

Funding the Future

The Tories have promoted poverty as part of their polit...

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I share this tweet because it provides a lot of underlying links to work on poverty in the UK and I am in a bit of hurry this morning:

<https://twitter.com/paullewismoney/status/1630107111597195266?s=61&t=capvDPE2vRZHQI5GCNtqKQ>

The [underlying research is here.](#)

The findings are shocking. This table makes grim reading:

Number of people in poverty and poverty rates for different groups, UK 2020/21

Group	Number in poverty	Poverty rate (%)
People in poverty	13,400,000	20
Children in poverty	3,900,000	27
Working-age adults in poverty	7,900,000	20
Pensioners in poverty	1,700,000	15
Single pensioners in poverty	900,000	20
Couple pensioners in poverty	800,000	11
Single working-age adults in poverty, no children	2,800,000	23
Working-age adults in a couple in poverty, no children	1,900,000	14
Working-age lone parents in poverty	700,000	38
Working-age parents in poverty in couple families	2,500,000	20
Children in poverty in lone-parent families	1,200,000	39
Children in poverty in couple families	2,700,000	24

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation is quite sure matters have now got much worse.

The question to ask is why we shouldn't be angry about this?

The point to make is that to be angry about poverty on this scale is not to be left wing, or radical, or socialist. It is simply a measure of being a compassionate, empathic human being. Any reasonable person should be angry about this.

Our government has failed the compassionate, empathic test by not just letting this

happen in the name of austerity, but by actively promoting extreme poverty as part of its political agenda.

Keir Starmer is talking economics this morning. Will he address this? And how? Or will he be doing trickle down?

I will be watching.