

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

STATEMENTS FROM FREE SPEECH WRITERS ON THE OCCASION OF HER PASSING



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Blacklist Press sends deepest sympathies to the Royal Family on the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II at ninety-six years of age.

As we commiserate, we should also celebrate a remarkable life dedicated to the spirit of public service. Performing her duties until the very end, the Queen's service has provided a true model for us all to follow in our own lives.

Now the closing chapters of the Queen's life have been written, it is time to reflect with pride and admiration on an historic reign both as a country and as a Commonwealth.

Holding the throne for seventy years, an assured symbol of stability and tradition, the legacy she has forged shall in time be appreciated and treasured. May King Charles III's reign be a new light for new times, true to the footsteps of his mother whose memory will endure.

By *LibertariDan* ([Telegram](#))

A fitting tribute to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II might be to wish that more 'leaders' exemplified two of her leadership qualities. Namely, to keep their promises, and largely leave everyone to their own business. The world would be a far better place.

By *Christopher J. Wilkinson* ([Website](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Telegram](#), [MeWe](#))

All of us, whether ardent royalist or impassioned republican, have rightly been taking a moment to reflect on this occasion. A monumental figure in our nation's history left us this week, a woman with far greater character, strength, and spirit of public service than many – if not all – of her statesmen.

What we may not recall however, but which we may in time value, was her unspoken modernisation of the monarchy which changed perceptions of the Royal Family from being a detached and stoic representation of an old guard establishment, especially after the death of Princess Diana in 1997, to one which is more accessible and amenable to many more people than previous – much to her credit.

Holding true to her word upon coming to the throne, the Queen dedicated herself to her duties from the first day until her last and has ensured stability in times of change. Her memory shall endure.

CAN WE TRUST LIZ TRUSS?

By Gareth Seward ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#))



Source: Office of U.S. Ambassador to U.K., [Wikimedia](#) (Public Domain)

The dawning of September saw Liz Truss become Britain's latest Prime Minister, which of late almost seems like a constantly revolving door that every leading Conservative MP is destined to have a crack at since David Cameron timidly shied away from the responsibility of dealing with Brexit in 2016. And what an unenviable time it is to assume such a position! Who would want the challenges and difficulties facing any PM right now? Soaring inflation, the energy crisis, the FTSE 250 index significantly down, rising interest rates, potential food shortages, huge deficits, astronomical national debt, a falling pound... and the list goes on.

Unfortunately, politicians are faced with the sense that they need to remain just popular enough to see themselves remain in office. This means quite often doing what would be popular with those that can keep them there rather than what is necessary to benefit the country, and telling the public what they want to hear rather than what is the truth. Pandering to an electorate that largely go to the ballot box based on emotions and a (deliberately engineered) lack of economic understanding, an unfortunate public that has proven decade after decade that they are easily hoodwinked come election season.

Like her predecessor Boris Johnson, Truss is not averse to making dramatic U turns, pending which way the winds of popular sentiment are blowing. Her reversal on Brexit alone is enough to flag this, but switching from a Liberal Democrat to a Conservative is a change as radical as Ghengis Khan becoming an ambassador for world peace. Of course, it's possible and wholly acceptable for any person to have a change of political philosophy – many of us do as we grow older and perhaps a little wiser. But is she like Boris in other ways too? Will the words she speaks turn out to be very different from her actions? Time will tell. For all her talk of free markets, lower taxes and conservatism however, it isn't very encouraging thus far if we look at what she has pledged early doors. First, Truss has expressed her plans to borrow more than £100 billion to subsidise energy companies in an bid to reduce their charges.

Apart from the fact that government handing subsidies to firms is as far from a free market as you can get, more borrowing simply means more debt which ultimately *will* lead to more inflation and more taxation. Basically, it means the economic pain we are feeling now will be exacerbated even worse in the future. Presently, it may offer some level of relief and alleviation of current pressures, but it's just numbing the pain by hitting the bottle – in the morning when the boozy effects have worn off, you're going to have one hell of a headache.

Unfortunately, as has become the standard operating procedure of government when it comes to finances and the economy, they seek temporary short-term fixes that result in worse long-term consequences. Future consequences are not a burden politicians in office tend to concern themselves with. They'll be enjoying their lucrative fees for after dinner speeches, skiing trips to Switzerland and weekend stays at their holiday homes in the south of France long, long after they have left office, no longer caring for your votes and as such the destructive aftermath of their decisions and policies will be someone else's problem. As the economically reprehensible John Maynard Keynes once famously said, showing a distinct lack of concern for the longer-term consequences of irresponsible policy; "In the long run we are all dead." (That may be so John, but your children and their children will certainly be left to carry the can).

In times when we are paying the price for years of reckless and irresponsible monetary and fiscal policies, Truss's answer to the energy crisis appears to be to pour more petrol on the fire. Substantial government debt has been one of the drivers that has led to the crisis point we find ourselves in. Excessive borrowing now would just paper over the cracks. And make no mistake, the current cracks we're facing make the San Andreas Fault pale in comparison.

Second, her policy to implement price controls by freezing energy bills for households at £2,500 may well prove to be a popular move, and no doubt be a temporary help to people struggling – but only in the short term. However, anyone who has ever bothered to read an economics book or acknowledge any economic history will know that price controls NEVER end well. By introducing price caps, you reduce incentives to produce. It also discourages investment and causes market competition to dwindle. All three of these factors are elements that have contributed to the current energy crisis we find ourselves in, [as I discussed in a previous edition of Free Speech](#). What those factors have in common is that they will make energy scarce in supply, driving up wholesale costs thus making it more expensive, sending those firms struggling with such costs due to price caps on their profits out of business, ultimately leading to bigger monopolies.



Source: Office of U.S. Ambassador to U.K.,
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A far better way to tackle the energy crisis would not be Truss' plans for excessive borrowing, subsidies, and price controls, but rather addressing the excessive green levies and taxes, limits on domestic production and import tariffs that all drive up costs and which are passed on to the consumer. Lifting the caps that have already eliminated a significant amount of market competition would also assist. Basically, the government needs to get out of the way. Another big help to the public would be to implement the tax cuts Truss has been so vocal about. A reduction in taxation would bring much relief, and VAT on energy certainly wouldn't be missed by the consumer for a start.

However, any tax cuts are pointless without spending cuts, and the government continues to flush money down the toilet by the billions daily. High tax revenues are needed to continue to service the amount of wasteful spending the state indulges in. That spending needs to be drastically cut. This country is now at its highest tax burden for almost three quarters of a century, with government stealthily turning the screw further on those that are feeling the squeeze, its counterproductive tax policies are not only contributing to the crippling of the country in the present, they're also ensuring any mid-term and long-term prospects are just as hindered.

If Truss can live up to her word at all, then one of the promises she has made that would be extremely beneficial to keep would be scrapping the upcoming increase of corporation tax to twenty-five per cent. It has made us one of the least competitive markets in the world. This impending increase, especially right now and also having just left the EU where it is imperative to be as competitive as possible, is an insane move that would be economic self-sabotage in light of Brexit. Most other major economies have lowered corporate tax rates, making them far more attractive for companies and businesses to base themselves there rather than the UK. Heavier corporation tax also means less investment – a crucial component for any economic growth. If Truss does stop this increase, it will be a positive step in her premiership.

One thing Truss certainly has in her favour, for now, is that like Boris she has the benefit of a weak opposition leader. Boris was blessed that a combination of his manipulative tongue and an unelectable Jeremy Corbyn was enough to charm the public in 2019, even if it was just a simple case of voting *against* a Corbyn government more than *for* a Johnson one. In Keir Starmer, Truss has a leader of the opposition that is a vanilla, virtue signalling non-entity that can't even say what a woman is.

So, in closing, is this a dawning of a new political era, or will it just be more of the same? The same misguided, destructive policies just perhaps wrapped in different coloured bows? All will be revealed in time, but history and experience tell me not to get my hopes up too much.

SAYING NO TO LOCKDOWN

By Zachary Stiling ([Website](#))

In August, the Croydon Constitutionals hosted a free speech event on the subject of 'How can we ensure there is never another lockdown?'. A speech given by Zachary Stiling has been reproduced here with permission from the original author.

There is only one course of action – to totally and utterly reform the government, clearing out every amoral politician and stringently regulating future elections to ensure only those who are demonstrably learned, wise and possessed of a genuine concern for the welfare of individuals are able to enter Parliament. We cannot expect anything good to come from a Chamber stuffed with the scientifically, historically and economically illiterate, or a load of self-serving sociopaths.



Source: Gustavo Castillo, [Wikimedia](#) (Public Domain)

Ordinary people have two ways of influencing government policy – persuasion and force, and both were tried and failed. Scientists and medical professionals, business owners, religious leaders and philosophers all made well-substantiated rational arguments to no avail. Protests were a display of force but achieved little. To dissent was to be ridiculed or suppressed, or even criminalised and brutalised by police.

The underlying fact is that lockdown is a form of tyranny and must be treated as such. Past tyrannies have only fallen with the help of external powers. The Nazi tyranny ended after a war in which millions died. The Soviet tyranny collapsed through weakened governance which Western efforts worked to undermine. The Chinese Communist tyranny has not collapsed because nobody has stood up to China.

Of course, overthrowing the status quo and completely starting again is pure fantasy; it isn't workable, so I will alter the question because there can be no guarantee against future lockdowns, and instead ask: what should we do in the event of another? The first thing is to defy it entirely, and maintain normality as far as we are able, hardening ourselves against the threats from government and the frowns of fuzzy-brained neighbours. We must forge connections with those who are of a like mind for the sake of mutual support.

If we can thus sustain ourselves, our next imperative is to become evangelists. We will be mistreated by the media and censored online, so commence pamphleteering and try to bring one person to reason at a time. It worked well for Martin Luther and Thomas Paine. A child will consent to being locked down in their bedroom to avoid the bogeyman until, daring to step outside and goad it, they discover it does not exist. In the same way, it must take courage and reason to expose the fearful superstition on which lockdowns depend.

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