

Why is mental health the government's responsibility?

Published: January 13, 2026, 12:11 am

This comment was made by someone called TomB [on this blog yesterday](#). I hope he will forgive me for lightly editing it for use here, but the sentiments are ones I found myself strongly agreeing with:

It's ... the complete lack of awareness that the economic system the government values so much is what is causing so much mental ill health [that concerns me].

There has been a push by the previous government to offload mental health awareness onto businesses and employers, which has helped some, but the government needs to accept that if they want a healthy workforce to, let's admit it, sell to businesses, they need to look after our physical and mental wellbeing.

Why is it the government's responsibility? Because the economy they are presiding over is not compatible with humans.

Both parents have to work, for example.

Families struggle to spend time together.

Money troubles contribute to divorce rates.

We are separated and isolated by work.

Surveillance capitalism is constantly pushing its way into our lives, demanding our and our children's attention.

The social and family groups that humans rely on for their mental health are pulled apart and invaded by all-pervasive neoliberalism, an ideology that says society doesn't exist whilst causing enormous damage to it.

It's the least the government could do, [to accept responsibility for all that].

I very much agree.

I intend to make a video around this theme. Count this as a primer.