

Why Labour is deep in political shit

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There was an article in the [New York Times](#) yesterday on how to be happy.

These are not my regular reading. For some reason, I looked at this one, and the last of its twelve rather fatuous recommendations was this:

Listen to Cher.

During an interview, I once asked Cher for the best advice she ever received. She told me, "If it doesn't matter in five years, it doesn't matter."

Cher's maxim helps me to sort out quickly whether an issue should be bothering me or not. Often the answer is that it does not matter. Immediately, my heart is lighter.

In a moment, I realised that Cher had sussed Morgan McSweeney. Nothing matters in five years' time as far as he is concerned. That is his maximum time horizon. And since nothing much of value in politics can happen in less than five years, the entire emphasis of this Labour government is on things that do not matter. And that's why we're deep in political shit.