



THE FREE NATION

If Brexit is to be secured, we ***must*** win over young voters

As I write this, George Soros and his *Billionaires for Brussels* campaign (as it *should* be called) are doing their worst, even at this 11th hour, to rob the British people of the freedom and independence that they voted for in the EU referendum. Although our resources are pitiful in comparison to those of his lavishly funded anti-democracy campaign, The Freedom Association is doing all it can to fight back, with a new street stall campaign targeting the constituencies of Remoaner MPs whose voters voted Leave. These shameless Quislings - including Conservative MPs elected on a manifesto committed to a full Brexit - will stop at nothing to thwart the will of the people.

But, even should our David and Goliath battle succeed - against all the odds - in the short term, in the long run all will be lost if we continue to fail to persuade young people of the need for Brexit. A recent poll, with an unusually large sample, showed that younger people are dramatically less patriotic than older people. We all know that, in the referendum, a large majority of them voted Remain.

It would be easy to denounce the young as spoilt brats who fail to appreciate the freedom that an older generation fought and died for, but it would be wrong to do so. Many young people - albeit a minority - do tremendous work for our Better Off Out campaign. There is nothing wrong with young people *per se*, but, unlike their parents and grandparents, they have never had the privilege of living in a free and independent Britain. All their lives they have been indoctrinated by Europhile teachers and lecturers, bombarded with pro-EU bias by the Brussels Broadcasting Corporation and bribed by EU grants and schemes funded with money appropriated from British taxpayers. Can you blame them if they don't understand the importance of living in a free, democratic and independent country?

With your help, we shall take our message of freedom, free enterprise, free markets, free trade, free speech and free thinking on to university campuses throughout the land, just as we are now taking the fight for Brexit into the constituencies of Remoaners such as Anna Soubry and Nicky Morgan. Over the next few weeks, I shall be writing to you about how we can achieve this. Should we fail, all of our work to achieve Brexit will have been to no avail.

Simon Richards

Chief Executive, The Freedom Association

THE FREE NATION is The Freedom Association's newsletter for Members only.

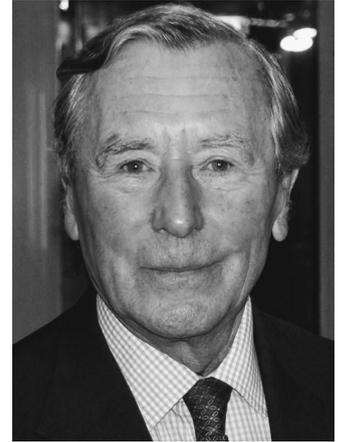
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Please send any letters, articles, news etc. (by email or post) to Simon Richards: 500 words maximum. Copy deadline for the next (July) issue is Friday 29th June. If you have any queries re your subscription, please call our office. For contact details, see the foot of this page:

Love your enemies

In each issue, I include an extract from ‘Take Upon Retiring’, an anthology by our Patron, Lord Vinson (right), because I think that its contents deserve a wider audience.

Because I am struggling at present not to think ill of the Conservative Party Remoaner MPs who are trying to stop Brexit, I thought I would feature some words of John Wesley’s which Lord Vinson has included in his anthology:



“Let us resolve . . . to speak nothing harsh or unkind of each other. The sure way to avoid this is to say all the good we can both of and to one another; in all our conversation, either with or concerning each other, to use only the language of love, to speak with all softness and tenderness, with the most endearing expression, which is consistent with truth and sincerity.”

John Wesley

Signed copies of Lord Vinson’s anthology (exclusively available to Freedom Association Members only), may be purchased for just £25, including postage and packing to any U.K. address, with £15 going to the association.

[You may order using the secure online shop on our website](#), by phone on 01242 235333 or by sending a cheque, payable to “The Freedom Association”, to the address at the foot of this page.

Report on the Newcastle upon Tyne *Freedom Forum*:

Lord Vinson was the guest speaker at the *Freedom Forum* on Friday 11th May, when he spoke and answered questions for around an hour and twenty minutes in a wide-ranging discussion that included the EU Withdrawal Bill which had just been butchered by the House of Lords. He also signed copies of his anthology.

Cllr. Judith Wallace not only chaired the meeting for me, she was responsible for arranging the wonderful venue, the Northern Counties Club, saving me a lot of time and hassle. I am very appreciative of the help that she provided. Thank you so much, Lord Vinson and Judith for making the meeting so successful.

Andrew Allison

Head of Campaigns, The Freedom Association

QUOTE TO NOTE

“The Budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome will become bankrupt. People must again learn to work instead of living on public assistance.”

Cicero

55 B.C.

I am grateful to Peter Frost for bringing this to my attention. Noting that, ‘History is just a revolving door’, Peter made this comment on Cicero’s words: ‘So, we’ve evidently learned absolutely nothing over the past 2,073 years!’ Please send me any quotes you would like to be considered for inclusion in future issues.

The wit and wisdom of Jacob Rees-Mogg

“I will not support a deal that keeps us indefinitely in the customs union but I don’t believe the Prime Minister will do that because she has promised not to.”

BBC Radio 4 Any Questions? 18th May 2018

You can wear your support for the Honourable Member for North East Somerset on your sleeve with cufflinks commissioned by Philip Davies M.P. One cufflink depicts a colour photograph of the great man, whilst the other features his brilliant line, “I’m all in favour of nannies, but not the nanny state”. They are available for just £25 + £3 for postage and packing to any U.K. address, with £5 from each purchase going to the association. [You may order using the secure online shop on our website](#), by phone on 01242 235333 or by sending a cheque, payable to “The Freedom Association”, to the address at the foot of this page.

Peter Mullen writes:

Strange bedfellows: John McDonnell and Theresa May

Shadow chancellor John McDonnell recently said his intention is to “overthrow capitalism.” His words are a reminder of his entry in Who’s Who? where his chief interest is described as “generally fermenting the overthrow of capitalism.” He added, “I want a socialist society.” Fair enough – he is a Labour man after all with a right to his views, as we all have. But how about this...

“A creeping sense of hostility to business” has taken hold in the Conservative party, says George Freeman, former head of Downing Street’s policy unit. This hostility is not “creeping,” George; under Mrs May it is galloping. Just before last Christmas, the prime minister denounced “the unacceptable face of capitalism.” I suppose her statement was a follow-up to her disastrous election manifesto which a commentator at the time described as “somewhat to the left of Ed Miliband’s.” No wonder she lost her party’s majority when she began the 2017 campaign by alienating her core supporters. Alas we now have not only an extreme socialist opposition in this country; we also have a socialist government.

But if you read the papers and listen to the BBC you’d think that Britain is a satanic

outpost of capitalism red in tooth and claw. Whereas in fact we live in something approaching a socialist state. Here are some facts:

Nearly 50% of Britain's GDP goes to the public sector. In so called communist China it is only 17%. At the height of their totalitarian tyranny, the Soviets were only spending 10% more than we do today. Never mind the anti-capitalist rhetoric, examine the facts. You are taxed on your wages. Then you pay 20% VAT on nearly everything you buy with the money on which you have already been taxed.

Fuel taxes are at an outrageously high level. If we have a car we pay road tax. If we drink or smoke, the price of our pints and fags are artificially inflated by taxation. Governments ask people to save, so to reduce the burden of taxation. But the prudent who do save are paid little or no interest. In fact, with rates as they are, savers - especially among the older generation - are actually losing money by their thrift. If we do save, we are taxed again on the meagre interest.

If we do our bit by buying shares in British companies, we are taxed on our dividends. There are further taxes on share dealing. The state broadcasting propaganda department fiercely polices an annual tax called the TV licence. The industrial, commercial, financial and manufacturing companies which generate income for the country pay large sums in Corporation Tax and other business taxes. And, in the form of Inheritance Tax, we have to pay up again even when we're dead. British businesses which ought to be leading our economic recovery are prevented by labyrinthine corporate and state regulation.

Is this what Mrs May calls "capitalism"? These levels of taxation and regulation are combining to hinder economic recovery. And such taxes are required only because the government needs them to pay for its massively expanded army of civil servants, its quango mountain, its legions of useless box-tickers, its lousy education system, the failing and scandalously corrupt NHS, and its bloated state welfarism. Then there are the howling protests against "the cuts." The truth is that this government will be borrowing and spending more when it leaves office than it did when it came in. Whatever economic and social system is currently being operated in our country, it is not by any shadow of meaning capitalist.

And yet John McDonnell and the faux-Tory Theresa May play adolescent politics and talk as if we are living at the height of the 19th century industrial revolution, under Gradgrind and Bounderby with altar boys being shoved up chimneys and girls shipped off in the white slave trade. And so we see the nation's largest wealth creator, the City of London business and finance houses traduced and reviled daily.

Its critics accuse capitalism wherever it is practised of increasing unethical inequalities. But this is not true. Generally speaking, those nations which have hitched their economic bandwagon to free competition are raising their people out of poverty. What emerging economies need is not aid – poor people in rich countries giving money to corrupt rich people in poor countries – but free trade. For example, Africa could feed not only itself but half the world – and Europe in particular – if its agricultural producers were paid the market price for their crops. But they are not. Instead, food prices are kept artificially high by huge subsidies to EU farmers under the Common Agricultural Policy.

Socialism has never worked anywhere: where it is practised moderately, it impoverishes

the people; where it is practised thoroughly, it leads to the erosion of freedom, the gulag and genocide. The road to prosperity rather than to serfdom remains what it has always been: the policies of political and economic freedom – low taxes and a light touch when it comes to business regulation - coupled with strong national institutions. This creates the necessary framework for the generation of wealth and a fair and functioning taxation system which then provides for that just redistribution of resources which all parties say they desire. This is the only sort of freedom which is genuine – because it is rooted in institutionalised practicalities and not in talkative theories about rights and abstract notions of justice.

Rev. Dr. Peter Mullen

Peter's blog, All Things Considered, is at www.revpetermullen.com

FREE PRESS : ANDREW ALLISON ON MEDIA MATTERS

NOT AT THE RACES: Freedom Association Council Member, Philip Davies MP, likes horse racing. Sorry, he doesn't like horse racing, he loves it. As a former bookie, he also enjoys the odd flutter or three. And because of his close association with the gambling industry, he is fair game for the anti-gambling puritanical left.

Therefore it will not surprise you to hear that Philip regularly receives hospitality at many major racing events courtesy of the gambling industry. As he is required to do, he declares everything in the Register of Members' Financial Interests. Everything is open and above board.

In March he was in Cheltenham for the Cheltenham Festival. He also took the time to meet with Simon Richards - who was not at the races with him! Courtesy of William Hill, he received two tickets for the Gold Cup valued at £270 each. Accompanying him was Esther McVey, the Work and Pensions Secretary.

When news of this broke, the *Daily Mirror* was up in arms in faux outrage, as was Jon Trickett MP. Who? I wasn't sure either. He is the Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary, and he has filed a formal ethics complaint because she was opposed to reducing the stakes on fixed-odd betting machines.

I can't imagine the *Mirror* or Trickett getting into tizz about a Labour MP receiving hospitality from a trade union. They don't bat an eyelid when a trade union sponsors a MP. So why do they think that Esther McVey can be bought for £270 by William Hill? Could it be that she agreed to accompany Philip because she fancied a day out at the races? Could it be that she was already opposed to reducing the stakes?

As someone who has received hospitality before, I can assure you that the reason I am offered it is because of my views. I don't receive hospitality and then change them. And if the *Mirror* and Trickett stopped to think about it, many Labour MPs are sponsored by trade unions because of the views they hold, not the other way around.

But that would be too easy for the *Daily Mirror*. They hate Esther, regard her as a traitor to the working classes, and will do anything to force her out of the Government, as this non-story proves.

ONLY AT THE BBC: When it comes to having a pop at the BBC, I am the first port of

call for some journalists. A few weeks ago I was contacted by David Stephenson, TV Editor of the *Sunday Express*. He had found out that out of the wider 30-strong BBC team sent to cover the World Cup in Russia, only two women will be seen on TV, with another four on radio. When you consider that the BBC has some very talented female journalists, and when you also consider that the BBC has had nothing but perceived women problems in the past year, this is what I said: “Does the BBC have a problem with women? Is it just institutionally sexist? It seems incredible, especially after all the negative headlines the BBC has received in recent months, that it thinks that sending three women out of a team of 25 presenters is acceptable.”

Talking about hospitality, I will declare that that quote has earned me lunch. And knowing David, an Aussie who has been living here for at least the last 25 years, it will be a good one!

QUENTIN LETTS ON TESSA JOWELL: It was sad to learn last month of the death of Dame Tessa Jowell, latterly Baroness Jowell. Anyone who watched her final speech in the House of Lords earlier this year couldn't have failed to be moved by it. Suffering from brain cancer and finding it difficult to deliver her speech, she was a campaigner to the last - fighting for those who were in a similar position to her. As she sat down she received a round of applause - unheard of in the Lords.

Quentin Letts wrote a wonderful tribute to her in the *Daily Mail*. Here is a short extract: “No obituary of Tessa Jowell can overlook the strange matter of her husband's business dealings, and how she dealt with the political fallout. David Mills, who was nearly as wide as the M4, was caught in a scandal over a £350,000 payment he had been given by Italy's sleazy prime minister Silvio Berlusconi. In a subsequent court case, Mills was given an Italian prison sentence for bribery, which was later quashed — though a fine was upheld.

“In what was seen as a ruse to defuse the politics of the matter, Tessa Jowell announced that she and Mills were separating. Once the controversy had abated, their estrangement ended. It was all rather peculiar. She survived that rumpus for the simple reason that — quite rightly — she was liked, across the political spectrum.

“Why? Because she had a heart. I remember telling her, when she was at the height of her Cabinet powers, that a prominent and spiky Right-wing journalist had suffered a family bereavement. There are politicians who, on hearing of an enemy's personal misfortunes, will react with cold boredom. But Tessa was better than that. She took me to one side and begged to know more, her eyes filling with concern.”

Quentin's tribute reminds us that common humanity is something that should bind us all together. Andy Comfort, a long-standing presenter on BBC Radio Humberside and a friend of mine, said this to me recently on Twitter:

“Time was, Andrew, that people could disagree politically but still get on. I mourn those days. The days when I flew between London & Scotland on the Shuttle & saw opposing politicians having a drink & sharing a joke. Hours before they were arguing in the Commons.”

I mourn those days, too.

Andrew Allison

CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS

- ★ **Friday 20th July** 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. (*coffee available from 11.30 a.m.*)
Freedom Forum: Eastbourne. Guest speaker: PETER MULLEN.
Chairman: Simon Richards Venue to be confirmed. Members with BN, GU, PO, RH and TN postcodes have been sent an invitation. Others: please contact us if you would like to be sent an invitation.
- ★ **Saturday 4th August** 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Freedom Forum - Have Your Say On Brexit:** Holiday Inn, High Wycombe M40, Jct. 4, Crest Road, High Wycombe HP11 1TL.
Chairman: Tim Scott.
Simon Richards will give an update on current TFA work etc.
Guest speaker: RAY FINCH M.E.P., Leader of the UK Independence Party in the Europeans For Direct Democracy (EFDD) group in the European Parliament. Members with HP, AL, LU, MK, OX, RG, SL and WD postcodes will be sent an invitation. Others: please contact us if you would like to be sent an invitation.
- ★ **September** 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. (*coffee available from 11:30 a.m.*) Date to be confirmed. **Freedom Forum: with Andrew Allison** (location and venue to be confirmed).
- ★ **Friday 26th October** 10:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (*tea/coffee with home-baked snacks and fruit, from 10:45 a.m., soup and sandwich lunch from 12:30 p.m.*)
Freedom Forum: Chester. Guest speaker: RUTH LEA C.B.E. Chairman: Simon Richards. The Egerton Suite, Macdonald New Blossoms Hotel, St. John Street, Chester CH1 1HL. Admission by invitation only. Members with CH, CW, LL, SY and WA postcodes will be sent an invitation. Others: please contact us if you would like to be sent an invitation.
- ★ **November** 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. (*coffee available from 11:30 a.m.*) Date to be confirmed.
Freedom Forum: with Andrew Allison (location and venue to be confirmed).
- ★ **December Carol Service & Christmas Drinks Party: London** (date and venue to be confirmed).
- ★ **January 2019** 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. (*coffee available from 11:30 a.m.*) Date and venue to be confirmed. **Freedom Forum: Cardiff. Guest speaker: NEIL HAMILTON A.M. Chairman: Simon Richards.** Members with CF, LD, NP and SA postcodes will be sent an invitation. Others: please contact us if you would like to be sent an invitation.
- ★ **February 2019** 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. Date to be confirmed. **Freedom Forum: with Andrew Allison** (location and venue to be confirmed).
- ★ **Friday 29th March 2019** 9:00 p.m. to Saturday 30th March 1:00 a.m. **UK Independence Day Boat Party, Westminster.** Tickets will be £46.24. Back to the Seventies food etc. will be served. Details to follow.

WE SHALL FIGHT ON THE STREETS . . . *WE SHALL NEVER SURRENDER!*

Cliff Dixon and Tim Scott (right) took to Uxbridge town centre on Saturday 19th May to put the case for a full Brexit to voters.

Tim reports that ‘many people stopped to talk, the highlight was a Leave-supporting Marines veteran who had fought in the Falklands War to free the islands from illegal Argentine occupation. It was, an absolute privilege to talk to him. I wasn’t sure how people would react: apathy or anti or pro? We had the odd Remainer come up, but many more Leavers, impatient to get on with it. It was well worth doing and I hope we can get some more going around the country.’

Uxbridge’s Member of Parliament is none other than the Foreign Secretary, Boris Johnson - who is also doing his best to get on with Brexit. Following this trial run we shall be taking our message deep into the constituencies of Remoaner MPs who are opposing the wishes of their pro-Brexit constituents. See the opposite page for information on how you can help take the fight to the Remoaners.

A site for *your* eyes: <https://projekthansa.org>

Projekt Hansa, chaired by Rupert Matthews M.E.P. (right), formerly ‘of this parish’, has been established in order to inform trade, promote business and share cultural links across Northern Europe.

It is a most worthwhile development, because it emphasises the close trading and cultural links that have existed between cities and states in northern Europe for hundreds of years - long before the European Union came into being.

Thanks to Brexit, we shall have a glorious opportunity to build on and strengthen these close ties, to mutual benefit.

Most of Britain’s European trade is with the countries of Scandinavia and northern Europe; as an historian as well as a Brexiteer, Rupert is just the man to foster these links with our European friends.



Join the fightback against Soros and Soubry NOW

Will you support Better Off Out on the road?

We may not have the £billions of Soros, but what we do have is passion. It was that passion and sheer hard work that won us the referendum in 2016. But because the forces of Remain have united to thwart the largest democratic vote in the history of our great country, we need to roll-up our sleeves and fight again for Brexit.

Once again, The Freedom Association is taking the lead. We plan to hold street stalls to raise awareness of why we voted Leave on 23rd June 2016. We intend to galvanise Leave voters to put pressure on their MPs to ensure we have a proper Brexit - not BRINO (Brexit In Name Only).

In the coming weeks we will be visiting Loughborough to talk to Nicky Morgan's constituents. We will also be in Totnes (Sarah Wollaston), Broxtowe (Anna Soubry), and in a raft of Labour seats that voted solidly to leave, but which have Remainer MPs who want to render the Leave vote meaningless.

Will you help us:

- by running a street stall in your local area?
- by delivering leaflets to homes near you?
- by donating to the campaign?

It costs **£100 fully to equip a street stall with all of the campaign materials required.** If you would like to sponsor a stall, you can either **call the office on 01242 235333** and pay by credit or debit card, or by sending a cheque payable to "The Freedom Association" and send it to the address at the foot of this page.

If you would like to **run a street stall** or deliver some leaflets, please call/text me on 07803 741104 or email me at andrew@tfa.net

We cannot do this without your support

The Remainers are very well funded. We will never be able to match them pound for pound, but what we lack in money we more than make up for in commitment, passion, and pride in our country.

Whatever you can afford to donate - time or money, or both - will help in the fight for the Brexit we voted for on Thursday 23 June 2016.

The Freedom Association's Eight 'Principles of a Free Society'

1. Individual Freedom
2. Personal and Family Responsibility
3. The Rule of Law
4. Limited Government
5. Free Market Economy
6. National Parliamentary Democracy
7. Strong National Defences
8. A Free Press and other media

For once, a real ethical dilemma

Recently we heard the sad news that the terminally ill toddler, Alfie Evans, passed away. The last few weeks of his life were mired in controversy and sparked a fierce and global debate about modern ethics. A case like this, for once, creates a very real dilemma; and, for once, both sides may be right.

The twenty three month old boy was diagnosed with an unknown neurodegenerative condition in 2016. Considering the lack of treatment options and likely prognosis, the doctors at the Alder Hey Children's Hospital decided a point had been reached where treatment should be stopped. The parents wanted their child to receive more intervention.

At face value, the main contention point here is of who decides what is in the best interest of a child. Generally this is a parental decision (as enshrined in the 1989 Children's Act), however, medical professionals can often override that. It is common for doctors to withhold treatments that patients or guardians of patients would like to be given. As doctors we all know of times where people want further treatment which would very much not be in their best interest.

Sometimes withholding an intervention is done on the basis of the treatment cost (something very common in a state-run system and a separate issue in itself). Mostly, however, it is done because the medical management has reached a point where any further treatment would be considered as prolonging a patient's suffering without increasing their chance of survival. That appears to have been the case here.

We can see the doctors' perspective on this matter. If all reasonable treatment options have been exhausted, a decision can be made to stop interventions. There is a clear moral distinction between stopping efforts to prolong someone's life, and actively trying to end it. These are common scenarios, and the vast majority of the time, discussion between the staff and the patient/relatives resolves the issue in an agreement.

However, sometimes these decisions continue to be disputed, and people have a right to a second opinion or a legal challenge on the matter. In the case of Alfie Evans, the courts sided with the doctors each time about whether he should continue having NHS treatment.

This particular situation became more complicated though, having established that no further NHS treatment should be given. If the patient were an adult, and told they could no longer receive NHS treatment, they would still have the option of seeking a second opinion either within the UK or outside of it. This is what Alfie's parents did, acting as proxies for their child.

Having found a hospital in Rome, willing to care for their child, they tried to have him expatriated to the Bambino Gesù Hospital for further treatment, paid for by the Vatican and Italian government – an option supported by Pope Francis. There was therefore no financial impediment to the NHS for acceding to this proposal. There is also little evidence either way to suggest that Alfie was in active pain from his condition. If this is true, the argument to discontinue treatment on the grounds of patient suffering holds significantly less weight.

It is also worth mentioning, we should not ignore the chances that medical professionals could be wrong. Although the overwhelming evidence was that the condition was terminal,

every doctor has stories of times they've seen dying patients make a recovery for no discernible reason. Or healthy patients suddenly die, for that matter. Despite our best efforts and knowledge, experts can be wrong.

In any case, where a decision cannot be reached between parents and doctors, as in this case, it is the duty of the courts to intervene.

It is understandable that some sections of the country have some unease at the decisions taken by the courts in this matter. For those who put a high premium on hope and possibilities, a state stepping-in to prevent a parent trying medical treatment for an ill child (regardless of how improbable the chance of success), is a concerning statement to make. Especially when it happens several times: the case of Charlie Gard in 2017 was a similar matter.

However, in morally grey areas it is surely right that an independent adjudicator decides. This is because the two conflicting sides – the doctors and the parents – are biased by their perspectives. The important thing, surely, is to ensure that we take each case on its own merits.

There is a danger of either side using a terminally ill child as a prop for its own ideology. A side that always focuses on the continuation of treatment could end up using a child as a symbol of a struggle that meanwhile prolongs its suffering. Similarly, in a system where healthcare matters all are vested in the state, too much faith in NHS doctors' decisions can needlessly condemn patients to be under-treated by our medical system, which simply cannot afford some of the best treatments there are in other countries.

With that in mind, this tragic story has a small upside: it is one of the few times a national debate has two sides which can both be correct and can both have acted with the same compassion and care for a suffering human.

Dr. Timothy Tomkinson (a doctor currently working in the N.H.S.)

Free Tommy Robinson?

The first of our 'Eight Principles of a Free Society' is Individual Freedom.

The third is the Rule of Law, and the eighth is a Free Press. Free speech is covered in the first principle. You cannot have individual freedom if you don't have the right to express yourself. Those who are calling for Tommy Robinson to be released from prison after Robinson was arrested and sentenced for filming a Facebook Live video outside Leeds Crown Court, say that his imprisonment is a free speech issue.

Taken in isolation, I suppose it is. But you can't take it in isolation. That is why we have eight principles and not one. For any free society to work, there has to be respect for the rule of law. At the beginning of the trial Robinson was reporting on, the judge ordered a reporting ban. I obviously do not know the full reasons why - none of us do - but it is safe to assume that the judge thought the trial could collapse if a ban wasn't in place.

The media was not excluded, though. Journalists were present throughout the trial. Media outlets will be allowed to report on the case later this year. They were only prevented from reporting it in real time. I haven't heard of a single journalist complain about that. When a judge orders a reporting ban, none of us can break that ban by posting something on

social media, for example. If we did, we would be in front of the judge and despatched to prison in double quick time.

Some have described the reporting ban as an attack on free speech. I am puzzled by this. Those who are accused of serious crimes have the right to a fair trial. If they are found guilty, they should go to prison. Anything that allows a trial to collapse, which could result in criminals not being sent to prison, is not in the public interest. And as I have already said, this trial at Leeds Crown Court was not going on behind closed doors. A free press is a vital part of a free society, and the free press were not banned from the courtroom.

Tommy Robinson (whose real name is Stephen Christopher Yaxley-Lennon) received a suspended sentence last year for contempt of court for trying to film rape defendants outside the court in Canterbury. All witnesses, jurors, and defendants have a right to enter court without being harrassed in any way. This is exactly how it should be. Despite this previous conviction, Robinson filmed and challenged the defendants in Leeds, so he knew what he was doing. Add on to that the reporting ban, he must have known that he was going to be in front of a judge at best, and sent to prison at worst. If he didn't, then he was stupid.

In his 35 years on this earth he has been convicted of using "threatening, abusive or insulting behaviour" during a 100-man fight between football supporters in Luton; common assault after headbutting an EDL member at an event in Blackburn; entering the United States illegally using another person's passport; and for committing mortgage fraud. There are other charges and events that have resulted in Robinson being sent back to prison, but I am sure you get the idea. Robinson is not a law abiding citizen. He is a criminal who keeps on committing crimes. I am as concerned as members are about the rise of Islamism. I have written before about the worrying statistics in a report by Pew Research that highlights that 35 per cent of British Muslims aged 18-29 believe suicide bombings against civilians "can be justified". I am concerned about the way Sharia Courts treat Muslim women. I have read some disgusting examples of Muslim men divorcing their wives and leaving them with nothing, and because of the way Sharia is set-up, the court automatically believes men. Some politicians still try and con the British public by saying that Sharia is not operating in Britain. It is. As is polygamy. As is FGM and other things that you wouldn't want to think about.

But I am not going to shed a tear over Tommy Robinson's sentence. He was treated in the same way as any other person would have been if they had filmed defendants arriving at court and had tried to report on a case where there was a reporting ban.

There are right ways and wrong ways of highlighting important issues. Marching through the streets shouting racist comments at immigrants and assaulting innocent members of the public, is the wrong way. What I have described is an EDL march through Hull a few years ago. Some of the "protesters" got so drunk that they couldn't even make it to the march! Which reasonable person would listen to knuckleheads like that?

Robinson is not a "political prisoner of the state", one of the wilder claims he made whilst serving time in Bedford Prison. He has not had his right to freedom of speech taken away from him. He is a self-serving publicist with a violent past who thinks that the law should not apply to him. It does.

Andrew Allison

FREE FOR ALL: your letters to the editor

The EU welcomes Sharia

The effect on the UK economy and unrestricted immigration from the EU were probably the main concern of people who voted leave in the referendum on 23rd June 2016. There is, however, a more important issue and that is the rise of Islam throughout Europe. The reluctance of polite society to discuss Islam has its roots in the fear of being branded a racist and, by those who understand Islam, a fear of violent reprisal if they voice, or write, even a minor criticism of this religion. Federica Mogherini, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy has declared that “Islam belongs in Europe . . . I am not afraid to say that political Islam (Sharia) should be part of the picture.”

“The Muslim Brotherhood's foundational texts call for the progressive moral purification of individuals and Muslim societies and their eventual political unification in a Caliphate under Sharia law. The Muslim Brotherhood characterises Western societies and liberal Muslims as decadent and immoral. It can be seen primarily as a political project.” - Prime Minister David Cameron, 2014, regarding a report withheld from the public by the appeaser Theresa.

In the past, Islam has conquered all but one of the countries it now controls with cannon and sword. Today, ‘peaceful’ Muslims who desire Sharia to be established here are relying on ‘soft jihad’ that is, immigration, high Muslim birth rates, demographics, and Middle-Eastern petro-dollars to achieve that end. The Home office permitted a cleric, who is a known terrorist sympathiser, to tour UK mosques and who gave £250,000 towards the construction of a new mosque in Exeter.

In 2010 the Labour Minister for Justice, Shahid Malik, forecast that the UK would have a Muslim prime minister within 30 years. An Islamic political party has been established in Belgium with the stated ambition of being in power by 2030. Their programme is simple, replace all civil and penal codes with sharia law. Period. French magazine *Causeur*.

Some Belgian politicians, such as Richard Miller, are now advocating the ISLAM Party should be proscribed. Imams throughout the world have declared that democracy is anathema to Islam. They have stated that, “Thanks to your democratic laws we will invade you; thanks to our religious laws we will dominate you.”

I have read ten books about Islam, four of which are the minimum essential reading for all who value democracy, freedom of speech, equal rights for men and women, musical instruments, Magna Carta, works of art, literature, critical thinking, and their Judeo-Christian heritage. It is recommended the first to be read is *Sharia law for non-Muslims* by Dr Bill Warner PhD, of the Centre for the Study of Political Islam.

The Hungarian billionaire, George Soros, asserts that Britain would be safer staying in the European Union. A former head of the Hungarian Intelligence Service takes the opposite view. He said, on television, that all Hungarians must read Bill Warner's book. As the book is available in twenty languages I recommend that all Europeans should read it.

Derek Hunnikin

derekhunnikin@btinternet.com

Any Answers?

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: EU Law

Written question 136559

Asked by Philip Davies M.P. on 18th April 2018

Question: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, which regulations his Department (a) has introduced as a result of EU legislation from 23 June 2016 to date and (b) expects to implement as a result of EU legislation in (i) 2018 and (ii) 2019; and what estimate he has made of the cost of each such regulation to the (A) public purse and (B) private sector.

Answered by George Eustice M.P.

Answer: My A total of 14 of regulations have been introduced in England as a result of EU legislation from 23 June 2016. Impact assessments were required for two of these regulations which together provide an estimated direct annual net cost to business of £560,000. A list of the regulations including those with impact assessments is provided below.

List of EU related regulations introduced since June 2016

1. The Waste (Meaning of Recovery) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2016
2. The Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (Amendment) Regulations 2016
3. The Single Common Market Organisation (Emergency Aid for Milk Producers) (Amendment) Regulations 2016
4. The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2016
5. The Detergents (Amendment) Regulations 2016
6. The Plant Health (Fees) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2016
7. The Plant Health (England) (Amendment) Order 2017
8. The Water Resources (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
9. The Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
10. The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
11. The Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (England) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
12. The Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material (England) Regulations 2017
13. The Single Common Market Organisation (Emergency Aid) (England and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2017
14. The Common Agricultural Policy (Control and Enforcement, Cross-Compliance, Scrutiny of Transactions and Appeals) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2017

Freedom Central, Derby



Rebecca Harding chaired the Any Questions? Panel; from the left, Rupert Matthews MEP, Edward Spalton, Margot Parker MEP, Jonathan Bullock MEP and Roger Helmer.



Heather Wheeler MP, Minister for Housing and Homelessness (centre) is seen here with her assistant, Linda Coxon and Andrew Allison.



Roger Helmer - seen here with his partner, Sheila and Margot Parker's husband, Fred - sported some colourful headgear to shield him from the sun in the garden of the Hallmark Hotel Derby Midland.



With over forty people attending, seating was cabinet-style, to encourage as much interaction and discussion as possible. Attendees came from Cheshire and Surrey, as well as from the midlands itself.



Margot Parker MEP (left) makes a point during her important and well received speech on multiculturalism and its impact on women's rights across Europe.



Margot Parker's speech was sponsored by the Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy (EFDD) group in the European Parliament.