

UNDER STARMER, THE LABOUR PARTY ONLY HAS A REVERSE GEAR.

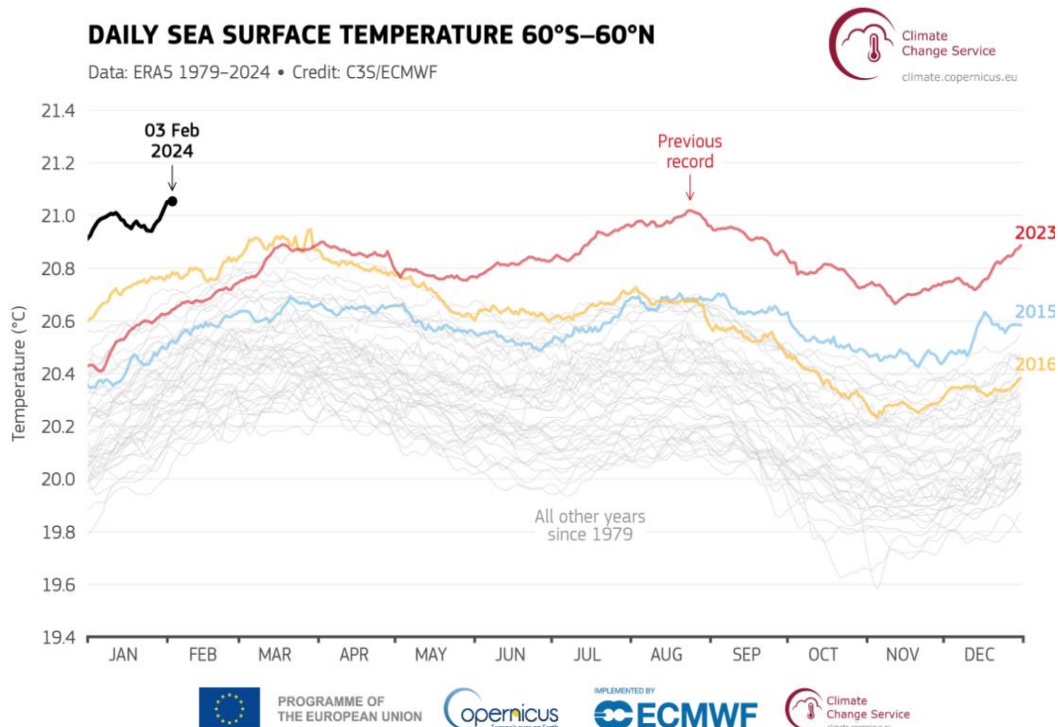
The Labour Party is going backwards, reversing over, and crushing its previous policies, as it is reeled in by its new masters, the capitalists and their media. As Starmer remains certain that the Tories will win the elections for him, he feels confident about scrapping all his 'costly' big ideas.

Starmer just announced that the Labour Party will scrap its pledge to spend £28 billion on green projects annually. This pledge was made only two years ago, His reason, not the state of the planet, but the [state of government finances](#). Less of a politician more of an accountant. Priests may have cursed peasants in the past but these days it is accountants who curse workers. Perhaps he should rename the LP as the ILP, no silly, not the Independent Labour Party but the Indentured Labour Party. The LP has capitulated to the same dark forces acting against green transitions everywhere.

Now mark, Starmer is watering down his green pledges just as the [Copernicus Institute](#) released global temperatures for January. Here are the key extracts from their findings: “*The global mean temperature for the past twelve months (Feb 2023 – Jan 2024) is the highest on record, at 0.64°C above the 1991-2020 average and 1.52°C above the 1850-1900 pre-industrial average.*” (My emphasis). And the same applies to the oceans and seas: “*The average global sea surface temperature (SST) for January over 60°S–60°N reached 20.97°C, a record for January, 0.26°C warmer than the previous warmest January, in 2016, and second highest value for any month in the ERA5 dataset, within 0.01°C of the record from August 2023 (20.98°C).*”

In many ways ocean temperatures are the more consequential because water is a great energy store, it builds up energy gradually as temperatures rise, and from cooling the atmosphere it then begins to heat it. The graph below shows how elevated sea temperatures have become. Alarming.

Graph 1.





The same concerns apply to the ice caps. Though the Arctic ice cap was at average this winter, that of the much larger Antarctic ice cap, holding [85% of the planet's fresh water](#), was not. According to the Copernicus Institute its extent is currently 18% below normal.

The Labour Party's manifesto lite.

Instead of making the Manifesto weatherproof before the scorching summer, which will undoubtedly ambush the elections, Labour have decided to make it bombproof." *Labour has dropped several of its most radical reforms, in an attempt to 'bombproof' its election manifesto from Tory attacks.*" Shadow chancellor Rachel Reeves has coyly styled her headlock on workers as a 'fiscal lock'. And then there is that other misnomer being trotted out; *The Office for Value for Money* which seeks to build on the Tory PPE scandals during the pandemic. But a party already corrupted by big business will soon succumb to personal corruption as well.

All of Labour's Economic Policies are nothing more than pink Thatcherism, or in the words of Thatcher, it is the economics of the sensible housewife: *"I can't help reflecting that it's taken a Government headed by a housewife with experience of running a family to balance the books for the first time in 20 years – with a little left over for a rainy day,"* [Thatcher told the Conservatives Women's Conference](#) in 1988.

Accordingly, if we were to picture Labour's Manifesto it would look like this. Every meaningful promise redacted leaving only empty promises. No doubt the Labour Party will trumpet these promises, but as we all know, empty barrels make the loudest noise.

| Manifesto | Pledge 1. | Pledge 2. | Pledge 3. | Last Page. |
|--|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| BACKWARD with LABOUR Being better Tories and Zionists |  1. |  2. | Labour Legislation. Worker friendly labour legislation (only where it is not Boss unfriendly) 3. | In profit we trust. 4. |

The reason the unserious Starmer can get away with such contempt for the electorate is because the Conservative Party - or the Tories as they are better known - are so deeply unpopular. Broken would be a better description. This is the price paid by the establishment to get rid of Jeremy Corbyn. In order to do so, the Tories had to unleash their unhinged Populist wing led by the lying and ridiculed Boris Johnson, who was unable to deliver a single Brexit benefit to his supporters.

It is not culture wars which win elections as is often thought, instead it is the attraction of so-called 'sound economic policies' which tends to be the more important. But sound economic policies are not based on sounding out workers to find out what their needs are but sounding out the capitalists to find out what their needs are. Hence the innumerable and no doubt sumptuous meetings Reeve has had with big business and finance. Once done and agreed, these policies are then endorsed by

the capitalist media and fed to workers as being in their interest as well. Of course, this trick is harder to pull off when the kitchen cupboard is bare with no jam on offer, as is the case now. Despite this, Starmer is intent on adding the title of *able economic manager* to his Knighthood.

Weaponizing Zionism or firing blanks.

Labour's conflating of anti-Semitism with anti-Zionism in accordance with the wishes of the Israeli Embassy is about to backfire spectacularly. "1. *The claimant's anti-Zionist beliefs qualified as a philosophical belief and as a protected characteristic pursuant to section 10 Equality Act 2010 at the material times.*" So said the Judges in [Case Number: 1400780/2022](#) at the Bristol Employment Tribunal when they found in favour of Dr David Miller who had been fired by Bristol University for holding anti-Zionist views. This is what was found to be philosophically acceptable: "*Zionism is and always has been a racist, violent, imperialist ideology premised on ethnic cleansing. It is an endemically anti-Arab and Islamophobic ideology. It has no place in any society*". In short anti-Zionism is not racist, despite the racist Zionists insisting it is.

Now that anti-Zionist statements are acceptable and enshrined in law, they cannot therefore be used as a pretext to fire workers or exclude members of the Labour Party. Starmer now has a legal problem. He has expelled tens of thousands of anti-Zionists from the Labour Party accusing them of anti-Semitism for criticizing the policies of the Israeli government. This has now been found to be unlawful. So will he welcome his critics back with an apology. Unlikely, instead if he wins power, it is more likely he will try to legislate to make it illegal, despite such a law violating Section 10 of the Equality Act which was introduced by his own Labour Party under Brown in 2010. In the meantime, this will only raise the disquiet within the Labour Party over his messianic leadership.

But this ruling did not emerge out of thin air. There is growing revulsion in all quarters over the genocide in Gaza perpetrated by the Zionists. The findings of the highest global court, the ICJ, are testament to that and they have resonated widely. This is also unlikely to be the final case. It is possible, given that the presidency of the ICJ has passed from a North American judge to a Lebanese judge, that pending cases accusing the USA and Britain of being supporters of Genocide will be heard.

Ideologically, the whining Zionists have lost their strongest argument; that they are the victims who need protecting, that they therefore have the right to self-defense under all circumstances using all available force. The objective view of Zionism; that it is a malevolent occupier ideology amplified by imperialism, has been confirmed indelibly in blood on billions of Television and smartphone screens, and in real time. The Zionists have been shown to be monsters, cowards, and liars.

With the turning of the tide against Zionism, the Labour Party could find itself becalmed as with the Democratic Party in the USA. Unconditional support for Israel is no longer a vote winner, it is a vote loser. Already tremors are passing through the Labour Party as the fools who lead it start counting the cost in lost Muslim votes. But it is not only Muslim voters who are repelled, many traditional voters are too. Starmer has learnt everything from Blair except the most important lesson. Blair only caved into Brown, stepping down as Prime Minister, because many Labour Party members could not forgive him for lying about the Iraq war. It was the loss of support over the Iraq war that ended Blair's tenure as Prime Minister and Leader of the Labour Party.

There is going to be a by-election in Rochdale shortly where [18.8% of the population](#) described themselves as Muslim in the 2021 Census, up from 13.9% in 2011. In the past most of them, when voting, would have voted Labour. In 2019 Labour won the seat with a majority equal to [12% of the electorate](#) in the town, well under the proportionate size of the Muslim vote.

If these Muslim voters abstain or find a different party to vote for, it will make life very difficult for Labour. And there is an anti-Zionist party standing, *The Workers Party* led by George Galloway who is known in the locality. No doubt Labour will be bleating that a vote for *Galloway* will split the vote and allow in the Tories. We shall no more on the evening of the 29th of February whether Labour managed to hold on to the seat. Even then, only a decisive win would be sufficient to soothe frayed nerves.

The American disease of low turnouts.

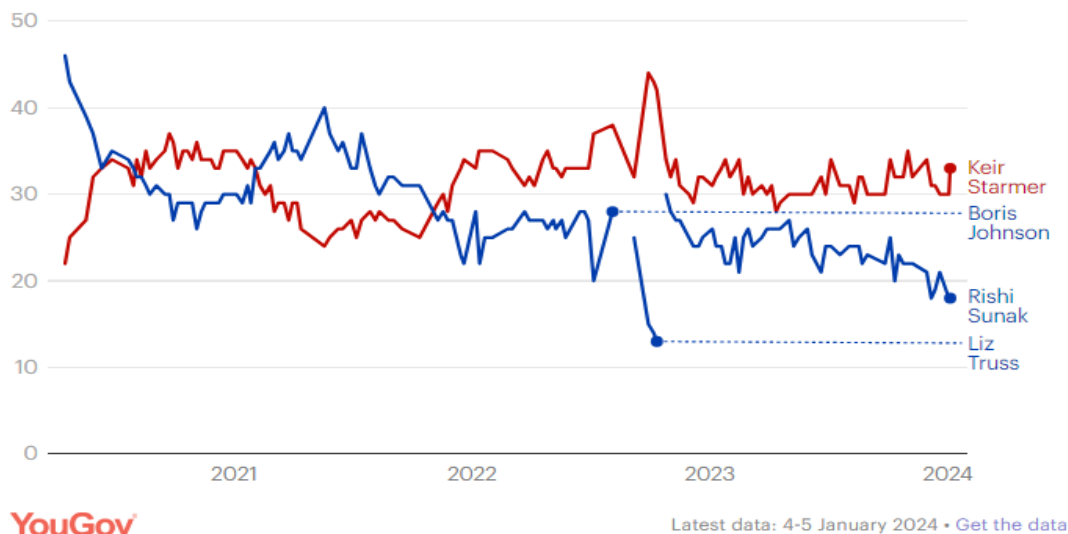
In the USA turnouts at elections tend to fall well below the average found in the other major democracies. The exception has been the Trump Phenomenon when voters were attracted to either vote for him or against him. The capitalists fear low turnouts for it demonstrates a degree of disaffection, a recognition that voting for Tweedledumb or Tweedledee is inconsequential, that it changes nothing, it's all empty promises, that it is a wasted vote.

The Americanization of Britain has become a hot topic. Where the USA leads, so Britain goes. This it appears has now extended to electoral politics. Labour may lead the Tories, but both Parties are unpopular and so too their leaders. Less than half the electorate approve of both men collectively.

[Graph 2.](#)

YouGov best Prime Minister tracker

Which of the following do you think would make the best Prime Minister? (%)



Only an inspiring leader becomes a popular leader, and there is no one less inspiring than Starmer. He has the appeal of a bottle of coke left open in the midday sun. Flat and oversweet. Workers see him as alien, or what is the same thing, from North London. He doesn't speak their language. They

don't trust him. Sunak's most effective criticism so far is to condemn Starmer for his rubber politics, his continuous flip flopping over major policies rather than fighting for them.

His only accomplishment is to purge the Labour Party of his critics. To bureaucratize it, to have created a top down party shorn of any democratic pretensions, where conferences are no longer organised to discuss policies but turned into mere photo-opportunities intolerant of dissent. Bravo Starmer, you have turned the Labour Party into the Democratic Party, and Labour's NEC into the DNC (or the National Executive Council into the Democratic National Committee). And look where that has led the Democratic Party – into a geriatric cul-de-sac. The average age of the clique that runs the Democratic Party including Biden, Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi, and Chuck Schumer is 79 years. Because this clique has prevented a National Convention to elect a new candidate, instead shoddily using rigged primaries to anoint Biden, we have the farce of a barely functioning candidate standing for re-election. But cliques are cliques, they know that if Biden goes, they go. Most polls reveal that three out of four US voters do not want Biden to run again because they correctly see him as being too old. So given his unpopularity, how come he receives sky high primary results? This is what one gets when a party is reduced to a husk as Starmer has and is doing to the Labour Party.

In Britain, the powers behind the scenes in Labour, Blair, and Mandelson, share an average age of 71 as well. More like Old Labour than New Labour. The only thing propping up Starmer is the belief that no matter who leads the Labour Party, provided they are acceptable to the establishment, will win the next election due to the Tory Party being unelectable. Starmer's real problems will explode after the elections, should he win.

Conclusion.

All 'left' Parties or Parties claiming to represent workers, when ascending to office, always feel they are on probation. They feel obliged to prove themselves to the capitalists by being tougher on spending than their predecessors. And so it was during the first two years of the Blair and Brown government in the 1990s, and so it will be with the Starmer and Reeves government. The difference is this, in 1996 globalisation was taking off and the resulting wave raised all ships, including Britain. Today globalisation is falling apart with governments drowning in debt. The economic disparities could not be more stark. The advantages Blair had no longer exist.

Starmer may seek to follow in Blair's footsteps with New Labour.², but whereas Blair's government was a tragedy, Starmer's will be a farce. It was said that Liz Truss's time in Office could be measured by the lifespan of a lettuce. Starmer's tenure will be measured by the lifespan of a potato. The capitalist class have chosen their leaders badly disturbed as they were by the prospects of a Corbyn government. Johnson was damaging, Sunak invisible, while Starmer has no possibility of ever reaching out to workers nor reigning them in due to his lack of credibility.

All this makes our job easier, when critical times are led by inept and distant leaders, it makes arguing for real change less challenging.

Brian Green, 9th February 2023.