

## UK NATIONAL DEBT (August 2011)

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A few months ago, I wrote to several newspapers and television news rooms and asked the following questions

1. What was the total national debt when Tony Blair came to power in 1997?
2. What was the total national debt when he stood down?
3. What was the total national debt when Gordon Brown was defeated at the general election?
4. What were the individual costs to the UK of our wars in Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan?

I had no answers.

Three explanations were given to me by friends

1. With all the current problems with telephone hacking and intrusions, organisations are fearful of giving out this information.
2. The newspapers and television companies do not have the time to answer queries.
3. No one really knows the true figure.

It is needful to remind ourselves that the government has no money of its own.

All the money the government has comes from we the taxpayers, local firms, capital gains tax and even death duties. You have to pay the government to die. The government receives taxes from wealthy celebrities, tobacco and alcohol industries and from pornography which is why they will not outlaw it.

Once a government is democratically elected it can spend our money any way it likes. If we do not like the way they spend our money, all we can do is vote for another government at the next general election.

If we look at the money spend by Blair's government, a lot of it has been waste. There have been conferences set up which has cost thousands of pounds and then the conferences have been cancelled. Millions were spent on a computer project to put all our health and other records on one computer. That fell through and all that money was wasted. In his last days as Prime Minister, Blair had a private jet and entourage to fly around the world and visit his 'friends'. How much did that cost us?

When he came to power, the first thing Blair did was to double the Prime Minister's salary, an act of extreme selfishness.

Consider all the money he spent on the war in Iraq. He told us that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction which could kill Britons within 45 minutes. He was wrong. He lied and the cost of that unnecessary conflict went into millions and, worse still, there were the deaths of our innocent young men and service women.

And we were paying the cost of that war and had no say in it. Our money was being spent by others and without our express permission. But that is the problem of democracy. We elect a government and give them carte blanche to spend our money. But I did not vote Labour.

Democracy is based on the majority choice of the electorate.

A friend found a web site which stated the UK national debt as follows:

1980	180 billion
2002	200 billion
2007	500 billion
2008	525 billion
2010	almost 1000 billion which is almost one trillion pounds, said to be £0.969 trillion

Another site says that the UK is in debt by 1.05 trillion which is 47.25 of the GDP

A trillion is a million million written as 1,000,000,000,000.

Whatever the figure is, it shows that governments are spending money that they do not have and have no chance of finding.

However, it is generally accepted that the USA debt is 15 trillion as at August 2011.

The steady increase in our debt includes the high rate of interest paid on the loans made to us.

While I am in favour of financial aid to countries devastated by floods, earthquakes and famine should we be sending them money and increasing our national overdraft. A friend said that we do this in the hope that if a disaster hit the UK we would receive financial aid from other countries. In August 2011 the UK announced it was to give 29 million to the East Africa appeal, but we cannot afford it!

It is said that South African is one of the richest countries in the world with gold and other precious minerals but I am not aware that they have ever given financial aid to the UK.

What is clear is that the world economy is in ruins. Why has it got to this state? Why has the UK become so much in debt?

The Northern Rock Bank fell into serious debt and, understandably, their customers wanted to withdraw their money. The government advanced the bank some 26 billion and later nationalised the bank. Why did this bank get into so much trouble? Bad management, dubious investments, extravagant bonuses for the bankers themselves?

The Royal Bank of Scotland was given 20 billion by the government; Lloyds/TSB were given 17 billion and the government put another 50 billion into banks in order that they re-capitalise.

The chief executive of the Royal Bank of Scotland received a bonus of 2.04 million and Eric Daniels of Lloyds received 1.45 million even though these banks were in serious financial trouble.

Gordon Brown was the Chancellor of the Exchequer while the banks were increasing with problems. He did nothing to stem the flow of financial chaos. This cannot be right. It must be immoral.

We were told to take out private pensions as the State Pension may prove to be inadequate. Brown said that they would be tax free. And so we did. He broke his word. Private pensions are now taxed.

The following comments may appear to be irrelevant or about a different subject or aspect but they are financial matters and related to politics.

Tony Blair is worth 45 million. He has property worth at least 14 million. He is getting 4 million for his biography. He charges from 59,000 to 170,000 for a speech. When you consider the tremendous debt he put the UK into, his wealth is so unfair.

The second most wealthy man is Bill Gates worth 56 billion and at number 53 in the list of the most wealthy is Roman Abramovich of Chelsea Football Club who is worth 13.4 billion.

Some years ago it was shown that Elton John earned in less than a month what a normal working class man earned in the whole of his working life, forty nine years. To many that is obscene.

The Manchester United footballer, Wayne Rooney earns at least 20 million pounds a year. David Beckham earns 27 million dollars per year. The actor, Will Smith is worth 88 million dollars and, in 2010, the singer Beyonce earned 87 million and Madonna's wealth is about 400 million dollars.

Carol Vorderman of Countdown earned 80,000 a year. Her successor, Rachel Riley earns 100,000 a year. The BBC used to pay Jonathan Ross 2 million a year in salary and the awful Bruce Forsyth had 660,000 for the 13 weeks or so of Strictly Come Dancing.

When we put our questions about the economy to the Labour government, who generated or allowed all this mess, they would not reply.

On another topic, I have been writing to Harriet Harman for two years without a reply. I have asked her why she is persecuting Christians who have beliefs that homosexuality is wrong and punishing them for their beliefs. A couple in Cornwall have a Christian hotel and they refused two gay men a double bed. The couple were heavily fined. A couple in Derbyshire has been successfully fostering children for years but now they are not allowed to because they believe the Bible condemns homosexuality.

Harman says that she believes in equality and yet this evidences that she does not. She is saying that the rights of homosexuals overrides the rights and beliefs of Christians.

What started as an investigation into the UK national debt has become an investigation into the failures of the Labour government.

In August we had rioting in the streets of British cities which was a disgrace and the wrong example to give to the rest of the world. The Bishop of Manchester summed it up when he said that Britain had no morals.

But it is the example of the Labour government and the media that has had the greatest decline in morals.

Blair took us into three wars which were not our business and nothing to do with us thus showing that we can interfere and exercise violence.

Blair took down the age of consent for homosexuals.

He organised television advertisements for underage children telling them to always carry a condom and yet underage sex is illegal.

He lied to us about weapons of mass destruction that Iraq had. He said that he had not make any negotiations with President Bush to remove Saddam Hussein when it had been proved that he did.

As we have already said, Blair told us to take out private pensions because in our retirement our State Pension would not be enough. He said (and I have it on video) that these pensions would not be subject to tax. Then Gordon Brown taxed them and the pensions lost their value.

He refused to allow cancer sufferers to have drugs because they were too expensive but told sufferers that they had to pay for it themselves or die.

He said that patients who were overweight may be disallowed hospital treatment thus judging that all overweight people were idle and eat unhealthy food were unemployed and sat watching television all day smoking and boozing.

He allowed some pubs to be open all night and, as a consequence, violent crime caused by drink increased.

He tried to get as many people off Disability and Incapacity Benefit and the Department of Health used underhand and unforgivable methods to do this with obvious lying and cheating.

He received large sums of money for the Labour Party from executives in the pornography industry.

He kept secret the fact of his importuning a young man for sex and when he appeared in Court he gave his name as Charles Linton, his middle names. That was a crime and it was also devious.

He increased his own salary as his first act as Prime Minister.

Look how the media has displayed sex, violence, swearing and immorality. I am told that pornography is all over the internet.

Men can marry men; women can marry women.

Homosexuals rights cancel out the rights of Christians. Christians are being persecuted. I saw in the back of a car a sticker which read Pagan and proud of it.

We have had riots in our city streets this month. This will affect our economy. These people performed these appalling acts because they think they can get away with it and because the numbers of police are to be reduced.

The Bishop of Manchester has it right when he says that the problem is that morals in our country have declined. But when we say these things, the majority of people call us kill-joys, unenlightened and living in the past. Most people want their own individual morality and do not want to be 'shackled' by decency and morality.

We lives in an age when the final verse of the book of Judges applies, Everyone wants to do that which is right in their own eyes.

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