #SayNo to the politics of division and fear that is profoundly unethical.

I #SayYes to an ethical politics of hope and I say we have a choice between the two. There is no need to work by Tory rules.

PS These lists are incomplete. I also know some words, like discrimination, are doing a lot of heavy lifting in this thread and refer to many situations where they can apply. But everyone has to start somewhere if the world is going to change. This is a start, not an end.