

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Quotes pertaining to Environmentalists / Greens / Anti-car activists

“There were always extreme, irrational and mystical elements within our movement, but they tended to be kept in their place during the early years. Then in the mid-Eighties the ultraleftists and extremists took over. After Greenham Common closed and the Berlin Wall came down these extremists were searching for a new cause and found it in environmentalism. The old agendas of class struggle and anti-corporatism are still there but now they are dressed up in environmental terminology....we have an environmental movement that is run by people who want to fight, not to win.”

Dr Patrick Moore, founder member of Greenpeace, writing in the Mail on Sunday, May 2000

“I now find that many environmental groups have drifted into self-serving cliques with narrow vision and rigid ideology. At the same time that business and government are embracing public participation and inclusiveness, many environmentalists are showing signs of elitism, left-wingism, and downright eco-fascism. The once politically centrist, science-based vision of environmentalism has been largely replaced with extremist rhetoric. Science and logic have been abandoned and the movement is often used to promote other causes such as class struggle and anti-corporatism. The public is left trying to figure out what is reasonable and what is not.”

Dr Patrick Moore again, on his Greenspirit website

“Like every other radical movement in history, the environmental lobby is at its most vulnerable when exposed to the Truth for a significant period of time. In the end, the facts will set us free.”

Joshua Livestro, writing in TCS, 2002-06-24

“... because auto use is massively popular, anti-car advocates find it prudent to disguise their opposition to cars by calling for measures for which some other goal can be claimed — saving old cities, preserving the environment, encouraging cycling.”

**John Finley Scott Professor of Sociology, Emeritus, University of California
..The Danger to Cycling of Anti-Car Advocacy 2003**

“Environmental organizations are formenting false fears in order to promote agendas and raise money.”

Michael Crichton 2004-12-10 ABC News

“It's clear from the tone of the anti-4x4 campaigners that they have a sense of moral outrage quite unrelated to rational analysis.”

Timandra Harkness, Spiked, 2005-01-24

“I'm amazed a seemingly sensible chap like Palin has anything to do with these nutters, he must be either totally isolated from reality or being paid shed loads, shame really as I had him down as a gentleman not a freeloading hypocrite”

**'apache' voices his opinion of Michael Palin's involvement with Transport 2000
Pistonheads forum 2005-05-31**

“We have some concerns about the objectivity of the IPCC process, with some of its emissions scenarios and summary documentation apparently influenced by political considerations.

There are significant doubts about some aspects of the IPCC's emissions scenario exercise ... the Government should press the IPCC to change their approach. There are some positive aspects to global warming and these appear to have been played down in the IPCC reports ...
""

'The Economics of Climate Change' (479k pdf)

House of Lords Select Committee on Economic Affairs 2005-07-06

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200506/ldselect/ldeconaf/12/12i.pdf>

"We will double our emissions in the next five years because we are doubling our traffic. But if preserving the environment means stopping poor people flying so only the rich can fly, then screw it."

Michael O'Leary Chief Executive Ryanair 2005-11-08

"While the confident pronouncements of scientifically unqualified environmental groups may provide for sensational headlines, they are no basis for mature policy formulation."

"there is no "consensus" among climate scientists about the relative importance of the various causes of global climate change"

"'Climate change is real' is a meaningless phrase used repeatedly by activists to convince the public that a climate catastrophe is looming and humanity is the cause. Neither of these fears is justified. Global climate changes all the time due to natural causes and the human impact still remains impossible to distinguish from this natural 'noise'."

**60 climate scientists in an open letter to Canadian PM Stephen Harper
2006-04-06**

"This is not a moralistic campaign. We don't have a totalitarian mentality. We don't want to control the private life of every citizen. It's up to each person to take the measures he wishes."

**José Manuel Barroso, EC President responding to an attack by Friends of the Earth
Daily Telegraph 2006-06-04**

"The car is the last bastion of freedom — this must be overturned."

"The Highways Agency should act as a management authority allocating permits to drive into towns. People should be made to wait at the perimeter until a space becomes available."

"People who live in the country say they need to drive into towns — I say it's their fault for living in the country."

**Kristine Beuret, Social Research Associates & Leicester Pedestrians Association;
speaking at SERA conference 1997**

"We must reduce the convenience, ease and low marginal cost of car use."

Councillor Dave Merrett, City of York Council; speaking at SERA conference 1997

"We have to eventually start restricting people's use of travel."

Roger Higham, Friends of the Earth; 'Dimbleby', ITV, 2002-12-15

Quotes pertaining to 'Global Warming'

"There is no opinion, however absurd, which men will not readily embrace as soon as they can be brought to the conviction that it is generally adopted."

Arthur Schopenhauer (1788–1860)

"Scepticism: the mark and even the pose of the educated mind."

John Dewey

"If you put tomfoolery into a computer, nothing comes out of it but tomfoolery. But this tomfoolery, having passed through a very expensive machine, is somehow ennobled and no one dares criticise it."

Pierre Gallois

"There is no convincing evidence that human release of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases is causing, or will cause in the future, catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere or disruption of the Earth's climate."

Oregon Petition, from the Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine, signed by over 17,000 international scientists including more than 2000 of the world's leading climatologists, meteorologists and planetary / atmospheric scientists.

"There is no consensus about the cause of the slight warming of the past century. We are disturbed that activists, anxious to stop energy and economic growth, are pushing ahead with drastic policies without taking notice of recent changes in the underlying science"

Statement of Principle, signed by 55 of the world's leading atmospheric scientists, issued prior to the Rio Summit 1992.

"The attempts of environmentalists to bolster the myth of human-induced 'global warming' by the cynical, nay gleeful, exploitation of non-equilibrium climatic events is downright immoral."

Philip Stott, Professor of Biogeography, University of London, in a letter to The Times, November 2000

"All this concern with the effects of global warming is another manifestation of being politically correct"

Lord Young of Graffham, in a letter to The Times, 28th Nov 2000.

"Global warmers predict that global warming is coming, and our emissions are to blame. They do that to keep us worried about our role in the whole thing. If we aren't worried and guilty, we might not pay their salaries. It's that simple."

Kary Mullis, Winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

"The problem we are faced with is that the meteorological establishment and the global warming lobby research bodies which receive large funding are now apparently so corrupted by the largesse they receive that the scientists in them have sold their integrity. "

Piers Corbyn, Weather Action bulletin, December 2000.

"The Kyoto treaty ... has no scientific foundation"

Andrey Illarionov, Russian presidential advisor. October 2003

"The only people who would be hurt by abandoning the Kyoto Protocol would be several thousand people who make a living attending conferences on global warming"

Professor Kirill Kondratyev, Russian Academy of Sciences 2003-10-12

" . . . Perhaps of even greater significance is the continuous and profound distrust of science and technology that the environmental movement displays. The environmental movement maintains that science and technology cannot be relied upon to build a safe atomic power plant, to produce a pesticide that is safe, or even bake a loaf of bread that is safe, if that loaf of bread contains chemical preservatives. When it comes to global warming, however, it turns out that there is one area in which the environmental movement displays the most breathtaking confidence in the reliability of science and technology, an area in which, until recently, no one — even the staunchest supporters of science and technology — had ever thought to assert very much confidence at all. The one thing, the environmental movement holds, that science and technology can do so well that we are entitled to have unlimited confidence in them, is FORECAST THE WEATHER! — for the next one hundred years..."

George Reisman, The Toxicity of Environmentalism.

"Ideology on which the Kyoto Protocol is based, is a new form of totalitarian ideology, along with Marxism, Communism and socialism."

"We had doubts about the Kyoto Protocol, we wanted reasoning from our partners in the European Union, in the IPCC. Formal requests had been sent to these organizations. But we have not received responses yet, which suggests that no coherent answers can be offered. What we hear is 'it is not comprehensive responses that matter, we will not give them anyway; what is important is whether you believe us or not'."

"We have received no single argument in favour of this document except political pressure. No link has been established between carbon dioxide emissions and climate change. No other objective facts have been presented in recent time. The IPCC's reports in 1990 and 1995 show it clearly."

"We are close to a consensus that the Kyoto Protocol does huge economic, political, social and ecological damage to the Russian Federation. In addition, it certainly violates the rights and freedoms of Russian citizens, and well as the rights and freedoms of citizens in those countries which signed and ratified it."

Andrey Illarionov, Economic Adviser to Russian President Vladimir Putin. 2004-05-19

"Global warming — at least the modern nightmare vision — is a myth. I am sure of it and so are a growing number of scientists. But what is really worrying is that the world's politicians and policy makers are not."

Professor David Bellamy Daily Mail, July 2004

Download a copy of the article (pdf 321k)

"The majority of humankind does not accept this system, despite claims of worldwide support. Even with Russia's ratification, 75% of the world's CO2 is emitted by, 68% of the world's GDP is produced in, and 89% of the world's population live in countries that are not handcuffed by Kyoto's restrictions. Like fascism and communism, Kyotoism is an attack on basic human freedoms behind a smokescreen of propaganda. Like those ideologies of human hatred, it will be exposed and defeated."

Andrey Illarionov Financial Times, 2004-11-15

"The European Union and environmental advocacy groups use global warming hysteria to advance their own special agendas. The European Union recognizes any significant reduction in CO2 emissions by the United States will significantly reduce its economic output, thereby bringing it closer to the inferior output of European nations. Environmental advocacy groups work to stifle economic and industrial progress wherever they find it to inhibit the successful advancement of peoples in developing nations, inevitably making mankind a second class citizen of planet Earth."

Dr. Jay Lehr, science director, The Heartland Institute, 2004-11-19

"Global warming is indeed a scam, perpetrated by scientists with vested interests, but in need of crash courses in geology, logic and the philosophy of science."

Dr Martin Keeley Visiting Professor in Petroleum Geology, University College London, BBC, 2004-12-06

"The Kyoto protocol was a political agreement. It was not based on science."

Dr Harlan Watson

Senior US negotiator at the UN climate change convention in Buenos Aires 2004-12-08 BBC

"I personally cannot in good faith continue to contribute to a process that I view as both being motivated by pre-conceived agendas and being scientifically unsound."

Chris Landsea, on resigning from the IPCC, 2005-01-22

"Global warming has taken the place of Communism as an absurdity that 'liberals' will defend to the death regardless of the evidence showing its folly."

John Ray Greenie Watch 2005

"Not only is the Kyoto approach to global warming wrong-headed, the climate change establishment's suppression of dissent and criticism is little short of a scandal. The IPCC should be shut down."

"In Europe, where climate change absolutism is at its strongest, the quasi-religion of greenery in general and the climate change issue in particular have filled the vacuum of organised religion, with reasoned questioning of its mantras regarded as a form of blasphemy."

Nigel Lawson Prospect Magazine November 2005

"Montreal — tens of thousands of people ignored frigid temperatures Saturday to lead a worldwide day of protest against global warming."

Canadian Press December 2005

"The Earth's climate has always shown natural variation ... There is nothing to suggest that any warming we are seeing now is not part of that natural cycle. Every generation has had an apocalyptic myth."

"The language of climate change is becoming ... religious"

Professor Richard Lindzen, Sunday Times 2006-02-19

"Being a scientist means being a skeptic."

Dr Gerrit van der Lingen, Christchurch, New Zealand.

In a speech to the Royal Society, Wellington, NZ, March 2006

NZ Climate Science Coalition [pdf]

"Anti-global warming activism ... is based on a horror of capitalism, a hatred of the 'wasteful' choice that such a system creates, and a loathing of the profits that are the engine of growth. The environmental movement has for some time — certainly since the fall of the Berlin Wall — hoovered up the people who in an earlier generation would have described themselves as Marxists. It is as if the political traffic lights have changed and red has become green."

"I am not qualified to know whether global warming is indeed the looming Armageddon or not, and nor are the vast majority of people who say that it is, including the Government's Chief Scientific Advisor: Sir David King, who is given to dramatic warnings about the fate of the planet, is not a climatologist, but a chemist (although obviously not in the sense that he sells shampoo and contraceptives).

There is a significant minority of genuine experts in the field who believe that the Armageddon scenario is grossly oversold, especially by climatologists in pursuit of government funding and research grants. Such dissidents are treated as if they were heretics within an established religion — which in many ways the anti-global warming campaign resembles.

Like many primitive religions it is based around sun-worship, and the fear of natural catastrophe, such as a flood that will drown us all. Its most devoted adherents have that characteristic which is a particularly irritating aspect of the self-righteously religious — that sharing in the belief is in itself a sign of virtue. But even if you are of the true faith, you can not seriously believe in the miracle that you personally have a "chance to change the climate".

Dominic Lawson, The Independent 2006-03-31

"I consider the concept of a global mean temperature to be somewhat dubious. A single number cannot adequately capture climate change. This number, as I see it, is aimed mostly at politicians and journalists."

Craig Bohren Professor Emeritus

Pennsylvania State University USA Today 2006-08-07

"... those who are absolutely certain that the rise in temperatures is due solely to carbon dioxide have no scientific justification. It's pure guesswork."

Henrik Svensmark, Director of the Centre for Sun-Climate Research

Danish National Space Centre, Danish National Website 2006-10-04

"What is concisely referred to as global warming, is a fatal mistake of the present time."

Vaclav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic, České Noviny 2006-10-20

"If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it. The lie can be maintained only for such time as the State can shield the people from the political, economic and/or military consequences of the lie. It thus becomes vitally important for the State to use all of its powers **to repress dissent**, for the truth is the mortal enemy of the lie, and thus by extension, **the truth is the greatest enemy of the State.**"

Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Propaganda Minister

"Climate ... models bear about as much relation to reality as astrology."

Melanie Phillips, Daily Mail 2006-10-30

"Time is running out"

Henry Kendall, speaking on behalf of Greenpeace, 1992

"Time is running out for action on global warming"

Greenpeace 1994

"Time is running out for the climate"

Chris Rose, Greenpeace 1997

"No matter if the science is all phoney, there are collateral environmental benefits.... climate change [provides] the greatest chance to bring about justice and equality in the world."

Christine Stewart, Canadian Environment Minister, Calgary Herald 14 Dec 1998

"The answer to global warming is in the abolition of private property and production for human need. A socialist world would place an enormous priority on alternative energy sources. This is what ecologically-minded socialists have been exploring for quite some time now."

Louis Proyect, Columbia University

"The data don't matter. We're not basing our recommendations [for reductions in carbon dioxide emissions] upon the data. We're basing them upon the climate models"

Chris Folland, UK Meteorological Office

"Isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring that about?"

Maurice Strong, Head of the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro

"The coming week in The Hague may prove to be one of the most important in the three-and-a-half-billion year history of life on earth."

Tony Juniper, Friends of the Earth 19 Nov 2000

(Tony clearly fails to understand that his part in the history of life on Earth is one of breathtaking insignificance)

"Time is Running Out for Japan and the Kyoto Protocol"

Bill Hare, Greenpeace International Climate Policy Director, 2 Jul 2001 (What a joke the term 'Climate Policy' is!)

"Antarctica is likely to be the world's only habitable continent by the end of this century if global warming remains unchecked."

Professor Sir David King, Government chief scientist;

The Independent, 2 May 2004. (So much for scientific integrity in Britain!)

Unfortunately the hole in the Ozone layer may make it uninhabitable.

"The greenest journey is one that isn't made at all."

Friends of the Earth, 2004.

"Time is running out for nature and wildlife around the world"

Jennifer Morgan, WWF, Dec 2004

"Time is running out to tackle climate change."

Friends of the Earth Scotland June 2005

"Time is running out to deal with climate change."

Steven Guilbeault Greenpeace Dec 2005

"Global Warming: Your Chance to Change the Climate"

Headline in The Independent, 2006-03-28

(King Canute anyone?)

"We must support government coercion over enforcing international protocols and speed limits on motorways if we want the global economy not to collapse and millions, billions of people to die."

Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury Today, BBC Radio 4 2006-03

"When we've finally gotten serious about global warming, when the impacts are really hitting us and we're in a full worldwide scramble to minimize the damage, we should have war crimes trials for these bastards — some sort of climate Nuremberg."

David Roberts Gristmill Magazine, 2006-09-19

(Giving his reasoned opinion of 'climate skeptics')

"If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it. The lie can be maintained only for such time as the State can shield the people from the political, economic and/or military consequences of the lie. It thus becomes vitally important for the State to use all of its powers to repress dissent, for the [truth is the mortal enemy of the lie, and thus by extension, the truth is the greatest enemy of the State.](#)"

Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Propaganda Minister

Quotes pertaining to Government Transport Policy

"Labour's plans to tax and penalise car use are leading Britain into a former Soviet-style regime" "Labour is using the car as a milch cow in a most dishonest way" "The [Labour] Government's [anti-car] measures will take away what the car has given — mobility with freedom to travel as and when people please" "Planned levies, tolls, charges, penalties and electronic speed cameras are, in reality, taxes. They are intended to raise revenue in addition to planned new and existing taxes on motoring" "Road tolls are threatening disaster, cutting off areas of the country and towns, because it will become too expensive to transport goods... The impact threatens to be very serious...There will be no-go areas" "Graduated vehicle excise duty ... poses a threat to Jaguar, Bentley, Rolls Royce and Land Rover. If a nation does not have a healthy home market for the cars it produces, it faces a serious situation. How can its economy prosper?" "Graduated VED is very worrying. It will put the clock back" "It would be wise of the Government to realise it is facing a tremendous public backlash to its next revenue raising attack on cars and road use. The outlook is alarming"

Professor Garel Rhys, Head of Automotive Economics at Cardiff Business School, and Parliamentary Adviser on Trade and Industry;

commenting on Tony Blair's anti-car policies. 2000

"We need to get away from the idea that persecuting the motorist is the answer to our environmental problems"

William Hague MP, BBC Radio 4, 2000-11-07

"There are many reasons to shift away from fossil fuels, and we will do so in the next century without legislation, financial incentives, carbon-conservation programs, or the indeterminable yammering of fearmongers. So far as I know, nobody had to ban horse transport in the early twentieth century"

Michael Crichton, State of Fear, 2004

"David Begg is a luddite if he thinks that bus travel is the be-all and end-all of everything."

Mike Whitby, Leader of Birmingham City Council Birmingham Post 2005-02-15

"Current planning policy guidance on new housing is tantamount to a war against cars, forcing us to provide insufficient car parking spaces on new developments. We cannot build double garages or even provide two parking spaces, an absurdity in the context of the two-car needs of most couples and families."

"It means builders are pushed into doing something which they know doesn't work, but nobody is listening. The consultation paper issued by Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott on revisions to the PPG3 planning guidelines completely ignore the problem."

Philip Davies, Chief Executive, Linden Homes 2005-03-01

"We recently built 46 apartments in the heart of Reading with 26 permitted parking spaces, and the first 26 to sell had their own spaces."

"Under the PPG3 planning guidance note, our customers are supposed to use buses and trains - but the transport infrastructure simply doesn't exist to satisfactory standards in most areas."

"In Milton Keynes, we are trying to sell a five-bedroomed house at £400,000-plus with single garage and one parking space - and this specific point makes it difficult to find a buyer. We wanted a double garage and two further spaces, but planners wouldn't hear of it." **Nicholas Smith Land, Planning and Design Director Centex UK 2005-10-01**

"... public opinion polls should not be the sole basis for political decision making ... the results are too dependent on the framing of the question ..."

Timo Seppala Posiva Oy. in a debate at the Labour Party Conference, Brighton 2004-08-29

"For much too long received wisdom has been that roads are 'baddies' and railroads are 'buddies', I refuse to sign this absurdity. We must turn the tide of the European transport policy and let Europe free of its politically correct shackles. The dislike of the minority for cars must not blind us to act in a counterproductive way."

Ari Vatanen MEP 2005-07-12

"It's one thing to have cameras to detect speeding motorists and those running red lights, but quite another having them looking inside cars and invading people's private space"

Alistair Darling, Transport Secretary BBC 2006-03-08

"I'm an idealist. I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way. "

Carl Sandburg (1878–1967), Incidentals (1907)

"All decision makers at the local, regional, national and European levels are urged to play their part in changing our culture of mobility"

'The Copenhagen Declaration' made by 'Car-Free Cities' - the European Commission's anti-car committee 1996-05-08

"Car commuters are considered to be the lowest of the low"

Hugh Richards Highways Agency in a telephone call with an ABD member August 1999

"My priority is to get people out of cars and on to public transport"

Charles Kennedy Liberal Democrat Leader in his book "The future of politics".

"New (transport) infrastructure needs to be seen as a last resort"

David Begg, now Chairman of the Commission for Integrated Transport.

"I hate cars. If I ever get any powers again I'd ban the lot."

Ken Livingstone, Sunday Times 21 November 1999.

"Our aim is to brainwash a new generation"

George Callaghan, Schools Travel Plan Officer, Stockton On Tees Borough Council speaking about 'educating' kids on how they should travel to school 2004-02-25

"I've lost faith in democracy. Just because the public don't like things doesn't mean they're wrong."

An unnamed, arrogant (and illiterate) 'adviser' to Transport Secretary Alistair Darling commenting on public rejection of Congestion Charging in Edinburgh. The Guardian 2005-02-23

"Sooner or later, whoever is in government, the tax system will have to be used much more boldly to help change the way we travel. That means substantially raising the cost of motoring and flying."

Stephen Joseph Director of Transport 2000 2005-03-16

"Those responsible for 7/7 got to Luton station by car."

"for greater safety and the greater good of society, most people would be prepared to accept a slight reduction of our liberty"

Robert Gifford PACTS Guardian 2006-03-07

"SUV taxes and the extension of SUV-free areas are steps towards stricter limitations on private traffic."

Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio, Italian Minister of the Environment TCS Daily 2006-08-08

Quotes pertaining to Roads

"It will not be long before councils install so many speed humps that they will join up, and you will be able to enjoy uninterrupted motoring, albeit four inches higher than you used to."

Neil Menzies, ABD member

"...speed humps slow ambulances down, damage the vehicles, and worsen the ride for patients..."

Mark Singleton, Team Leader, London Ambulance Service, 2002-10-14

"...prosperous free cities are always congested places. The last time I saw really empty streets and deserted motorways was in East Germany before the Wall came down."

Ferdinand Mount, Sunday Times, 2002-12-22

"Why exactly can't we build our way out of transport problems? That, after all, is what we have always managed to do, transporting ourselves out of the caves, along the Roman roads, on to the Victorian railways and our modern motorways. On Friday night, my wife drove us non-stop to Manchester, by using the new M6 toll road to bypass Spaghetti Junction — proof that it remains entirely possible to build our way out of a problem by making Birmingham disappear."

Mark Hume, The Times, 2004-08-30

"I was responsible for the introduction of road humps. Would that I could have my time again."

Kenneth Clarke, Mail on Sunday, 2004-12-05

"Road planning ended in Britain in the third century a.d. when Rome recalled the troops."

John D Evans, ABD

"Galileo will deliver the tools national governments need to introduce wide-scale road charging."

BBC 2005-12-28

"If the M25 hadn't been built it wouldn't be full of cars"

Nina Tuckman (anti-road campaigner) BBC Radio 5 Live 2001-08-27

"Pot-holes are a very efficient means of traffic calming"

**Robert Gifford, Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety
Top Gear Magazine November 1999**

"I'm a great believer in permanent congestion"

**John Grimshaw, Sustrans Speaking on Radio 4's Midweek programme
2005-09-14**

Quotes pertaining to Road Safety / Speed

"A new Motor-car Act was coming along as well. The Act of 1903 was out of date. the section limiting speed to 20 miles was to be abolished. There was to be no speed limit, for to put the limit at say 20 miles suggested to some motorists that that was the speed at which they were habitually at liberty to travel. In Birmingham he could say now that the old Act was likely to come to an end, they had never laid a speed trap. When the 1903 Act became law he issued instructions to the police that they were not to prosecute persons under the speed limit section, but to rely entirely on the first section dealing with driving to the common danger."

Birmingham Post 1922 — An article describing a report made by the Chief Constable of the Birmingham Police Force at a meeting of the Midland Car Club on 1st Dec 1922.

"Measure what is important, don't make important what you can measure."

Robert McNamara, (US Secretary of State for Defence during the Vietnam War)

He was speaking to his Air Force chiefs after discovering that they were using the number of buildings destroyed by bombs as a critical success factor; but you can see how it applies to the government's attitude to 'speed'.

"...to punish a motorist because what he was doing might be a danger in an hour's, or a week's, or a month's time — according to circumstances — but not at the time it was done, was a monstrous tyranny."

J J Leeming, 'Road Accidents: Prevent or Punish', 1969

"In many cases where parents demand a speed limit 'to protect our children' they really mean 'to save us the trouble of looking after our children'."

J J Leeming, 'Road Accidents: Prevent or Punish', 1969

"We are insane on the subject of road accidents, and as a result of that insanity our whole approach is fundamentally wrong, and we are trying to solve the wrong problem. Our law and propaganda are not really based on the wish to stop accidents, but are solely concerned with revenge on the driver, without respect to whether he is guilty. It is thought that this is all we need do to stop accidents. But it is not, it can only cause more."

J J Leeming, 'Road Accidents: Prevent or Punish', 1969

"Everybody sees speed as the main factor involved in accidents but usually it is drivers' misjudgements."

Sgt Brian Rogers, Cheshire Police, 1998-10-28. Source

"Most of the accidents I've attended were caused by bad driving, not speed"

"I am concerned we are using a sledge hammer to crack a nut"

PC Gary Baldwin, Traffic Division, Thames Valley Police, speaking on "Traffic", BBC2, 19 August 1999

"The normally careful and competent actions of a reasonable individual should be considered legal."

**'Establishing Speed Limits - A Case of Majority Rule'
Arizona Department of Transportation, 1999**

"Motorway zero tolerance speed limits, if introduced as promised, are a shameful excuse to raise more revenue"

Professor Garel Rhys, Head of Automotive Economics at Cardiff Business School, and Parliamentary Adviser on Trade and Industry; commenting on Tony Blair's anti-car policies. 2000

"A driver suggesting that he might be the best person to decide whether a speed limit is reasonable under prevailing traffic conditions can expect to be treated like a heretic earmarked for incineration by the Spanish Inquisition."

Adam Sweeting, Electronic Telegraph. 2000-03-14

"This is nothing at all to do with safety; it's much more sinister. Even Hitler liked Autobahns..."

John Simpson, ABD member, commenting on the proposed Road Traffic Penalty review. 2000-12-27

"The criminal justice system has got it all out of kilter. We treat the motorist like a pariah and the burglar like a victim"

Glen Smythe, Metropolitan Police Federation. 2001-04-26

"They're a lot less anal than the British when it comes to speed."

**Eddie Irvine.....extolling the virtues of the Italian Police
Formula 1 magazine May 2001**

"No car company condones speeding or unsafe driving but my concern is that there is an over-emphasis on speed and perhaps neglect of some of the other equally or more significant issues."

Geoff Polites, Ford Australia President

"Driving fast is an abhorrence to the politically correct British anti-speed lobby, but these 'pinkos' fortunately did not follow me to Munich. The late Colin Chapman rightfully avowed that fast driving stands for greater concentration and I agree wholeheartedly. Driving at high speeds results in better concentration and awareness and, equally, other motorists who choose not to drive flat out respect those who do and consequently are more disciplined in their use of motorway lanes. Many, many accidents in Britain, unmentioned in the statistics, are from drivers falling asleep, bored at the wheel. German drivers are far superior to us Brits in the art of driving."

John Watson, Formula 1 magazine, September 2001

"...We have one of the best road safety records in Europe..."

David Jamieson, Transport Minister, Oct 2002

"All psychologists and doctors say people who go faster drive better and are more careful. Only 9% of fatal accidents were caused by speeding. Where it is safe to go faster, it is the right thing to do."

Pietro Lunardi, Italian transport minister, 2003-02-09

"It is a fact that everyone who has a car will speed. I have broken the speed limit and I defy anyone to say that they haven't. The point is that often speed limits are broken without people having accidents. What we have to focus on is where speed is actually causing accidents."

Steve Mortimore, Assistant Chief Constable, Avon and Somerset Police. Daily Mail 2003-06-05

"I fear that if we prosecute more and more motorists and people have a perception that we are being unreasonable then there will be a backlash. We police by consent and need people to have confidence in the criminal justice system. We rely on people to report offences, to be witnesses and to be jurors in the fight against crime. Anything that undermines that support concerns me."

Michael Todd, Chief Constable, Greater Manchester Police Manchester Online 2003-07-12

"Exceeding the speed limit related to just 60 collisions per year out of a total of 1,900 collisions in the Durham area — that's about 3%."

Paul Garvin, Chief Constable, Durham Constabulary Sunday Times 2003-11-23

"We may see the day when the police are rooted out of their panda cars, put back on the beat and told to concentrate upon crime rather than bullying motorists."

Sir Patrick Moore OBE CBE FRS FRAS in his autobiography 80 Not Out. 2003

"Safety on UK roads is at risk because drivers feel targeted, vulnerable and alienated"

John Maxwell, chairman of the IAM, 2004-12-08 IAM press release [pdf 90k]

"Every one of us can think of a speed limit that appears to be completely barmy, utterly bonkers. And if you think it's bonkers you are much less likely to comply with it. What we need are speed limits that have credibility in the public mind."

Richard Brunstrom, Chief Constable, North Wales Police.

The Times 2004-12-12 ([Are we sure this is in the right column? Ed.](#))

"If the 1607 event was a tsunami, then a resident of Cardiff, for instance, is ten times as likely to be killed by a tsunami as by a road accident."

Michael Disney, Professor of astronomy at Cardiff University

Consultant to NASA and ESA The Times 2005-01-04

"Safe drivers are getting fed up with being penalised for exceeding a speed limit by a very narrow margin."

Caroline Chiscolm Brake Daily Telegraph 2005-05-27

"The current variable speed limits on the A140 in Suffolk are unnecessary. They frustrate drivers, and are part of what is seen as a policy to reduce vehicle speeds throughout the county regardless of the need for them to be reduced"

Len Bond Former Traffic Officer with Suffolk Police A140 Campaign 2005

"An arbitrary limit allows sloppy policing. Officers don't have to determine if there has been dangerous driving, as they just ticket everyone."

Paul Taggart Hawke's Bay Today

"I am amazed that the balance of engineering, enforcement and education has left so many drivers — in every respect law-abiding citizens — feeling victimised. This cannot be good for road safety. We need to get drivers 'on side', wanting to play their part in road safety and not alienated by blanket measures which are needed to control the irresponsible minority but end up affecting us all."

Nigel Mansell President of the IAM July 2006

"British road safety was the best in the world. Now it is institutionally incompetent at the highest level."

Paul Smith, Safe Speed 2006-08-30

"speed limits should be made very low and rigidly enforced to take all the glamour out of motoring"

Friends of the Earth 1995

"There are two core questions you need to know the answers to when you're driving: how fast am I going, and what's the speed limit in force around here".

**Prof Steve Stradling, Napier University, DTLR road safety adviser.
'You and Yours' BBC Radio 4 Friday 2001-07-06**

"It is against the law and there is no excuse for drifting over the limit any more than there is for **drifting a knife into someone.**"

Richard Brunstrom

Chief Constable of North Wales Police speaking on 'Wales Today' BBC TV 2003-08-05

"Improving motorcyclists' skills merely means they kill themselves in a more skilled way."

Robert Gifford PACTS The Times, 2003-06-25

"Getting speed limits right, without a doubt, means making them lower."

"lower speed limits do not always mean longer journey times"

Mary Williams BRAKE Daily Mail, 2006-05-04

Quotes pertaining to Speed Cameras

"когда деньги говорят, тогда правда молчит"

"When money talks, then truth is silent."

Russian Proverb

"Speed cameras.....are fatuous instruments of oppressiondesigned to exercise power and impose subservience purely for its own sake"

Auberon Waugh

"Electronic speed cameras are hiding behind a guise of pedestrian safety to raise money, and are planned for motorways where there are no pedestrians. The Government is blatantly dishonest"

Professor Garel Rhys, Head of Automotive Economics at Cardiff Business School, and Parliamentary Adviser on Trade and Industry; commenting on Tony Blair's anti-car policies. 2000

"We do not believe in pursuing speed enforcement for the sake of it as this could alienate members of the public, potential witnesses and future employees."

Michael Todd, Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police, July 2001

"I find the policy of the police keeping speeding fines disgraceful this removes the impartiality of my job"

Un-named police officer during a phone-in on BBC Radio 5 Live, 2001-08-02

"Cameras should be bright"

"I have no time for the argument that cameras should be hidden. I'm interested in prevention."

Ken Williams, Norfolk Chief Constable and Chairman of the ACPO Traffic Committee 2001-08-02

"Using the revenue from speeding tickets to raise money for the police is not what the law is there for, it is contrary to the independence of the police."

Sir John Stevens, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, 2001-08-20

"The legally registered, fully insured motorist who falls foul of a speed camera is the ultimate easy case — paying on the dot while joy-riders travel free of charge, free of speed restrictions and free of parking tickets."

Rt Hon Oliver Letwin MP, Shadow Home Secretary, 2003-05-07

"For every complex problem, there is a solution that is simple, neat, and **wrong**."

H. L. Mencken

"Speed cameras don't reduce casualties — they are just for revenue generation."

Chief Inspector Paul Gilroy, Northumbria Police, October 2003

"We ought to be altering driver behaviour, rather than adopting a blanket speed camera approach that doesn't effectively tackle the problem."

Paul Garvin, Chief Constable, Durham Constabulary

Sunday Times 2003-11-23

"I believe police officers who tell me that they regard these as a revenue raising exercise. But fundamentally this is my concern, its all about the stick, there is no carrot for driving well and if this carries on the way it is there is going to be a speed camera every mile down all the roads. Now, as far as I can see, we are creating a police state where effectively we are saying we don't trust you to be a responsible driver. Instead we are going to say we punish you for being a bad driver with no let up at all, no consideration that cars are safer now, they've got better stopping distances and so forth, and I'm very concerned that it is hard to justify some of these speed cameras when you look at the accident statistics"

Lembit Öpik MP, Sky News, 2003-11-24. Source: SafeSpeed

"I represent decent, honest people who find their livelihoods are at risk. Because the police are more interested in targeting speeding motorists in order to take advantage of the revenue brought in by fines, than they are in stamping out serious criminal activity such as theft, rape and, in particular, gun-related crime."

Fiona Warman, Solicitor. Solihull News 2003-11-28

"It has been very convenient (for governments) to go along with the community belief that it's all about bad behaviour, because then you don't have to invest so much in infrastructure."

Ian Johnston, Accident Research Centre Director Monash University, Australia. 2004

"It's absolutely ridiculous that anyone should be prosecuted for being 1mph over the limit. Apart from the possibility of inaccuracies, we believe it is dangerous. You don't want motorists driving along staring at their speedometers rather than concentrating on the road ahead."

Edmund King, RAC Foundation Daily Mail 2004-01-31

"We are in danger of alienating the public. We must not lose public support. People are becoming cynical about what is going on with speed cameras.

I went all over Europe and the rest of the world to look at the problem. I was responsible for getting them approved here — but now I say it has gone too far."

Peter Joslin, former Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police

The Sun, 2004-02-02

"I believe we have lost a tremendous amount of goodwill from the public. I think the biggest mistake we have made is getting some money back. I am most uncomfortable with the focus on the taxation view which goes with it."

"There is a place for them but I think we have lost the argument on that. I think the police service has really suffered some really serious confidence problems, and support from the public, as a result."

Mike Hedges, Chief Constable, South Yorkshire Police, 2004-02-20

Source: Sheffield Star

"I don't approve of the use of speed cameras as money-making devices. The proper use for speed cameras is as a measure to lower the accident rate. I am not after people on the school run exceeding the limit by five or six miles an hour. I want my traffic policing to target the dangerous drivers, the road hogs, and the menaces who are driving unlicensed and uninsured."

Sir John Stevens, Metropolitan Police Commissioner 2004-02-21

Source: BBC

"There is a perception that people who commit criminal offences and who, quite properly and according to guidelines, get a caution, get an easier ride than those who speed at the lower end. Whilst clearly the comparison is not a helpful one, I do nevertheless have some very real sympathy for this perception. Any criminal justice system to be effective has to be seen to be fair. It just cannot be right when people feel that our response within that system is disproportionate."

Paul Stephenson, Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary, 2004-03-11 Source: Lancashire Constabulary.

"...the public has become alienated from the police. The public supported 'traffic cops' even if they were wary, because they could see the value of our work. Speed cameras have made the police the enemy of the motorist, even if we have nothing to do with them. They are seen as the police making money."

**Un-named West Midlands police officer writing in POLICE [pdf 463k]
(The newspaper of the Police Federation) March 2004**

"We are told to engage with the public. We used to do that through dealing with motoring offenders. By dealing with them by giving advice, warnings, or process, we often made a positive impression. Now we have inanimate cameras."

**Un-named police traffic inspector writing in POLICE [pdf 463k]
(The newspaper of the Police Federation) March 2004**

"I am coming to the conclusion that the proliferation of speed cameras and varied approaches to speed restrictions have the potential to be more dangerous than the speeding that is being targeted.

I spend much more time than I ever used to looking down at my speedometer to check I am not marginally over the limit and as much time again checking for seemingly arbitrary alterations to the limit just for fear of being caught and deprived of my licence.

I would prefer to be able to concentrate on the road and what was actually happening on it."

Colin Baker, writing in the Bucks Free Press, 2004-04-30

"The pro-camera lobby, and a lot of the safety partnerships, deliberately misquote the statistics to try and mislead people to try and justify their position. I think it is disingenuous if we are really intent on reducing casualties on the road - as opposed to enforcing speed limits and dishing out lots of tickets." "More accidents are caused by inattention, drink driving, or nowadays, more by driving under the influence of drugs. And these statistics adopted by certain forces show a woolly area regarding the proximity of speed cameras. Some statistics are taken from an area 20 metres from a camera and others from a two-kilometre radius. The speed cameras issue is not a point of principle, it is a fact that they are pointless."

Paul Garvin, Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary The Journal, 2004-06-16

"Speed alone is not the reason fatality figures are increasing at a horrifying rate. The reason is drivers' ignorance. Speed cameras work in slowing traffic in some locations, but they are not the only solution. The answer has to be modification of driver behaviour through education and enforcement."

Sgt Tony Cooke, Cheshire Police Ellesmere Port Pioneer, 2004-07-07

"I am concerned and always have been concerned about this issue. I believe that speed cameras at casualty reduction sites where they can make a real difference are really necessary in order to stop people from being killed or injured on our roads. But I don't agree with them being used, in effect, as another form of taxation.

"I think it is still of great concern to me that the public think it's about income generation and they lose respect for law and order."

It's part of a bigger point about practical policing, he adds: "In the same way we don't go around the city centre on a Saturday night and arrest every single person who is shouting for a breach of the peace. You put your arm around people, say, 'you've had a good night out, you've had a drink, now it's time to go home.'"

Michael Todd, Chief Constable, Greater Manchester Police Insider, July 2004

"The association believes that cameras do have a part to play in road safety but the camera does not educate the driver."

Rick Naylor, President, Police Superintendent's Association Daily Post, Sept 2004

"I haven't yet spoken to one single person who supports the campaign. The public seem to be on one side of the argument. The Police Authority and the chief constable are on the other side, that's not good for democracy, it's not good for policing, it's not good for the public."

**Phil Edwards A former Police officer and Police Federation secretary
Daily Post, 22 Sept 2004**

"They do tend to divert drivers' attention away from other areas and they concentrate solely on their speed."

**PC Michael Jeffrey, Accident Investigator, Greater Manchester Police
Daily Telegraph, Oct 2004**

"Speed cameras distract them particularly. I've noticed it myself on the roads, when drivers who are unfamiliar with a particular stretch will break harshly to 30mph when perhaps the

limit is actually 50mph. These cameras are a valuable safety measure when properly sited and used. But they are in danger of becoming a hazard."

John Pollard, Coroner for South Manchester Daily Telegraph, Oct 2004

"With more than 20 years as a traffic inspector and chief inspector, I always thought that, when decisions were made to prosecute motorists, the police had to prove the offence beyond all reasonable doubt - and that they also had to use a certain amount of discretion and commonsense. Now I believe those basic principles are being ignored in pursuit of revenue."

Neil Longsdon, former Chief Inspector,

Greater Manchester Police Motorway Group Manchester Online, Oct 2004

"You are not alone in this county in being unhappy with some of the provision of speed cameras.

Some people feel it is a form of taxation which is turning law-abiding citizens, such as yourself, into criminals. It is not a very satisfactory state of affairs."

Judge Richard Bray Northampton Crown Court 2005-09-01 BBC

"The speed camera regime is inconsistently and arbitrarily set by unaccountable partnerships. The mass prosecution of minor infringements is unacceptable when speed cameras do so little actually to make our roads safer."

Alan Duncan Shadow Transport Secretary 2005-10-03 Conservatives

"The irresponsible siting of speed camera for income generation has been a highly effective means of eroding public support for the police. Their benefits are strictly limited to speeding offences and do nothing to tackle the array of other dangerous driving offences."

Alan Gordon Vice-Chairman of the Police Federation 'POLICE' Dec 2005 [pdf]

"You can never argue against a camera but it's not enlightened. It doesn't recognise the 90% of accidents which have nothing to do with the speed limit. They're primarily a revenue generator rather than a safety measure.

There is a danger that this single-minded pursuit of speed cameras will not end up solving the problem but will alienate every motorist in the country. There is already evidence to suggest that their goodwill has been tested and if it continues you could have a situation where motorists effectively go on strike."

**Anthony Beresford Lecturer in Road Transport, Cardiff University
Western Mail 2006-06-07**

"Speed cameras have their limitations...but when these matters can be overcome they will be a sure winner for raising revenue."

The Metropolitan Police magazine, Metline, March 1999

"We have not been targeted to reduce deaths, we have been targeted to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured. We are saving lives from misery and from being in a permanent vegetative state."

Susan Beck, National Safety Camera Liaison Mail on Sunday, 2004-01-18

"My message is very simple - this debate is now over. It is beyond doubt that they prevent death and injury."

Richard Brunstrom, Chief Constable, North Wales Police.
The Independent, 2004-07-20 (847 days ago)

"figures showing the number of people injured can make the situation look a lot worse than it actually is"

Joanne Smith Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership 2005-12-08
Lincolnshire Echo

"The decision will leave a dent in the Government's revenue that will most likely be filled by the allocation of more speed cameras to busy roads at peak times."

Terry Mulder (Liberal Party) Opposition Transport Spokesman
Melbourne Herald Sun Australia 2006-07-02

Experts "The important thing is not to stop questioning."

Albert Einstein (These are not 'bad guys', merely proof that you should never simply believe what an 'expert' says)

"Radio has no future.

Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible.

X-rays will prove to be a hoax."

William Thomson — Lord Kelvin — Scientist, 1899

"Airplanes are interesting toys, but they are of no military value whatsoever."

Marechal Ferdinand Fock, Professor of Strategy, Ecole Superieure de Guerre

"There is not the slightest indication that nuclear energy will ever be obtainable. It would mean that the atom would have to be shattered at will."

Albert Einstein, 1932

"The bomb will never go off. I speak as an expert in explosives."

Admiral William Leahy, U.S. Atomic Bomb Project.

"We don't like their sound. Groups of guitars are on the way out."

Decca executive, 1962, after turning down the Beatles.

"There is no reason for any individual to have a computer in his home."

Ken Olsen, President, Digital Equipment, 1977

"We don't need you. You haven't got through college yet."

Hewlett Packard excuse to Steve Jobs, who founded Apple Computers instead.

Quotes pertaining to Health

"The motor must have very much reduced the incidental deaths in such ways as making it easier for doctors to visit their patients, in conveying those patients to hospital more quickly and comfortably, in enabling fire engines to reach fires quicker, and possibly in other ways, such as its having eliminated the filth due to horses in the streets of the cities. I am as old as

the motor vehicle, and I can still remember the horrible mess in the London streets, and in the mews at the back of the big houses. This must have caused much fly-borne disease."

J J Leeming, 'Road Accidents: Prevent or Punish', 1969

"Air pollution does not cause asthma"

"There is no correlation between levels of vehicle emissions and asthma incidence"

**Dr Kenneth Calman, Government Chief Medical Officer,
Department of Health Study on the Causes of Asthma, 1995**

"Pollution does not cause bronchitis or asthma, nor does wearing a so-called anti-pollution mask do anything except identify the wearer as a sucker"

**Professor Emeritus Stanley Feldman, Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School,
London Weekly Times 03/02/1995**

"Just walking children to school is not going to increase physical activity or stem the rise in obesity."

**Brad Metcalf, Derriford Hospital, Plymouth BBC — School runs do not cause obesity
2004-08-07**

Quotes pertaining to Law

"Laws do not persuade just because they threaten."

Lucius Annaeus Seneca, c. 4BC - 65AD.

"The strictest law sometimes becomes the severest injustice."

[Latin: Jus summum saepe summa est malitia.]

Publius Terentius Afer

"You must recognize that some things that are legally right are not morally right."

"The best way to get a bad law repealed is to enforce it strictly."

Abraham Lincoln

"Rightful liberty is unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others. I do not add 'within the limits of the law', because law is often but the tyrant's will, and always so when it violates the rights of the individual."

Thomas Jefferson

"One of the greatest delusions in the world is the hope that the evils in this world are to be cured by legislation."

Thomas B. Reed 1886

"Can our form of government, our system of justice, survive if one can be denied a freedom because he might abuse it?"

Harlon Carter

"If we desire respect for the law, we must first make the law respectable."

Louis D. Brandeis

**"If you have ten thousand regulations, you destroy all respect for the law."
Winston Churchill, 1931**

**"To make laws that man cannot, and will not obey, serves to bring all laws into contempt."
Elizabeth Cady Stanton**

**"Just as it is the duty of all men to obey just laws, so it is the duty of all men to disobey unjust laws."
Martin Luther King Jr.**

"Law that is unclear is objectionable on many grounds. It confuses the courts, adds to their work and wastes the time of all who have to unravel it. It leaves the citizen uncertain of his duties and obligations, and exposed to the possibility of penal sanctions for unwitting violations — a situation as ridiculous as it is unfair."

**"Justice demands that the law — and particularly the criminal law — refrains from penalizing conduct "unmeet for punishment", and discriminating against any particular section of the community. Road traffic law offends against both these principles. It seeks to punish behaviour to which attaches little, if any, moral blame; and it is discriminatory, no less by reason of the inescapably random nature of its enforcement than by its denial to the driver of equal treatment by the law."
Professor P J Fitzgerald, 'Road Accidents: Prevent or Punish', 1969**

**"It is hard to believe that prosecuting more and more people every year is the best way of securing a good-tempered community, that accepts and observes codes of conduct designed for everyone's safety and convenience."
Professor R M Jackson, circa 1969**

**"Political tags — such as royalist, communist, democrat, populist, fascist, liberal, conservative, and so forth — are never basic criteria. The human race divides politically into those who want people to be controlled and those who have no such desire."
Robert A Heinlein**

**"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality."
Bishop Desmond Tutu**

**"Custody rates for some quite petty offending have quadrupled, motoring offences for example. ... They don't need to be in jail in such numbers"
Martin Narey, head of the Prison Service BBC 2004-01-18**

**"One in 10 murderers in London goes free. Three in 10 armed robbers do so too. Fewer than one in a 1,000 motoring offences goes unpunished. So, if you have to murder or commit an armed robbery, don't speed away and you'll have reasonable odds of living to kill or rob another day. "
Gordon Meek Letter to the Daily Telegraph 2005-06-16
(The lack of any quotes here is significant. Those who abuse the law to further their own agendas tend not to talk about it.)**

Quotes pertaining to Politics

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."

Plato

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you."

Pericles (430 B.C.)

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Edmund Burke 1770.

"Power never concedes anything without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."

Frederick Douglass, American abolitionist, 1857

"Five percent of the people think; ten percent of the people think they think; and the other eighty-five percent would rather die than think."

Thomas Alva Edison

"The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed — and hence clamorous to be led to safety — by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary"

H.L. Mencken

"In a time of universal deceit, telling the truth is a revolutionary act."

George Orwell

Warning: Displaying the above quote in public in Blair's Britain may get you arrested.

The Independent (Column 2 'Charged for quoting George Orwell in public')

"Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the government's purposes are beneficent ... the greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding."

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, US Supreme Court, 1928

"The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, [but because of the people who don't do anything about it.](#)"

Albert Einstein

'blackwhite' "Applied to the Party member, it means a loyal willingness to say that black is white when party discipline demands this. But it means also the ability to believe that black is white, and more, to know that black is white, and to forget that one has ever believed the contrary."

George Orwell, '1984'

"The genius of our ruling class is that it has kept a majority of the people from ever questioning the inequity of a system where most people drudge along, paying heavy taxes for which they get nothing in return."

Gore Vidal

"Civilization is the progress of a society toward privacy. The savage's whole existence is public, ruled by the laws of his tribe. Civilization is the process of setting man free from man."

Ayn Rand, 1943

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Benjamin Franklin.

"The undeserving maintain power by promoting hysteria"

Frank Herbert (American science fiction Author and Writer 1920–1986)

"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable."

John F. Kennedy 1963

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

Martin Luther King Jr.

"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it, misdiagnosing it, and then misapplying the wrong remedies."

Groucho Marx

"I am also struck by the degree to which our lives are becoming ruled by a truly absurd degree of politically correct interference."

HRH The Prince of Wales, in a letter to the Lord Chancellor,
printed in the Daily Mail on 26th September 2002

"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are

"I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

Ronald Reagan

"Politics is supposed to be the second oldest profession. I have come to realize that it bears a very close resemblance to the first."

Ronald Reagan

"A new fascism promises security from the terror of crime. All that is required is that we take away the criminals' rights — which, of course, are our own. Out of our desperation and fear we begin to feel a sense of security from the new totalitarian state."

Gerry Spence

"I don't see myself as conservative, but I'm not ultra-leftist. You build a philosophy of your own. I like the libertarian view, which is to leave everyone alone."

Clint Eastwood

"If anybody ever tries to tell me that Britain has the greatest democratic system in the world, I'll remind them they couldn't be further from the truth. A great democracy wouldn't have room for a powerful, high-ranking politician who publicly and viciously tells millions of motorists that many of them are idiots simply because of the cars they choose to drive."

Mike Rutherford, Auto Express 2004-06-09

"We have now sunk to a depth at which the restatement of the obvious is the first duty of intelligent men."

George Orwell

"The state is made for man, not man for the state.... That is to say, the state should be our servant and not we its slaves." **Albert Einstein**

"we've all got choices, we've all got voices, stand up make some noise"

Avril Lavigne

"He Wasn't" from her album Under My Skin, 2004

(She wasn't writing about politics, but about how people shouldn't just sit there and put up with stuff they don't like)

"First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."

Mahatma Gandhi

"How fortunate for leaders that men do not think."

Adolf Hitler

"The people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country."

Hermann Goering Speaking at the Nuremburg Trials 18th April 1946

"We can't expect the European People to jump from Capitalism to Communism, but we can assist their elected leaders in giving them small doses of Socialism, until they awaken one day to find that they have Communism."

Nikita Khrushchev

(Replace "Socialism" with "Environmentalism" & "Communism" with "Totalitarianism")

"I will have failed if in 5 years time there are not fewer journeys made by car."

John Prescott 1997 (Thanks John, what are you up to these days?)

Miscellaneous Quotes

"Talk sense to a fool and he calls you foolish."

Euripides 484-406BC

"If we believe absurdities, we shall commit atrocities."

Voltaire

"It's difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it."

Upton Sinclair (American Author 1878–1968)

[cf Global Warming, Speed Camera Partnerships]

"We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization"

Franklin D. Roosevelt 1882–1945