

GENERAL ELECTION

8TH June 2017

Questions for Theresa May

- 1. If prime ministers are allowed to change their minds and hold elections when they have very publicly sworn blind that they would not then why not a re-run referendum on EU membership? Can we be given the same chance to change our minds that you have given yourself?**
- 2. You refused to debate with other party leaders, were quickly ridiculed and criticised for your refusal and then you partially changed your mind. Does your tendency to say one thing and then give in to pressure bode well for Brexit negotiations?**
- 3. You have no Brexit deal to offer the electorate but that is all you wish to talk about during the election. Are you not asking voters to buy a pig in a poke?**
- 4. In 2010 our economy was recovering but instead of continuing slow and steady progress it was thrown into reverse in order to attack the sick, the weak and the poor while boosting the greed and the privilege of the class to which you belong. Are you willing to talk about this? Why are the rich becoming richer and the poor becoming poorer? Who actually benefits when Tories are in power? And can we see your tax returns?**
- 5. We now have far fewer civil servants and the House of Commons lacks the capacity to scrutinise legislation. Yet, because you have declared that Brexit means Brexit you intend to repatriate a mountain of EU legislation. The only way to deal with it will be to maximise the monarchical powers of the prime minister, cabinet and Privy Council, create more Enabling Acts and to hire more short-term private consultants. Are you happy to call this a representative democracy? Can you explain why this should not be called 'shamocracy'?**
- 6. The UK has illegally invaded and intervened militarily in a number of countries, especially after Tony Blair became prime minister. How responsible should the UK be for the consequent death, displacement, birth deformities and torture of millions of innocent people? Why are Tony Blair and David Cameron not on trial?**
- 7. At Easter you went to great lengths to talk about your personal Christianity. How might you reconcile the policies of the**

governments in which you have served with the teachings of Jesus?

- 8. You plan to celebrate the Balfour Declaration, one of Britain's most shameful actions with consequences from which the entire Middle East continues to suffer. I doubt if there is a single historian in the world who believes that the Romans expelled the Jewish people who are now 'returning'. Israel kills, displaces, imprisons and tortures the genuine Semitic indigenous people of Palestine and you endorse this. Why?**
- 9. Instead of waiting till 2020, as you promised, you are calling a general election now. Is this because you believe that by 2020 it will be obvious to the electorate that you, Boris Johnson, Liam Fox and David Davies will have made such a cock up of Brexit negotiations that you will be wiped out?**
- 10. Or is the reason for calling the election because so many Tory MPs are under investigation for electoral fraud that very soon you could have lost your majority? Does it bother you that without that alleged fraud Ed Miliband would have been prime minister in 2015 and that there would have been no referendum? Does power matter more to Tories than probity?**
- 11. Kenneth Bakerⁱ made the curriculum uniform while beginning to differentiate schools for different 'kinds' of children; Kenneth Clarke's contribution was to create Ofsted and introduce fear into education; Tony Blair further detached schools from local democracy and separated children according to religion; and then along came Michael Gove who fracked the school system. He was so toxic that David Cameron was forced to demote him. Now we have you. Grammar schools are socially destructive. Is that why you like them? The eleven plus was a crude eugenic test designed to find the 'best' racial specimens. It did not ever do that in fact but in the process it labelled approximately 80% of the population as inferior. You went to a grammar school. Are you superior?**
- 12. Have you read any of the research that shows that more equal societies are happier societies and that the benefits of equality extend to all? If not, you might begin here.**

<https://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/resources/the-spirit-level>

Cliff Jones, 19th April 2017

ⁱ A NOTE ON KENNETH BAKER

He went round the country to talk about his forthcoming National Curriculum and his Assessment Orders. At one meeting I sat in the front row with Ray Derricott. I asked the first question:

"You intend to make uniform what is taught and what is assessed but at the same time you are proposing different kinds of schools for different kinds of children. How do you hold in your head at the same time the concepts of educational uniformity and social difference? Can you reconcile them?"

In response he gave me the classic reply long used by Rab Butler: "That", he said, "is a very interesting question."