Funding the Future

Corruption, damned corruption and neoliberal corruption

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As the Guardian notes this morning:

Peter Mandelson has said he has resigned his membership of the Labour party to avoid causing it "further embarrassment" after more revelations about his friendship with Jeffrey Epstein.

The peer, who was sacked as US ambassador last year because of his links to Epstein, featured in documents released by the US Department of Justice on Friday related to the convicted sex offender.

As Mandelson added:

Allegations which I believe to be false that he made financial payments to me 20 years ago, and of which I have no record or recollection, need investigating by me.

While doing this, I do not wish to cause further embarrassment to the Labour party and I am therefore stepping down from membership of the party.

Madelson was always the one to resign, perpetually sure that he would be needed back. One can hope that the game is over now.

Mandelson added:

I have dedicated my life to the values and success of the Labour party and in taking my decision, I believe I am acting in its best interests.

Except we know that is not true. If it were, he would not have been forced to resign as many times as he has. Mandelson's dedication has always been to Mandelson above all else. And we also now know, as the FT has reported, that:

Lord Peter Mandelson told Jeffrey Epstein in 2009 that the boss of JPMorgan should "mildly threaten" Britain's chancellor over a tax on banker bonuses proposed by the government in which Mandelson was serving as business secretary, according to newly

released documents.

Mandelson was not working in the interests of labour, the government of which he was a part, or the UK when offering that advice to J P Morgan in 2009. He was working for himself, using Epstein as an emissary.

There's corruption in this world.

And damed corruption.

And then there's neoliberal corruption, personified by Mandelson.

And of the three, the last ranks high on the scales of perniciousness for the consequential impact it has.

Now, three questions.

First, when will Mandelson be out of the Lords?

Second, when will a police investigation begin?

Third, when can we sweep Westminster clean of such people?