

# Voting for a leader without a cause has never been a go...

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Tweets referring to [my column in The National](#) in Scotland yesterday seemed to cost me about one hundred Twitter followers last night as Labour supporters abandoned their interest in what I had to say.

My premise in that column was simple. I said:

*Let me suggest what Scotland can unambiguously do to improve its wellbeing this year. It can send a message of rejection to Keir Starmer's Labour Party.*

I then outlined my case, starting with this:

*Why is Labour so bad? I offer five reasons, but could add many more.*

*The first is that whatever principles Labour once had have been abandoned by Starmer. He has backtracked on all the promises he made to become Labour leader and not a hint of social democratic principle remains in what he is now offering.*

*You should recall that this is also true of the Labour Party itself, which is no longer committed to working people, tackling inequality and creating a fairer society. Instead, its constitution says its primary purpose is to get Labour MPs elected, and that's all it is now about. Starmer wants to be prime minister for reasons that no one knows, and that is all that Labour is telling us. Voting for a megalomaniac without a cause has never been a good political idea.*

The other four examples then followed.

Starmer did his best to support my argument yesterday, with a vacuous speech. And this morning, I noted Sky interviewing leader Shadow Cabinet member John Ashworth and asking him about policy. In response, he offered aspirations, like wanting to reduce cancer deaths. When challenged for actual policy, the supposed gains from cancelling the non-dom tax rule were rolled out to deliver their 25th role in Labour thinking, but still without giving any detail.

What I did not say in the column was that until Labour can tell the difference between an aspiration and a policy, and a costing from a single tax reform, they will remain in deep trouble with the electorate, and rightly so. If some of their tribalists don't like me saying so, then so be it. Labour wants power. Truth has to be said to those in that position.

The rest of my [National column is here](#), but it may be behind a paywall depending on how often you have visited the National before.