

Insecurity is the biggest problem this country faces an...

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As I have [already mentioned](#), yesterday's [poll on whether a new left-of-centre party is needed](#) to replace Labour now that it has relocated itself on the centre-right was a success.

I was disappointed that supporters of both Labour and the Greens were disparaging of the poll.

I suppose I should not have been about Labour supporters: I presume that those commenting are from the centre-right.

My problem with the Greens is that they fail to present the big picture. I wish it were otherwise. I have known the party for a long time, and some who have been leaders in it for coming on for forty years, so I am obviously sympathetic. But it has never managed to break out of the limited appeal that it self-defined for itself. That is its problem, and fundamental as green issues and sustainability are I do not think they are the sole focus of concern right now.

In that case I think I need to be clear about what that key issue is. It is, in my opinion, insecurity. That, I think, trumps both sustainability and inequality. The reason is straightforward: this is the fundamental malaise that threatens so many in the UK right now and will continue to do so unless something is done to address it.

People have insecure jobs because of government policy.

Millions are unsure whether they can afford to live in their homes, and that is the result of deliberate government policy.

Millions more are not sure that they will ever afford a home.

Others are in personal debt that they do not know how to manage, largely because their wages are too low so they have no savings and cannot, therefore, manage crises.

Others are insecure about their right to live in the UK.

And many, many millions are frightened to take a full and active part in their communities because of the hostile environment fostered by a government that has always sought to sow division and has refused to invest in protecting people from its consequences.

There are also those who long for families and are denied them by combinations of the above issues.

Add to that, there is fear now of illness, which creates more insecurity and also ill-health.

And old age is now a cause for insecurity, most especially amongst those who have no choice but to stop working before the official retirement age, where there is a cluster of deepening poverty and massive insecurity now, which government policy on retirement can only make worse.

The common theme here is insecurity, which fuels fear and so ill health.

Insecurity is the political crisis of the 2020s. And nowhere do I see politicians talking about it.

The Tories fuel it. They see insecurity as the breeding ground for their far-right support.

Labour resorts to managerialism.

As has the SNP.

And although other parties do better they have not tackled this core issue, in my opinion.

Until they do then of course there is a need for another politics.

That politics is the one that acknowledges this insecurity.

It is the politics that recognises this insecurity has been manufactured by neoliberal politics and all the parties that have subscribed to it.

And it is the politics that accepts that it is for government to solve this.

How? Some ideas for now:

- * By reducing interest rates to keep people in their homes, and pursuing policies that will keep those rates low.

- * By giving public sector employees the pay rises that they need so that they can truly help mothers without being riddled by anxiety themselves.

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By building the housing we need and by addressing the insecurities in the existing rental sector: having a place to call home is vital.

- * By tackling low pay.
- * By changing the climate of fear that is used to attract every 'other' the government can swipe out at.
- * By looking at the supply of universal basic services and guaranteeing their supply on a not-for-profit basis.
- * By funding the NHS.
- * By changing the anti-benefits culture when it is creating gross injustice.

And how is that paid for:

- * First, by doing it. Many of these policies have high multiplier effects and so they pay for themselves.
- * Second, from the massive productivity boost that will happen in a country free from insecurity.
- * Third, by money creation if need be: it cannot be inflationary in a country with the massive underemployment that exists in the UK where productivity caused by anxiety is so low.

I can and will flesh this out. But for those who want to know why the question I asked was appropriate, this is my answer.

If the party you support that has a chance of power actually addresses these issues feel free to say how. I am certain that none do. And that, in my opinion, is the cause of our malaise.