

The politics of hate

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In a strange way, I was pleased to note a moment of truthful comment by Donald Trump over the weekend.

[What he said](#), during his rambling eulogy at Charlie Kirk's funeral, was that he hated his enemies.

Kirk's widow, in contrast, had declared that she had forgiven his murderer.

Trump made clear that forgiveness was not part of his political repertoire.

His acknowledgement that hate drives him is helpful for a very good reason. What Trump admitted is that his politics is based on an ideology that deliberately promotes the idea of exclusion. You can, of course, see this in everything that Trump does.

We saw the same thing yesterday in the politics of Nigel Farage, who seeks to ape everything that Trump is doing. [His suggestion](#) that people living in the UK who have had a long-established right to live indefinitely in this country will, if he is elected, become subject to potential expulsion from the UK clearly indicates that his politics share the same basis as those of Trump. He, too, is driven by hatred.

In his case, his hatred is of those who have made this country their home, sometimes for decades - or even their entire remembered existence if they came here when they were very young - whatever, and however much they have contributed to this country as a result. He, it would seem, is indifferent to who they are, what they do, how they came here and what they have contributed: all he knows is that these people are his declared enemies, and so he hates them.

Increasingly, I feel the opposite of this politics of hate is the politics of care. It would be absurd to suggest it was a politics of love: such a sentiment would alienate vastly too many people, and that word is, in any case, open to far too many interpretations because of the way it is used in the English language.

Care, in contrast, is less emotional, but is still readily comprehensible. [The dictionary](#)

[defines](#) care as:

The process of protecting someone or something and providing what that person or thing needs.

We must care. It is how we can counter hate. That is why I talk about the need for a politics of care.