

## Labour's cry babies

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Reports suggest that there were Labour MPs crying in the lobbies of the House of Commons yesterday as they voted to remove the winter fuel allowance from approximately 10 million pensioners in this country, many of whom will suffer significant hardship as a consequence.

Let me be candid; I have not the slightest sympathy for those who were shedding the tears. If they had any honour at all, let alone an appropriate moral compass, they would have defied their party whips and voted with the Opposition on this issue. That is what natural justice, left-of-centre sentiment and political integrity demanded, and by voting with the government, they showed that they were possessed of none of these things.

I made a point on Twitter and [on this blog](#) yesterday afternoon that those who voted for this motion will have it forever on their Parliamentary record.

We know that it is highly likely that the number of people who will die as a consequence of hypothermia this year will increase unless we have a miraculously warm winter.

No doubt those who cried were aware of this fact. They knew that this vote was, in fact, condemning some people to die wholly unnecessarily because there is absolutely no economic justification for the action that Rachel Reeves has taken. All that she is seeking to do is to send meaningless gestures to the City of London, none of which they wish to receive, and nor do they require. As such, this action is entirely unnecessary, and so too, in that case, are the losses of life.

Tears of self-pity at having been put into what the MPs in question probably think was a difficult situation were wholly inappropriate.

Every MP had the right to make their own decision on this issue.

All of them owe a greater duty to their constituents than they do to their party.

Every one of them who thought that they were subject to intolerable pressure from the Whips not to rebel could have done so.

I hope that the failure on their part to do the right thing will rest on their consciences forever.

We will not forget it.