

The toxicity of the Boat Race

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Today is Boat Race day in England.

The power of the Oxbridge elite in our society guarantees that this ridiculous sporting event between teams that do not necessarily much represent those universities or the best rowers gets massively undue attention.

Despite that, the River Thames, on which it will be rowed, has unsafe water right now. The crews should, apparently, avoid too much contact with it or consume any, which will be pretty hard to do given the nature of the event.

There is something deeply ironic in this. Few institutions have done more to promote neoliberalism and its toxic side effects than these universities, with Oxford being most especially to blame. The pollution of the Thames is an inevitable by-product of the shit corrosive thinking they have promoted.

I suspect the commentators today will not make these associations. I am doing so on their behalf.