

A MODEST PROPOSAL

With apologies to Jonathan Swift

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MEMORANDUM

9th April 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

It has come to the attention of this department that the nation's resources are being squandered on a section of the population which has outlived its usefulness. This is obviously a huge drain on the country's resources at this time of national crisis and I have a modest proposal which will, I believe, free up finances to help us through the impending recession.

Those who are aged above 70 cost us over £500 a month each in pensions and for those families who are forced to place them in care homes, the cost can be more than four times that, reducing the amount the able bodied will inherit at their death.

I would like to suggest that this draining of individual resources be halted by the simple measure of euthanasing anyone over the age of 70. There will inevitably be protests that this is inhumane but no society can afford to bear the burden of people who do not contribute to our economy. It is a pity that a number of them, around 40 percent of those over 50,

participate regularly to the care of their grandchildren, but even a proposal as modest as this inevitably entails some collateral damage. Between the ages of 50 and 70 will in the future be designated as the golden years, when people have a window of opportunity to contribute to the childcare of the upcoming generation.

Critics of my proposal will undoubtedly say that it is not always easy to identify the over 70s. Many of them jog or do yoga. Some even retain intellectual facility and write books and music and so forth. This, however, is not a necessary element in society when there is ample entertainment for people in the sending of text messages and watching cat videos.

Some forward thinking doctors are already putting the principle into practice by asking patients in care homes to sign Do Not Resuscitate forms. It has to be said that most are compliant. They are, after all, the generation who founded the National Health Service so can see the logic of resources being channelled towards those most in need. Some of them even fought in the Second World War so understand that the needs of the individual must be subservient to the greater good of society.



Although the war was a terrible business, I understand, it does seem to me that there are lessons to be learned from it. But nowadays we don't need to put yellow stars on people to identify the relevant group – our technological advances in community surveillance and location tracking should be enough to ensure the compliance of this generation.

You may think there is a slight flaw in the logic of expecting the generation who have paid the most into the National Health Service to step aside at the time of their greatest need, but we must condition people to consider it in the same light as those funeral schemes, where you pay in but don't get the funeral if you happen to die after the end of the policy. If they haven't taken up the benefits of the NHS by the required age, their contributions simply pass to more economically active cohorts.

It may be difficult to convince younger generations, with their focus on wellbeing and their mental health, to subscribe to the principle of the proposal, but with proper preparation now, we will be able to manage the

deployment of human resources better in case of future pandemics.

Management is key in this issue. We do not want to appear inhumane. The last thing we want is the terrible optics of those care homes in Spain, where staff ran out and abandoned the residents. Some people might think that this was a logical thing to do. After all they were in danger of catching the virus themselves if they stayed on and the old people were going to die anyway.

I am not so callous, Prime Minister. My proposal will not only free up financial resources for the most economically active members of society but will also regenerate an industry which is under threat from the events of Covid 19 – the cruise ship business.

Perhaps a word in the ear of Richard Branson would be worthwhile. He had to postpone the launch of his *Scarlet Lady* cruise ship for adults only because of this damn virus. An entrepreneur like Richard could surely be persuaded to see the commercial opportunities of my proposal? A 70th birthday cruise to somewhere on the lucky person's bucket list, a few cocktails, only one of them being the final one. Perhaps there could be some tie-up (pardon my little joke, Prime Minister) with the sex toy industry?



Not a bad way to go, I think, certainly preferable to hanging round past your sell by date and then being hit by some poxy virus caused by bat droppings in a Chinese market. I'm sure our friends in Intelligence have methods of convincing the population of the common sense behind my proposal. We've done all right so far with *We're all in this together*. Let them come up with a nice snappy slogan to kick us off. *Your economy needs you* perhaps?

By the way, I have no personal investment in this other than the good of the country (though I might toss a few shekels in the direction of good old Virgin if Branson takes this on board.) No, Prime Minister, I have nothing to gain from my modest proposal. My own mater got the virus last week. A swift departure, thank goodness. I wouldn't have wanted her to linger. Fortunately she was very amenable to signing the DNR - the bloody care home costs were crippling.

Yours,
Jeremy

ANOTHER MODEST PROPOSAL



MEMORANDUM

14th April 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

Following the good response from the Cabinet to my last modest proposal, I'd like to put forward another. Actually a two for one, really.

We clearly have a problem with people complying with the regulations. I'm not talking about yourself, PM. Not at all. Chequers is not so much a second home as an extension of your office, though I can't say the same of HRH. Decamping to Birkhall when you'd just announced people shouldn't go to their second homes was somewhat irresponsible.

And if I may say so, didn't do Her Majesty any favours when she's had the double whammy of Harry bugging off and Andrew's involvement with that paedophile Yank becoming so public.

I blame the damn #MeToo movement for that. The fillies should learn to stop yapping about their mental health and get on with it. It's not as if they were damaged by mixing with chaps at the top of their professions, is it? On the contrary, they got to travel, they were given nice little gew-gaws and sexy underwear. A win-win situation if you ask me.

No, I'm talking about the great unwashed flouting our rules about going out. I don't know what's happened to the ordinary people of this country. We didn't become great by allowing people to do what they damn well please, not people of the lower class anyway. Could we really have

built our Empire if the rank and file hadn't obeyed orders?

Yet every week we see people lounging about in the parks having picnics or sunbathing. Or meandering about the country as if they owned it, when in fact the Dukes of Westminster and Northumberland pretty much have the deeds to the lot.

What I propose is that we channel that surplus energy by instigating daily roll call and marching practice. We would obviously have to maintain social distancing but a few hours on the parade ground square bashing would tire out the little snowflakes and give them a taste of some discipline.

The officers would obviously be given microphones and protective suits so that they'd be protected from the plebs' germs. I'm sure the NHS and care workers would see the value of diverting our resources to maintaining public order rather than to protecting themselves. After all, it's their job to care for the sick, so they can't complain if a few patients turn up.

Discipline is what's needed and, I'm sorry to say, has been sadly lacking in the British population's response to the coronacrisis. We need to make Britain great again, so can I suggest a more traditional approach is required? It is not acceptable for people to be lolling about in the fresh air when we've told them not to, even if many of them were the requisite distance apart. Rules must be seen to be obeyed. If people refuse to do so I suggest there is a time honoured way to deal with it - we restore public floggings.

I know what you're going to say, PM, that this makes us look a bit iffy and old-fashioned. But it didn't do any of us any harm, did it? It clearly couldn't be done in the traditional way, with large crowds of Yahoos gathering in stadiums to watch and jeer. That would undoubtedly unflatten the curve of the virus. So what I suggest is - and here's where we bring it bang up to date and monetise it - that we have a Public Order channel which is pay for view. Rupert might be interested in taking that forward. He's a bit of a believer in tough love with his own family, isn't he, pitting them against each other for bits of the business? Of course we wouldn't let him have the monopoly. Given that the media are constantly bleating on about losing revenue, this would offer them a way to diversify.

It would also boost production in certain industries, not least manufacturers of bondage goods. And one of the benefits of it in the coming recession is that it would do us no harm with our Saudi chums, who already use such methods. It would remind them that we share the same values of public decency and adherence to orders and give them confidence in our ability to fulfil their trade needs.

I have no financial interest in this although I do have a few shares in one of the larger weapons companies. All I wish is for the rule of law to be respected and for Britain to show its mettle in this time of national emergency.

With best wishes,
Jeremy

A MODEST PROPOSAL FOR THE NHS



MEMORANDUM

20th April 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

It's good to know that you're well enough to return to full Cabinet responsibility next week. You have been much missed, except at Cobra meetings of course, though it was definitely much more important for you to be seen cavorting about with that shaggy dragon thing for the Chinese New Year than to be listening to bleating medics. After all, the Chinker Chonks may have given us this virus, but actually, PM, I think they've handed us a rare opportunity.

You know my department is always seeking to improve our use of the human resources at our disposal. Goodness knows, they're not all up to the mark these days, with all these young people whining about climate change and their mental health. They should just bloody well get on with it. The world has survived millions of years of storms and earthquakes and I'd lay odds it'll survive another few million years of industrialisation - as long as the sensible ones among us continue to maintain second homes in the country, of course. That'll keep it green, by Jove.

But this Covid 19 thingy is a marvellous chance for us to streamline the National Health Service. Till the virus struck, people had become way too dependent on people from outside solving their problems for them. I know you don't believe in the nanny state any more than I do. Now we

have an opening to encourage people to look after themselves and stand on their own two feet.

We have a new model, Prime Minister, and I for one am very excited by it. So excited that I have another modest proposal to make - that we build on the success of the new climate of thought and create a super-efficient health service entirely dedicated to coronavirus. We're already halfway there as we've put all other health care to one side while we concentrate on it. Let's extend the idea so that every hospital *in the whole country* is devoted solely to coronavirus. People will soon come to realise that if they want other medical services they'll jolly well have to pay for them.

Look, they're already getting the hang of modern thinking. Referrals to A&E are down by 54 percent and urgent cancer referrals are down by a whopping 72 percent. Good grief, PM, it just shows how much we squander the privilege of medical care in normal circumstances. This proves it, people are referring themselves to the medics for no good reason. And we couldn't possibly have achieved such a truly admirable fall in cases without the head start we've got from this.



I suppose people will start griping that a few extra people might die - there's been that spike in unexplained deaths in Scotland - but luckily some prof from Edinburgh University has come up with a theory that suits our purposes very well. She says it's down to the Scots' boozing. Up to them if they want to ban it, of course, though I should think wee Nicola will really unite the country if she wants to bring in that one. Could be a good thing for us, of course. Take his Buckfast away from a Jock and he'll be singing Engerland, Engerland, Engerland before you can pour yourself a little snifter.

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There is, of course, the thorny question of the pharmaceutical companies. We can't see them going to the wall. (I have to confess I have a certain personal interest in this - I have a few spondulicks invested in one of the big firms and am keeping a keen eye on the progress of some of the others.) It would be a shame if they found a vaccine or even a treatment too quickly as we want to capitalise on the shrinking of the

national health service. It would be disastrous if things went back to normal too quickly, before we'd got people educated about self-sufficiency in health matters.



In fact what we could do is extend the ability of pharmacists to prescribe, as they're temporarily doing now. Doctor, chemist? It doesn't much matter where people get their tablets from just so long as they get them. We could even have computerised booths where you key your symptoms in and the machine tells you what to take for it. After all, that's all the GPs are doing at the moment. You phone up, tell them you've gone numb down your left hand side and they'll prescribe a few statins. Job done.

At one stroke we'd cut the cost of education, which is a terrible burden on the country, and of doctor's wages, which really are shockingly high. Good grief, they actually earn more than MPs do. They get 90 grand a year and we have to struggle by on under 82. Just as well we have our allowances and are able to get relief on our second homes and put the wife down as an office worker or something. I throw Babs a few extra spa days to make it up to her and the old bean is perfectly happy.

You can get people used to anything and I'd say we're doing terribly well on getting the public to accept our philosophy already. Rallying the troops has brought in 750000 unpaid workers to the NHS, (sorry, volunteers - you may have missed that figure when you were at Chequers) a great saving on the economic burden of healthcare. And the weekly doorstep jamboree is doing wonders for morale, as are the badges, a very good incentive, I'm sure. The stars performing in their own homes at the weekend was just the ticket. I was a bit disappointed Jennifer Lopez appeared to be fully clothed but Michael Buble really hit the funny bone with his impersonation of someone with constipation.

I know you're not a man for detail, PM, and quite right too. A broad brush approach is how you become a truly inspirational leader. There are flunkies like me who'll take care of the fine print. People nowadays don't expect their leaders to be too serious - the Donald should take a tip out of your book and crack a few jokes once in a while. Then maybe he'd have your approval ratings. Or he could get sick too - that should swing it.

So let my department take the burden and lead the way on this.

With best wishes,
Jeremy

LET THE SICK KIDDIES CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR OWN CARE



MEMORANDUM

29th April 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to pledge this department's support following the disloyal questioning in the House of Lords of our policies on protecting the over 70s. We have to expect the Labour lot to be against us now that good old Tony Blair has gone, but Lord Lucas, a hereditary peer? It really is quite outrageous for him to challenge our thinking on this. I suspect he sees the clock ticking and is afraid that he himself will have to stay in lockdown when the rest of us are able to get out and about and enjoy our second homes. What a selfish approach to something we're all in together.

It is quite clear to me that to make the fullest use of our human resources we must assess the resources' value to us in the most clear-sighted and fair way. What use are people over 70, really? Forty percent of them may help with childcare but do we want our nation's children being cared for by duffers like that?

We must look at this logically, PM. The one real contribution they make to the economy is the new fund-raising model for the NHS - Captain Tom and all the other old buggers walking round in circles and camping out in their gardens. That must be ring-fenced as essential work, though we have to look to the future on this and make provision for when they inevitably pop their clogs.

My modest proposal on that front would be to class child patients as essential workers. That way they will be contributing to their own care and ensuring that their leukaemia or muscular dystrophy has been for a purpose. Newspapers often run full double page spreads about these children but the profits are usually siphoned off to useless charities like Cancer Research. In future the sick kiddies will have to tell their stories to raise funds for the NHS. Only the pretty ones of course.

But I digress. This corona crisis has sharpened my department's thinking and we are buzzing with new solutions to the problems in our society. What I wanted to discuss with you is the burden the old place on the rest of us. Now that we're releasing the prison population we have spare accommodation and my latest modest proposal is that we use that for the over 70s, particularly the ones with dementia. They have no need of the luxury surroundings that care homes give them because, let's face it, half the old ducks aren't aware of what's going on around them.

Prison staff are well trained in the use of equipment such as power hoses, which could be utilised to keep them clean. We'd have to ensure the officers weren't over-enthusiastic as they normally use these things to quell riots, but I'm sure they'd soon get the hang of it. A bit of prison discipline would certainly toughen up the old codgers who keep insisting they're fitter than they've ever been. I'm afraid some of them grew up in the Swinging Sixties, one of the more decadent eras we've been through, if the history books are to be believed. Not a useful period to anyone, I'm afraid. From the sound of it, it encouraged public disobedience and licentious behaviour, though between you and me, I do like a filly in those pelmets they call mini-skirts.



By relocating the over 70s to the prisons, we would free up the care homes to become luxury hotels, which would contribute to the whole of the economy instead of benefiting just one section of society. There remains the thorny question of how to relocate the prisoners. At the moment we are still negotiating the terms of the Public Order channel and the proposed pay-for-view public floggings. (It's a pity the name *Flog It!* has been taken by that damn antiques programme - it does have a rather snappy ring to it.) I expect some of the more colourful inmates to

become media stars once we start creating reality shows like that jungle thingy or perhaps some of the extreme game shows the Japs used to go in for, where they competed to see who could hang up longest without tearing their nipples.



But we can't deploy them all in the new TV channel, so perhaps we should re-institute another traditional solution, transportation. That sounds a bit better than deportation and, as you know, we have to get the interface with the public just right. No point in coming up with all these marvellous solutions if the optics aren't right.

Now this has nothing at all with the fact that I invested in Virgin after our recent discussion, but Branson has a fleet of airliners and a couple of cruise ships hanging around going spare after his strategic withdrawal from Australia. I know I wanted him to use this capacity for what I call the Final Solution for the over 70s (though some geek in the department says this won't go down well with the public as Hitler used that phrase in the Second World War) but these things take some time to set up and there will be plenty of luxury cruise liners going spare once we get through this tricky period.

We need to move fast and despatch the population of the prisons off in one form of transport or another. The airliners would have a proper send-off like a rocket launch and would then take the prisoners to some island in the middle of nowhere where they would have to use their survival skills to, well, survive. It would be the same with the cruise ships. They'd just keep cruising indefinitely until the fuel ran out.

I'd expect there to be turf wars over the cabins with sea views and gang lords taking over the supply chain, supervising fishing parties and meting out justice to prisoners who stepped out of line. I don't need to tell you that crime and violence as entertainment go down very well on terrestrial television. It would be a surefire winner on our Public Order pay for view. Watch this space, PM.

With best wishes,
Jeremy

DOUBLE-019



MEMORANDUM

5th May 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

May I add my voice to the nation's in congratulating you on the birth of your son. I'm sure little Wilfie will be a chip off the old block, a terrific addition to Team Boris, and what a joy for him to have the pleasure of living with you as he's growing up. I trust your other children will be mature enough to welcome such a boon for him rather than being jealous - you know what sibling rivalry can be like.

Or rather, of course *you* don't, not personally. I'm sure all your brothers and sisters are right behind you, even the one who resigned from politics over Brexit, and that rather loud Remoaner sister of yours.

Little Wilfie couldn't have come at a better time for the country and I predict will consolidate your status as National Treasure, especially now that Harry and Meghan have taken baby Archie off to the colonies. It's terribly important for the country to have leadership at a time like this and the 30 percent rise in your popularity ratings just goes to show, figures aren't everything. Anyway, places like Belgium are doing much worse than we are - 684 deaths per million of the population while we only have 419. Pity the US has around half that but still, jolly good show, PM.

The general public are clearly looking for leadership. In times of crisis they need to feel safe and your miraculous recovery from the virus without even being on a ventilator has reinforced your position as a

charismatic, heaven messianic leader - we should take a leaf out of the Chinese book and get people to have pictures of you in their living rooms. We in the department believe we need to build on the public's trust and mobilise our human resources into a properly organised citizen force.

With our plans for streamlining the NHS and the care home industry under way, we're turning our attention to the future of the police force. It seems that in the future most crime will be online - some people are saying Jeff Bezos' of Amazon's amassing of \$20 billion in the first 23 days of lockdown is criminal, har har, though I say more power to his elbow.

But with people being indoors from now on it means that we won't really have much need of the traditional bobby. We *will* still have to have a visible presence for park patrols, of course. I do enjoy watching that in my local park. People's mobile phones go flying and the little fillies practically jump out of their leggings when they see the police car coming towards them. Best of all is when they're so engrossed in texting their spotty boyfriends that they don't notice till the police car is right on them. You get some very funny expressions then, PM.



No, there's very little for the boys in blue to do nowadays, except for the odd case of domestic violence, though who's counting that? Apart from the lezzo feminists, of course. For the most part a volunteer force will do the business very well and this is where my modest proposal comes in. We've had over 200000 citizens reporting their neighbours for anti-social behaviour - in other words, for flouting the very sensible protective measures we've put in place. There's huge public support for law and order measures, so let's create a secret force of citizen spies. We could call them something like Double O-19.

You might think the new tracing app would be sufficient but, let's face it, it's only amateur stuff in comparison with what the boys at GCHQ can do. I see the so-called civil liberty wonks are already bleating about losing their human rights though most of them give their location away without a thought to Google or those route planning apps. Couldn't do without it myself, though I do get a bit cross with that Alexa thing my

sister gave me last Christmas. I have a feeling it doesn't like me as it's always telling me it doesn't have things in my music library or can't understand what I'm saying. Babs says she doesn't like orders, that I'm supposed to say please and thank you, but why change the habit of a lifetime? You don't ask underlings to do things, do you? - you give them orders.

In Singapore only 20 percent of people actually signed up to the app but that was enough to track most of the population. We know that the disposable generation, as we now call the over 70's, don't even have smartphones, but who cares about them anyway? They'll all be safely quarantined in the prisons if the department can push it through. No, the snowflakes are well used to giving away their private details if they want to post selfies or pictures of their dinner. Especially in the old days when they chose their holiday destinations for how they looked on Instagram.



With Double O-19, we'd start by building on that first wave of civic-minded people who did the reporting. Their work would have to be clandestine, which would be right up the curtain twitchers' street and would definitely appeal to the more gung ho types who're prepared to be pro-active in snooping on their neighbours.

There'd be no point in creating a super badge for them, like we did with the health and care workers. But we'd give them little identity cards they could tuck away in inside pockets, and we'd set up a proper agent/handler system like they have in the Bond films. Maybe we'd even give them walkie-talkie sets so that they could exchange information if they were out on a recce.

The first 200000 people who filed reports would be given preference - I can see us having a lot of people applying to become agents, especially if we gave them discounts on drones and other technology. Much cheaper than actually paying wages. (Must remember to instruct my stockbroker to look at drone manufacturers' shares.) Most people already have smartphones and are used to filming their dogs humping the cushions or cats falling off beds, so we wouldn't even have to do much in the way of a training programme.

It's a lot of fun as a scheme, PM. I have a very attractive neighbour, well worth the watching - might even join up myself.

Yours,
Jeremy

NATIONAL TREASURES



MEMORANDUM

14th May 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

I'm flattered that you've taken my advice and called for a new slogan. *Stay alert* is a marvellous choice. I have no idea why people are so confused by its message - it puts the responsibility for health firmly where it belongs, on to the individual. If people are stupid enough to catch the coronavirus, despite all the measures we've put in place, then they deserve it.

I exempt you from that charge, of course, Prime Minister. How were you to know that shaking the hands of covid 19 patients would pass on the virus? After all, Princess Diana shook plenty of AIDS patients' hands and didn't get it, did she? And it does confirm our previous slogan, *We're all in this together*. A Prime Minister who can catch the virus is clearly a man of the people. But a special man, who has escaped the grip of this illness and become a superhero.

Your address to the nation was magisterial, a masterly performance in conveying information about ... well, I'm not entirely sure what, but rest assured you spoke magnificently. Only the ungrateful could have failed to be reassured. May I commend you in your choices. Marvellous for people to be able to go golfing again or play basketball with other members of their household. I can't see myself persuading Babs to shoot a few hoops in the back garden though perhaps you and Carrie will tear up the lawns

at Number 10.

But to be able to meet members of your family at a six feet distance in the park, what a gift, PM. I suppose they could have done this at any point on their daily exercise but still, a reassertion of the family values you and your various households are famous for.

As I said in my last letter, PM, you are a National Treasure and I would like to propose a new brigade of National Treasures who embody the fighting spirit of the British people and who would step in to fill the breach when NHS fundraisers like Captain Tom and that skipping Sikh chappie give up. Not just yourself but people the public already love, like that lady who knitted a model of the prom at Great Yarmouth or all those acting Dames. You know, old biddies like Dame Judi and Dame Maggie and the sexy one, Helen, who really is quite a Dame, if you ask me.

We'd leave out Dame Emma, of course. Bit too much of the luvvie leftie, though how she can claim that when she has at least three houses, I don't know. Bad form if you ask me, especially that one in Venice. Everyone knows if you have a house in Italy it has to be in Tuscany.



It's a pity Nicola Sturgeon, or Nicola Poppins as we call her in the department, is a jock. She's more than a National Treasure in Jockistan - they've made her into a cult figure up there. It seems quite unfair to me, PM, that she should have a higher approval rating than your own when she's adopted the same policies as you have yourself - stopping community testing when you did, only now putting tracing officers in place, not ordering PPE from those firms who keep coming forward to claim they've offered to make it for us. (As if we'd order from them when we can get it much cheaper from China or Turkey.)

And she's keeping the lockdown in place longer than we are. You'd have thought the whingeing jocks would rebel but I suppose there's nothing more seductive than being told what to do by a bossy woman with good legs.

No, there's no gratitude if you ask me. Here we are, giving business a huge boost by paying 80 percent of their employees' salaries, yet some of them are still threatening to go bust. People are being paid a lot of money to sit around at home and enjoy the sunshine, yet they're not

prepared to do anything in return. One doesn't expect the doffed cap and tugged forelock nowadays (though perhaps there would be less social unrest if one did) but there has to be some give and take. We beaver away in government trying to provide opportunity for people and what do they do? Refuse to go fruit picking, even when there's the added bonus of farmers offering them jolly good beds in dorms. It's not as if we're Singapore, cramming them in 20 to a room, without natural light or sanitary conditions. Some of our farmers actually offer caravans with only three or four people in the space.



I really don't see why people should object to living on site. Didn't do us any harm living away from home at Eton, did it? I don't suppose it's exactly the same as we had our own rooms in the dorms, but you pay for what you get, surely? Nicola Poppins can go down the universal basic income route if she wants but we need to preserve the natural order. We're not Communists, after all, we're the party of business and must continue to bear profit in mind as we move forward into the biggest recession this country has faced in 300 years. A recession not of our making and one we will need to face with typical British grit and stiff upper lip and all that.

You are giving us a brave new world, PM, with people cycling to work (apart from the hundreds on every platform of the London Tube) and construction going on till nine o'clock in the evening in residential areas. I suppose some NIMBYs will object but we all have to make sacrifices to get the economy on its feet again. If you can come to special terms with the Frogs and put up with them coming and going into the country at will, then the general public can put up with the odd digger or cement mixer when they're trying to watch porn.

Yours,
Jeremy

WRECKING BALL



MEMORANDUM

14th May 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

At the risk of appearing impertinent, I would like to commiserate with you on your plummeting approval ratings and to pledge you the support of the Human Resources department. It's not your fault if people are too stupid to understand a perfectly simple slogan and the four levels we'll go through before completely lifting lockdown. Sorry, is it five levels?

It strikes me as very ungrateful of people to disapprove of you because you've come out of hospital. You couldn't possibly have been expected to run the country from a hospital bed forever and your leaving shows true unselfishness, though as the NHS is only running at 60 percent of its capacity, perhaps you could have kept your approval ratings up by staying in a little while longer.

That figure of 60 percent is a remarkable achievement, PM, and will stand us in good stead for the future contraction of the health service. People have clearly got the idea - they mustn't run bleating to their GP every time they get cancer or a heart attack. They've become much more self-reliant and a jolly good thing too. There's no room for whingers in the new Britain.

I know some people felt my department's suggestions for reducing NHS costs by getting patients to fundraise for treatment were a little unconventional, though I still think the National Treasures scheme could

work - after all, what are all those people in the entertainment industry going to do if we can't reach level five for a while. Or is level one the good one?

I appreciate not everyone is as forward thinking as we are ourselves so am glad that you've continued in your transfer of the human resources' medical data to our chums on the dark side. Honestly, I don't know why the Loony Left are complaining. £1 million in 18 months to one firm is a drop in the ocean compared to the £1 billion we've given out in contracts since covid began. These guys will ensure that the US team dismantling the NHS for positive reconstruction - or the Wrecking Ball team, as we call them in the department - use them to streamline services and set up proper individual financial plans. People must stop expecting something for nothing where medicine is concerned. They can't possibly think their pathetic national insurance payments cover the true cost, can they. (Wouldn't mind that Miley gal coming round to offer a bit of ball wrecking treatment of an afternoon, would you?!)

No, knowledge is power, they say. Personally I find it can get in the way of decisive action, as I suspect you do yourself, but it should be handed over to the people who'll use it best. I did applaud your cunning in offering mobile testing to the dependent territories. Why should Nicola Poppins get the results of those 30000 tests on the jocks? She'd only use it for more political propaganda, when we should obviously look at it first so we can check their R rate isn't as good as ours. (Luckily, they're one of the few places left which are worse, it seems.)

Pity the taffs realised that data protection laws would prevent us handing over the results and decided to do their own testing. Not often they get one over on the Poptart, though I have to say, she's a world leader in the art of claiming the moral high ground. Better than you are yourself, PM. You must stop being so humble and do as she does. *I told you all I'd get it wrong. And I did, so see? I was right.*

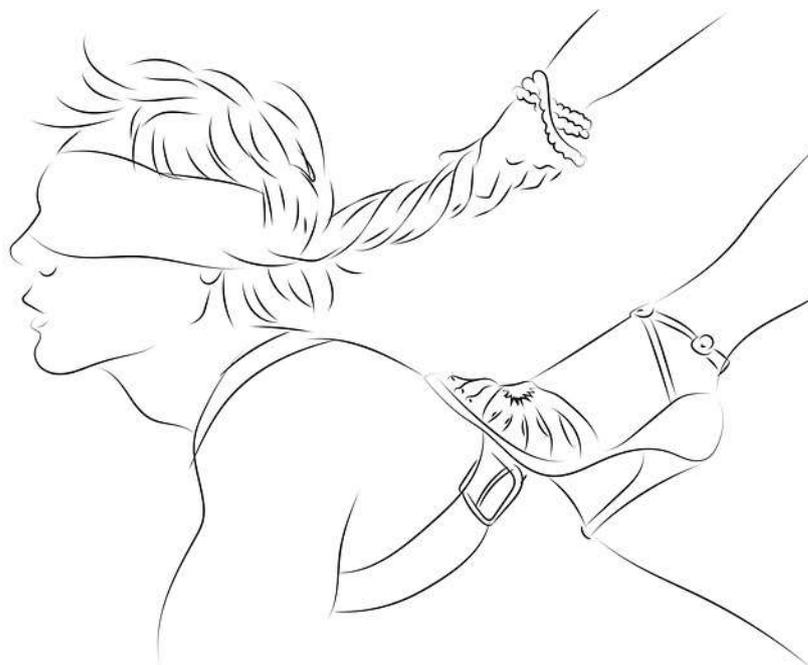
You're the one who's right, PM. You've made the right decision in making the working classes start doing what they're supposed to do - work. It's their own fault if they can't afford cars. Pure selfishness. They've probably squandered all their cash on beer and Kentucky chicken, but it's our responsibility to get people off public transport and keep the R rate down. They can just bloody well get on their bikes.

Now there's a good slogan, PM - Get On Your Bike. We could apply it to all sorts of things - like the foreign NHS staff whose visas have run out or the unemployed layabouts who didn't want to pick onions and live in perfectly good dorms miles away from their homes. Or those bolshie teachers who're saying it's not safe for children to go back to school. Honestly, what kind of example is that to give to the little darlings? We're becoming a nation of ninnies.

Oops. One of the more nerdish members of department has just told me a Tory minister from the olden days used that slogan. Back to the drawing board! But don't worry, there are many more where that came from - how about The Smart Virus - it knows to stay six feet away from you.

Yours,
Jeremy

DOMS, (NUCLEAR) SUBS, AND WORLD WAR THREE



MEMORANDUM

27th May 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

May I congratulate you on your loyalty towards your commander-in-chief, Dominic Cummings. Not only have you struck a blow for fathers everywhere, a much beleaguered group in these days when the fillies rampage all over us chaps, but you've shown the country some much needed reality. This Twitterstorm will soon be replaced by some other poor bastard being put under the microscope and it won't be long before people fall into line and accept that there's one law for people at the top and another for the peasants - and there's very good reason for that.

Dom has shown himself to be a true leader, refusing to bow to criticism and insisting that his behaviour was beyond reproach. This iron will is the ideal quality for our top men as the country moves towards a new future.

The department and I have been brainstorming and have come up with a fabulously exciting idea. Dom, with his superb strategic skills, will have a pivotal role. I have a modest proposal to make, Prime Minister. Why don't we start a third world war?

I realise people might resist a little at first, but it makes economic sense. Once our period of streamlining the economy and taking out the excess fat is over, there will be quite a few people out of work, young people especially. What better way to put their youthful vigour and

enthusiasm to use than by dragooning them into military service?

If there is one industry we cannot afford to lie idle it is the weapons industry. We've built up too much of a reputation for excellence with our facilitation of the Saudi enterprise in Yemen to falter now. To say nothing of the extra spondulicks in the old coffers.

I believe starting World War Three could be the beginning of a new era of British world domination - well, in conjunction with our great allies, the Americans, who've been so illuminating in our agricultural and medical trade talks, offering us such fantastic new methods of producing hygienic food and forward thinking pricing plans for pharmaceuticals.

There has never been a better time to launch a war. Lockdown has been the ideal preparation, making our young men aware of how boring life can be when there's no outlet for their testosterone - put a gun in their hands and they'll all be the stars of their own superhero films. The gals have had to learn how to cook from scratch again and all those baking shows they watch will ensure a good standard of baked goods when the Greggs' shops are all bombed. And we shouldn't have any problems with having to bring in gyppo fruit pickers now that Alan Titchmarsh is showing people how to grow their own vegetables.



But the key thing is that we've trained the population to obey orders, staying indoors, taking their daily hour's exercise, and, crucially, becoming accustomed to queuing for lengthy periods of time for rationed goods. Through your own stirring words, we have inculcated a wartime spirit. The importance of that can't be over-estimated. I hope you will not consider it flattery if I say that you would make a first class wartime leader. Someone like Winston Churchill wouldn't have a hope of leading people in our modern world. Far too old, ugly as sin, and I doubt he'd have been able to rein himself in enough to cope with Twitter. He might have been the epitome of the British bulldog but people prefer those cute little French pugs these days.

If I may make so bold, your consort, the lovely Carrie, would make the perfect wartime leader's wife. She followed her man into covidity, survived the virus, and then gave birth to little Wilfie, a shining example to modern women and sure to capture the Mumsnet vote. She'll enhance

your vote with the chaps too - a bit of prime blonde tottie as arm candy never hurt a fellow's standing. (That's if we keep the vote, of course. We could probably bring in emergency powers to get rid of it.)



I know you've said, quite rightly, that there are no guarantees, but you must stand firm on the subject of the commander-in-chief. I see great things ahead for him. Ignore that MP who resigned - he's only a jock - and you must rise above Commons tea room gossip about doms and subs. He is the perfect person to take charge of the theatre of war.

I assume the chinker chonks would be the ideal target. After all, they've landed the world with this virus. The fact that it's turned into a marvellous opportunity for us to manage our human resources, stifle dissent, and rationalise the economy is beside the point. They gave the world this dangerous disease (unless the CIA really did invent it, in which case, respect to our American allies, didn't think they had it in them) and they must pay the price.

The Yanks have played a blinder on this, I have to say - encircling China with nuclear missiles before a war has even happened is a piece of genius. Not even Commandant Cummings has come up with anything as brilliant as that. But he is, as we all know, capable of Machiavellian cunning (whatever that is) and will undoubtedly come up with some jolly japes as the world war progresses.

If you really do have to give in to the mere 35 Tory MPs who've called for Dom's resignation then you could do worse than call on the Scottish nanny to be your second in command. She's lagging behind a little at the moment on easing lockdown but she's not far behind us and so far has proved herself loyal to the government's message, building the multi-million pound show hospital and shutting down her community testing and tracing programme at roughly the same time as us - was it Dom who thought of that one, PM? A super wheeze, if you don't mind my saying so, keeping the death and infection rates down because nobody's being tested.

And you know I yield to no-one in my admiration for Nicola Poppins's legs.

Yours,
Jeremy

OBEYING THE RULES



MEMORANDUM

4th June 2020

From: Human Resources Department

To: Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister,

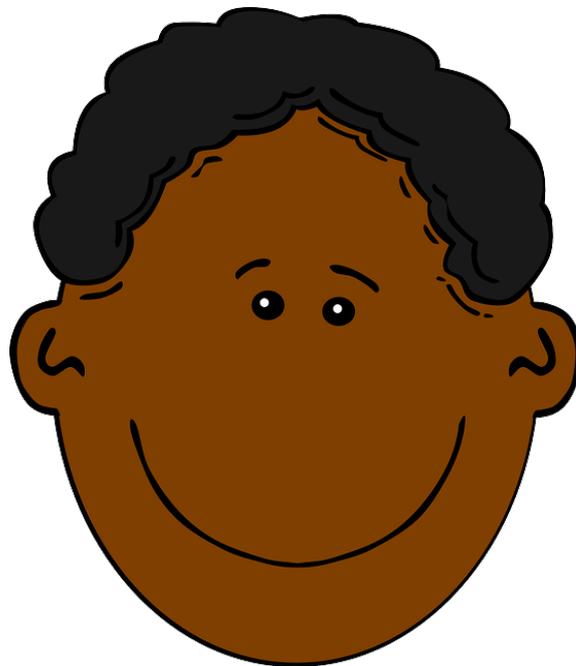
I am writing as a matter of urgency as we in the department have a modest proposal to make - we feel it may be time you spoke out about the current race riots in the United States. We know it's only been a week, since the botched arrest of Mr Floyd and realise your silence is probably to maintain good relations with our future trading partners, who've offered us so much in the way of new types of poultry hygiene and hormonally enhanced beef, but we feel it would be politic to make a proper statement now. The Ponderosa President may not stay the course in the next elections, so it would be timely for you to condemn his unstatesmanlike reaction to the police brutality that has led to so much civil unrest over there.

You needn't fear that the Trumpster will hold such a statement against you. We'll simply tell him that it's fake news, produced by artificial intelligence means. That sounds like a Hollywood movie plot so even he will understand it. If you speak slowly we'll easily be able to persuade him that a robot is reproducing your voice. Our doctors have, in any case, assessed him to have no short term memory whatsoever and think it likely that he has suffered frontal lobe damage - or else never developed a frontal lobe in the first place. That, apparently, is why he has little emotional control and indulges in inappropriate behaviour - thank goodness for our scientists, helping us comprehend the incomprehensible.

Not that I consider his bringing in tanks against protesters to be inappropriate, I have to say. The Americans are clearly an unruly and ill-disciplined race, with no respect for the rule of law - or for social

distancing. You were quite right to tell our own protestors to maintain the rules on that. That's the important issue in today's situation, obeying the rules - unless you're a high ranking government official, of course. Or even a high ranking non-government, non-elected official. The Dom *is* something official, isn't he?

I see some of the protesters in today's demo in Hyde Park holding up banners saying, *The UK isn't innocent*. How dare they suggest we have anything to reproach ourselves for? Britain doesn't go in for treating black and ethnic minorities with brutality. For goodness sake, there were only 23 BAME deaths in police custody last time we looked, 2017-18 - and most of them were people who were a bit mental. I suppose it might be considered politically incorrect to call them that these days, PM, but in the human resources department we've had to come to terms with the hard fact that some resources are more useful than others.



Britain has a long and proud record of dealing with these chaps with a touch of the tarbrush. It's incredible to me that anyone could condemn us as racist when we've inter-acted with our dusky brethren from all over the world for many years and what's more, have helped them get their countries into shape. We've shown them what civilisation and good order look like and they should be grateful. Commonsense, decency, a sense of fair play, that's what we're all about. We've treated them all absolutely the same, no matter what the colour of their skin - given them the benefit of British customs, British commerce, British justice. They may have thought the beatings and land confiscation a little harsh on occasion, but by Jove, it made them toe the line, didn't it?

The fact is, we've made allowances for them. What would they be today if we hadn't built an Empire to show less progressive nations how to behave? But the world is not a fair place, PM, there's no gratitude. That's why you're right to keep people's minds focused on the really important matters - social distancing. Absolutely outrageous, people standing right next to each other in Hyde Park, making no attempt to keep two metres

apart. They should know how to do it - we MPs showed them how to in the House of Commons yesterday, though speaking personally, I think you should have a word in Moggadon Man's ear about restoring virtual voting. (Just my little joke, PM - he knows I'm a big fan.) Now we've shown the plebs how to queue there should be no reason for us to waste our time with it.

Any statement you do make about the US situation should focus on the fact that you disapprove of these black and white people all standing next to each other and you think El Trumpo is right to be concerned. I know you think I'm a little obsessed with Nicola Poppins (though she is the acceptable side of the nanny state, is she not?) but you could do worse than take a leaf out of her book, PM. Every time people criticise her, say for all those patients who were sent to care homes without tests, or the fact that one in 10 people in Jockistan are likely to lose their jobs, she just hits right back, telling the naughty Scots off for their misbehaviour. Wouldn't mind being stood in the corner by her.

Yours,
Jeremy

With grateful thanks to Pixabay, who provided the images:
<https://pixabay.com/>