

How long is it before discrimination law will be unwoun...

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The far-right Institute for Economic Affairs (IEA) has not been slow to jump on the Trump bandwagon. Yesterday I got an email from it suggesting that:

* Over the past six decades our political, philosophical and legal approaches to discrimination have evolved, moving from a laissez-faire attitude to complex legislation that addresses both 'direct' and 'indirect' discrimination.

You can guess what came next. The IEA wants to roll back legislation protecting minorities from discrimination in this country, following Trump's one that diversity, equity and inclusion programmes are not just illiberal but are harmful to white, male, Christian in name only (Chino) men.

They argued:

* This paper makes the case that while liberals can accept outlawing direct discrimination under the concept of equality before the law, or a laissez faire approach, going further than these approaches will invariably lead to bad outcomes.

Their conclusion is:

* The Equality Act should return to the roots of earlier legislation, by outlawing direct discrimination focused on individuals rather than remove or reduce gaps between groups. The rest of the Act should be removed from the statute books.

* This would be a genuinely liberal but strong anti-discrimination agenda.

I wonder how Jews feel about this? The IEA proposal would very clearly legalise anti-semitism, amongst other abuses. I am utterly opposed to that happening. Why would the IEA want to permit it, I wonder? [Their report implies](#) that anti-semitism is only a left-wing activity. That only compounds the nastiness of their claims by associating it with an obvious lack of truthfulness.

So, what is the IEA doing here? Whatever it is, it is very dangerous for Jews and a great many others in this country.

We need to be ready for this issue to go mainstream, probably with Labour support. Wes Streeting is already making very uncomfortable comments about diversity. The toxin of racism has been released by Trump. There will be many who want to jump on the bandwagon.