

The General Election of December 2019 in the United Kingdom (UK): A Thrown Election

A defeat for progressives: Unquestionably things will be harder for the working class. Lose any illusions in the Labour Party!

Introduction

There is little doubt, that in the short and immediate term, the lives of working people in the UK will get enormously worse. We first discussed the current Brexit crisis engulfing the United Kingdom (**UK**), when the Referendum of 2016 was being held. Then we advised that the best course for the working class of Britain was to vote 'leave'. We had taken this position, as in recent history the USA had used its lackey the British ruling class, as a vehicle by which to penetrate the EU. ¹ We also pointed out in 2016 that:

"It is possible that Brexit would likely bring to power a very chauvinist wing of the ruling class (led by **Boris Johnson**) who would launch an even more sustained attack on the workers".¹

Of course the crisis did become more intense, and a very clear divide within the ruling class of the UK became evident. A significant section of the service and trade sectors, and parts of the financial sector, favoured a break with the EU and a closer alliance with the USA. We therefore altered our position on the basis of further analysis by August 25, 2019, when we updated the analysis of the Brexit crisis. This was cast as a response of the British capitalist class to a near insoluble crisis of productivity in the UK economy. The economy was now a haven only for the finance capitalist sector, while the manufacturing capitalist sector was plummeting. There we pointed out that:

"Now it is clear that USA imperialism has turned towards support of a trade war, and therefore a break-up of the European Union (EU)". ²

We therefore revised our opinion, and argued that the best course in the short term, for the working class movement of Britain was to remain within the EU. President Trump by now had made clear that the plans of the USA imperialists favoured disrupting the EU by Britain leaving. Hence we argued, that a vote to 'Remain' would oppose USA imperialism. However we also stated this was unlikely to happen. Moreover we argued that the Labour Party was complicit in this turn.

On Thursday 12 December 2019, a historic general election took place which resolved the Brexit crisis dramatically in favour of the Conservative (**Tory**) Party led by the now – elected Boris Johnson. We will not dwell over-long on the many moral and personal deficiencies of this Old Etonian, a true denizen of the *English* ruling class. Frankly it is too depressing. However, for

¹ "Notes on the Brexit Referendum"; Red Phoenix, June 20, 2016 at <https://theredphoenixapl.org/2016/06/20/notes-on-the-brexitreferendum/>

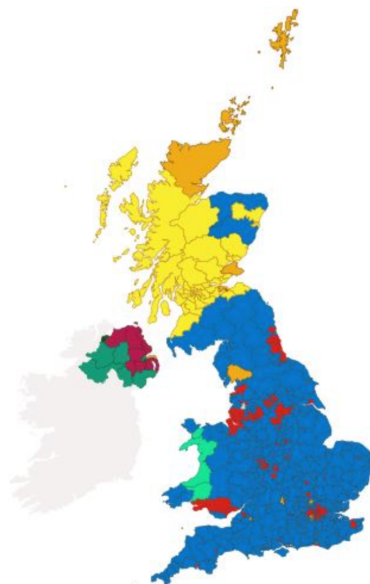
² "How should Marxist-Leninists view the impending 'No Deal Brexit' withdrawal from the European Union (EU) of the UK?"; ML Currents Today; August 25, 2019; at: <http://ml-today.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/brexit.pdf>

the record, several details can be readily found elsewhere, but are best summarized by John Newsinger.³

The electoral victory of Johnson, comes with a monumental change to the working class political landscape. For all working people, all progressives and Marxists (of all stripes) - this is a significant defeat. But – perhaps at minimum – some illusions in the social-democratic Labour Party have been lost.

We examine what Johnson – this unscrupulous, cowardly liar⁴ of the greatest order, achieved, and how he did it. We then begin the task of asking what this all means for the working class of the – currently, temporarily still named, ‘United’ Kingdom (UK).

1. The Results of the Election



The map above⁵ shows the blue Tory dominance (colour code below, with numeric seats won or lost by party). The 2019 General elections decimated the Labour Party (LP), with a huge loss of the LP's historically held seats in the former industrial heartlands of the North of England. In Scotland a continued resurgence of the Scottish National Party (SNP) has also snatched seats

³ John Newsinger; 'The British Trump'; International Socialist Journal; London; Issue: 164; 7th October 2019 at <http://isj.org.uk/the-british-trump/>

⁴ He was found hiding in a fridge to avoid questioning from reporters. See: <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/dec/11/boris-johnson-hides-in-fridge-to-avoid-piers-morgan-interview>

⁵ Tony Norfield; "All Quiet on the Western Front"; 13 December 2019; 'The Economics of Imperialism' at: <https://economicsofimperialism.blogspot.com>

from Labour. The final results ⁶ of 650 seats was:

Conservative Party (Tories):	365 gain of +66	(blue in map)
Labour Party:	203 loss of -42	(red in map)
Scottish National Party (SNP)	48 gain of +13	(yellow in map)
Liberal Democratic Party	11 loss of -110	(orange in map)
Green Party	1 gain of +0	(turquoise map)
Others	22 loss of -2	(dark green map)

The map (*Figure 1*) vividly shows how the so-called “labour wall” around the North fell to the Tories. It also readily shows the dramatic hold of the SNP on Scotland. ⁴

ii) The 2019 General Election revolved around Brexit

Since 2015, the Brexit to-be-or-not-to-be question, had paralysed not only parliamentary politics but the whole of British society. In fact the entire British atmosphere, tone, daily life, conversations, plans – perhaps even the dreams and nightmares Were all infected. People were... sick of it.

But, since the divide in the voting people of Britain was so narrowly won by the pro-Brexit parties, it posed the Brexiters a problem. They had won the referendum, but narrowly, and the gap was very small.² Therefore a plan was effected, to alienate people from any prospect of “remaining”. The game became to stall every political movement, in a bewildering parliamentary charade. This took place in the last period with Theresa May as PM. People may doubt this was thought out before-hand. Whether designed as such or not, this is what was effected. But, we should not under-estimate the class enemy. By now it should be clear, that both the conservative opposition and their financiers are very, very cleverly calculating and strategic. The longer a ‘non-decision’ was left hanging, like some Sword of Damocles – the more alienated people would become - from any ‘normal’ semblance to a political discussion. This merely allowed in.... a liar and manipulator... i.e. the now elected PM Johnson.

And a strong case can be made that the Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn was complicit in frustrating the working class. After all, of what conceivable help is it to the voter, who watched over some two years of enervating, endless parliamentary manoeuvring, to hear Corbyn then say that he ‘has an open mind on Brexit’? Such ‘agnosticism’, was the only logical implication of urging yet another vote-referendum. Should a Labour ‘leader’ wanting ‘real change’ - merely say to the working class, as the reactionary class enemy signals it will approach with drawn sabres: “Well the sabres may not actually be sharp – no worries. You may choose your own weapon and battle-plan”?

When Jeremy Corbyn ‘debated’ Boris Johnson on the BBC, the audience panel erupted into laughter at his response to being asked for the umpteenth time what his position on Brexit was: “I’ve made my position clear.” ⁷

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/ng-interactive/2019/dec/12/uk-general-election-2019-full-results-live-labour-conservatives-tories>

⁷ The Amy Goodman Show, ‘Democracy Now’; “Tariq Ali on U.K. Elections, Corbyn’s “Radical Social Democratic Program”; Timed at 24’40” at: https://www.democracynow.org/2019/12/2/tariq_ali_uk_election_corbyn_johnson

Should any doubt remain, this how the proudly proclaimed 2019 manifesto put it:

“Some people say this is the Brexit election. But it’s also the climate election, the investment election, the NHS election, the living standards election, the education election, the poverty election, the fair taxes election. Above all, it’s the change election.”⁸

“Labour will give the people the final say on Brexit. Within 3 months of coming to power, a Labour Government will secure a sensible deal. And within six months, we will put that deal to a public vote alongside the option to remain. A Labour government will implement whatever the people decide.”⁹

All this reminds us that there was never a clearly put recommendation to the presumed Labour constituency – the working class - one way or another. Doesn’t a ‘leader’ state the balance of pro and con, and then state an opinion as to what the best way forward is? Not that Labour, and Corbyn wasn’t warned...

Indeed, prominent members of Corbyn’s team warned this ‘agnosticism’ was a time-bomb:

“**Emily Thornberry** (shadow Foreign Secretary) warned that Jeremy Corbyn not having a public position on Brexit could affect their election chances months before voters went to the polls.... She said in September... that she was worried about the Labour leader staying neutral... She said: “I think Jeremy is trying to find a compromise but if he goes into an election saying ‘I don’t have a view’ on the single biggest decision that we have to make – I think – what worries me is that every single interview he does will all be about Brexit.”¹⁰

iii) The Media

From very early on there was a vicious attack on Corbyn in the capitalist press.

There can be absolutely no question that the media was extraordinarily biased. The obvious rejoinder is “What do you expect of the capitalist media?”

But, perhaps more pertinent is to ask how should a Labour leader with pretensions to lead the working class, respond to attacks? Perhaps not like Corbyn.

For example, when asked whether he was a problem for the election of Labour, Jeremy’s answer was pretty, well shall we say tepid.... Does the retort:

“Some people like Marmite, others don’t” – cut it? ¹¹

⁸ Jeremy Corbyn; Manifesto 2019: “Time for a Real Change”; Preface; <https://labour.org.uk/manifesto/foreword-by-jeremy-corbyn/>

⁹ Manifesto Ibid; Brexit section

¹⁰ Kate Proctor; “Thornberry warned Corbyn’s neutral Brexit stance could hit Labour”; The Guardian; London; 17 Dec 2019; <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/dec/17/emily-thornberry-warned-corbyn-neutral-brexit-stance-could-hit-labour>

¹¹ Interview with Liz Bates Channel4; ‘Corbyn compares himself to Marmite: ‘Some people like it, some people don’t’ – Guardian video clip; Friday 6 December, 2019; at:

Corbyn here simply devalued political attacks on Labour and himself, by calling these 'personal attacks', and then making it all about a matter of personal taste.

This ties in with the attacks on the alleged anti-Semitism. No doubt there are elements within the LP that are racist. But there are far more within the Tory party that are racist.

So why was there not a robust political defence saying that anti-Semitism is not the same as anti-Zionism or defence of Palestine? Why the shame-faced deference to scurrilous attacks? And then faced with demands to apologise, not a full explanation rather than a mute silence? Frankly the refusal to 'apologise' in interviews, without seizing the didactic moment, simply compounded the whole problem.

Either apologise – or fight back. Honestly, either was preferable to an endless hand-wringing.

iii) So how 'surprising' was the result of the election?

Apologists for the LP and for Corbyn, argue that the LP had produced a Great Manifesto, but golly, gosh - what a surprise! The elections in the end – were about... Brexit! Bless my cotton socks, what a surprise!

Regrettably, several on the left profess such naivete. For example, **Tariq Ali** the renowned Trotskyist.¹² Tariq Ali had supported the Corbyn approach lock-stock-and-barrel. (By the bye, his unexpurgated enthusiasm, was definitely not the Leninist approach – to expose social-democratic leaders in office where they would patently fail to enact socialist measures. Lenin's aphorism was "Let communists vote Labour like a rope supports a hanged man"¹³). After enthusing about the Labour Manifesto, Tariq Ali stated to Amy Goodman on the 'Democracy Now' channel that: "If the message can be got across, I'm moderately optimistic I think Jeremy could win".¹⁴

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/video/2019/dec/06/corbyn-compares-himself-to-marmite-some-people-like-it-some-people-dont-video>

¹² <http://www.defenddemocracy.press/all-is-not-lost-for-labour/>

¹³ V.I. Lenin 1920; "with my vote, I want to support Henderson in the same way as the rope supports a hanged man—that the impending establishment of a government of the Hendersons will prove that I am right, will bring the masses over to my side, and will hasten the political death of the Hendersons and the Snowdens just as was the case with their kindred spirits in Russia and Germany"; In "Left-Wing Communism: an Infantile Disorder", 'section: Left-Wing' Communism in Great Britain"; as per David Romagnolo; at <https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1920/lwc/ch09.htm>

¹⁴ The Amy Goodman Show, 'Democracy Now'; "Tariq Ali on U.K. Elections, Corbyn's "Radical Social Democratic Program"; Timed at 35'00-44'25" at: https://www.democracynow.org/2019/12/2/tariq_ali_uk_election_corbyn_johnson



Photograph Source: Garry Knight – CC BY 2.0

Tariq Ali stands behind Jeremy Corbyn

Other left commentators apparently also “didn’t see this coming”, as **Richard Seymour** puts it: “We’ve just had a horrific experience. The last few days have felt like a death in the family. Exploding, with little decorum, into bitter family feuding, as such deaths often do. We’re all aghast and ashamed, lashing out: “you did this!” It has hit all the harder because, while making mental room for the possibility of a disastrous outcome, we really didn’t see *this* coming.”¹⁵

But should Marxists believe this outcome was unexpected, for a second?

Obviously not. For how could the Labour party, and Corbyn himself, have been **unaware** that the election revolved around Brexit? In fact the very possible outcome of electoral defeat, was clearly signalled by the British elections for the European Parliament on May 23 2019, when Labour came a resounding third. We pointed out:

“On 23 May 2019...The results... confirmed the extensive splintering of electoral support for both the Labour Party and the Conservative Party. The two oldest, and formerly leading parties – were trashed at the polls. They were overtaken by the newly formed ‘**Brexit**’ party of the rabid **Nigel Farage** and another newer party – the **Liberal Democrats**.”²

Another left commentator **Daniel Finn**, agrees, saying of the same elections:

“In the Euro elections... Those who took part—only 37 per cent of eligible voters—mainly seized the opportunity to express their views on Brexit. The election itself symbolized May’s failure to deliver, and Tory voters deserted her in droves, with the Conservatives dropping below 9 per cent. Leave supporters gravitated to Nigel Farage’s new Brexit Party, which topped the poll with 30.5 per cent. Remain voters lurched in the opposite direction, backing the Liberal Democrats (almost 20 per cent) and the Greens (a little under 12). Corbyn’s soft-Brexit pitch, and his attempt to shift the debate towards domestic political concerns, gained no traction with the electorate: Labour finished in third place, with 13.6 per cent.”¹⁶

¹⁵ Richard seymour; “Why Labour Lost — And Why We Must Press On”; The Jacobin; London; 12.18.2019; at: <https://jacobinmag.com/2019/12/labour-corbyn-election-johnson>

¹⁶ Daniel Finn; “Crosscurrents Corbyn, Labour and the Brexit Crisis”; New Left Review; London; 118; July-August 2019; at <https://newleftreview.org/issues/I1118/articles/daniel-finn-crosscurrents>

We should pause – for both Jeremy and his close political ally **John McDonnell** (Shadow chancellor of the exchequer - minister of finance) are *very, very* smart cookies. Is it at all conceivable that they truly did not know this was what was really happening? We think they are too smart not to have seen the obvious fact that the election was about Brexit. So, if Corbyn and John McDonnell did realize this was a 'referendum' on Brexit - Then why did they commit the political equivalent of suicide? It may be that these individuals were truly carried away. But while it is deemed unfashionable to consider more sinister reasons, we believe one is in order. For this was too critical an election for the thrust of the mute-silent-marmite campaign to have taken place, purely 'by chance'.

It seems apparent to us, that this election was thrown to the Conservative Party – and that key elements of the Labour Party were complicit. The Labour Party hierarchy and cabals are formidable.¹⁴ Indeed, a decision of such a magnitude – to throw the election - could not have been taken lightly. It could only have been taken by a leading group within the LP. But why on earth would such a throwing away occur?

Like all parts of the ruling class, the LP was divided: One section was pro-Remain in the EU, one was for firmer trading and political links with the USA, and therefore for Leave. Moreover, allowing a hopelessly inept campaign on a lovely, but paper manifesto, was a perfect opportunity the right wing of the LP could not miss. It allowed a humiliation and defeat for some time, of the left wing of the LP in a unique manner. We will return to this.

iv) Why the electorate were not galvanized by the Labour Manifesto

The view has been expressed the Brexit domination of the election, simply drowned out other more meaningful matters, such as the Manifesto. Indeed, having a re-nationalized rail service, and water service, and adequate funding for the National Health Service (NHS) etc - would be a great step forward for the workers in the UK.

But, how quickly we forget that recent Labour governments, under **Tony Blair** (1997-2007) and **Gordon Brown** (2007-8) continued and escalated the de-nationalisations, which were started by Margaret Thatcher? The film by Ken Loach, "I am Daniel Blake" vividly paints the bleak struggle that daily life has become inside the now-lost "Labour Wall".¹⁷

The infamous North-South divide in wealth inequity is **not** a new phenomenon of only the last 10 years of the Conservative reinvigorated 'austerity'. To drive this home, two data points about health should suffice. Decades of both Tory government funded and Labour government funded reports (Including the 1980 **Black Report** and the 1998 **Acheson Report**), on increasing North-South differences in death-mortality from all causes – did not effect substantive change. The map below shows the geographic divide, and the numbers by region are the mortality rate for Men (M) and Women (W) and in the box below it, the 'material deprivation by the 2105 Index of Material Deprivation, summarized as proportion in the 10% most deprived for England. The

¹⁷ Trailer at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahWgxw9E_h4

graph to the right, shows a readily understood, rise by year (x-axis) of the **excess** in the North of mortality (y-axis) as percent.¹⁸

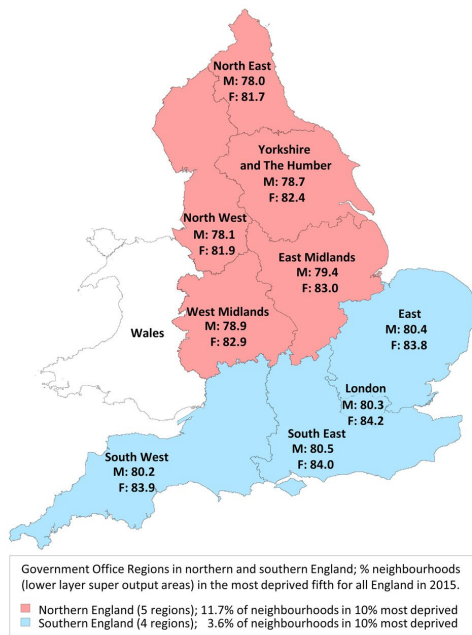
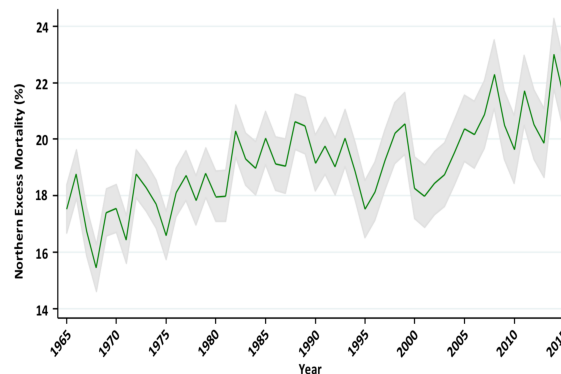


Figure A2: Excess premature (age <75 years) mortality in the North compared with South of England, adjusted for within-year age-sex differences.



Why would the traditional Labour supporting workers believe this 2019 sudden re-discovery of socialist elementary steps such as nationalisation? Such skepticism on the part of Labour voters, is entirely consistent with their voting pattern in this election.

Even John McDonnell In an interview with the BBC acknowledged this: “there is a long history – maybe of 40 years of neglect – and them saying to politicians of the last 40 years you have not listened to us and you’ve allowed our communities to be run down in this way”.¹⁹

The underlying truth is, that the Labour party’s historic role for some time has been to serve as a left mask for a ruling class. Their historic record, finally caught up with them. The working-class electorate could no longer trust their promises.

iv) Electoral Analysis

It has been claimed that “Over 10 million people voted for Labour. This was the second highest number of votes for Labour in any of the last 5 elections.... Nearly 14 million people voted for the Tories”.

¹⁸ Buchan IE; Kontopantelis E, Sperrin M Chandola T, Doran T; “North-South disparities in English mortality 1965–2015: longitudinal population study”; Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 2017; 72 98-98

¹⁹ Video of McDonnell at 28-40 seconds; General election 2019: Labour facing long haul, warns McDonnell; 14 December 2019; <https://www.bbc.com/news/election-2019-50794076>

Largely the die-hard Labour electorate did come out. And the first past the post electoral system of the UK likely did negatively impact the LP.

Notwithstanding one's opinion about Lord Ashcroft and his financial-speculative ways²⁰ the Ashcroft polls are a useful data source to inform electoral behavior.

Because it does seem that tactical voting played a major role in the vote moving away from Labour.

"Just over a quarter (26%) of all voters said they were trying to stop the party they liked least from winning, including 43% of those who voted Lib Dem and 31% of Labour voters. One in three Remain voters said they were voting to stop their least preferred party compared to 18% of Leave voters."²¹

By some other estimates, it seems that some "39 seats won by Tories could have been denied to them by tactical voting almost completely wiping out their majority (80 seats)." (*Private communication*).

It is good to note that generational divide shows up once more, as in other recent elections: "Labour won more than half the vote among those turning out aged 18-24 (57%) and 25-34 (55%), with the Conservatives second in both groups. The Conservatives were ahead among those aged 45-54 (with 43%), 55-64 (with 49%) and 65+ (with 62%)." (*Ashcroft Poll; Ibid*).

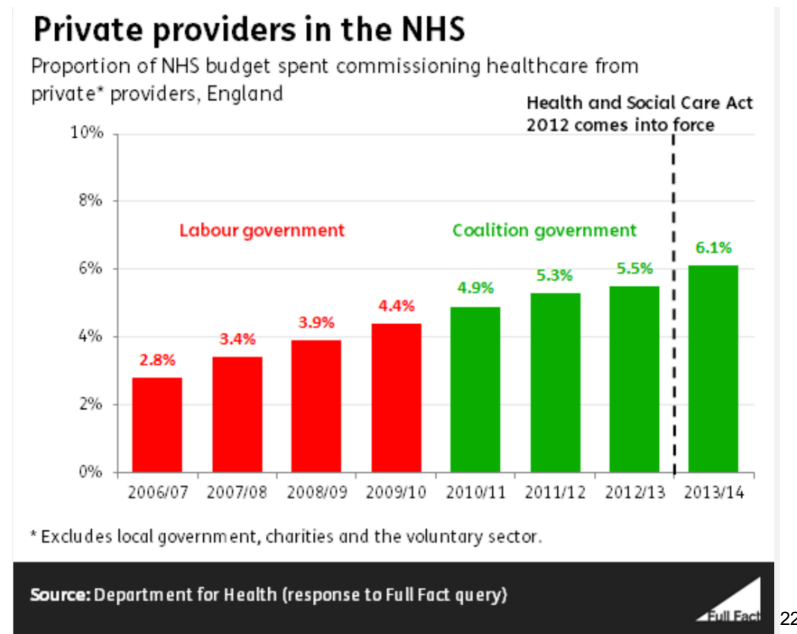
So there – as always is hope – but still, these young people who will bring us closer to socialism, need a party vehicle, other than the LP. As implied by some, in Scotland – the flag bearer of progressive causes is undoubtedly now seen as the Scottish national Party. And moves towards a United Ireland seem to be taking hold. But within the rest of the "United" Kingdom... ?

We cannot think the LP merits that position as the working class progressive head. It has been downhill since the glory days of **Aneurin Bevan** and the LP Cabinet under Clement Atlee in 1945. The name of Aneurin Bevan is not lightly recalled, for he was the undoubted founder and champion of the NHS. This is entirely relevant as a major fault line will be the **National Health Service**. It is very likely that the NHS is being carved up as we speak: a wing here for the American health care insurers, a leg here for the pharma companies, a very generous slice here for American style management corporations.

All this has happened already in fact, in a steady march after the days of Barbara Castle – who did try to eliminate private beds in the NHS. In 2014 the situation looked like this:

²⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Ashcroft

²¹ <https://lordashcrofthpolls.com/2019/12/how-britain-voted-and-why-my-2019-general-election-post-vote-poll/>



22

It does not seem much – only 6% of total beds were private. But this under-estimates the effects of the total beds, on the whole system. Here we only emphasise that the rise under Labour cabinets – is no different from the rate of rise under Tory cabinets.

The issue of the NHS helps us segue into the major portion of where the discussion needs to go now. Why did the British ruling class get so divided amongst itself? In fact, the NHS matter leads directly into trading relations with the USA.

v) Profound internal problems within the ruling class of the United Kingdom Gramsci said: “The modern crisis . . . is related to what is called the “crisis of authority.” If the ruling class has lost its consensus, i.e., is no longer “leading” but only “dominant,” exercising coercive force alone, this means precisely that the great masses have become detached from their traditional ideologies, and no longer believe what they used to believe previously, etc. The crisis consists precisely in the fact that the old way is dying and the new cannot be born; in this interregnum a great variety of morbid symptoms appear.”²³

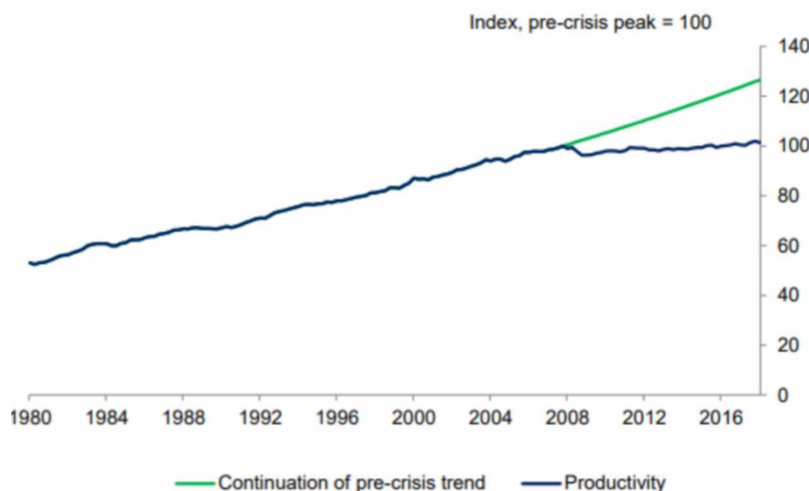
We are in such a nodal point nowadays.

We see all sorts of manner of: “morbid symptoms”. And in fact the UK ruling class was itself sorely divided in which direction to go. There is no easy solution for the ruling classes. That is why there were tensions between the industrial sector ruling class (declining) and the trading and speculative financial sector ruling class (dominant).

²² Full Facts; 14 April 2015; UK: at <https://fullfact.org/health/nhs-privatisation-numbers/>

²³ Antonio Gramsci (1973, 275–276); Cited by William I Robinson: “Global Capitalist Crisis and Twenty-First Century Fascism: Beyond the Trump Hype”; *Science & Society*, Vol. 83, No. 2, April 2019, 481–509

Despite the fact that the UK was in second place of 'power' world wide, by (**Tony Norfield's** Index of Power ²⁴) – there has long remained a central problem of productivity. After the economic crisis of 2007, the UK never recovered. **Michael Roberts'** data from various sources is compelling in showing a fall in total productivity of the UK ²⁵



If one doubts that the British ruling class was divided about what to do, consider the extraordinary spectacle of the fights within the financial sector of British ruling classes. Hence the current Governor of the Bank of England **Mark Carney** was attacked by an ex-Governor **Mervyn King**. ²⁶

As far as **industrial capital** was concerned the vast majority wanted to remain ²⁷.

It is in these tortuous debates that the USA made its moves over recent years. **President Trump's** trade agenda is quite clear now to all. His erst-while emissary, **John Bolton**, made matters clear as to how the Trumpian-USA viewed the UK. There is no evidence to doubt this,

²⁴ Tony Norfield's blogsite; 12 February 2018; at: <https://economicsofimperialism.blogspot.com/2018/02/index-of-power.html>

²⁵ Michael Roberts, "The productivity puzzle again"; 'Michael Roberts Blog' 29 June 2018; <https://thenextrecession.wordpress.com/2018/06/29/the-productivity-puzzle-again/>

²⁶ Richard Partington and Phillip Inman; "Mark Carney backs Theresa May's Brexit deal"; The Guardian; 20 November 2018; and: Richard Partington; "UK should leave EU with no deal, says former Bank of England governor"; *The Guardian*; 29 March 2019

²⁷ Joe Sommerland and Ben Chapman, "Which companies are leaving UK, downsizing or cutting jobs ahead of Brexit? Dozens of companies have cut jobs, beefed up their European operations or issued warnings on the impact of the UK's departure from the EU"; 26 February 2019, The Independent; at: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/brexit-companies-leaving-uk-list-job-cuts-eu-no-deal-customs-union-a8792296.html>; and; John Rees; 'Marxism and the Brexit crisis'; Counter-Fire; February 5, 2019; <https://www.counterfire.org/articles/analysis/20123-marxism-and-the-brexit-crisis>

despite Bolton's resignation from Trump's side in high dudgeon. At the time of Bolton's visit to the UK, it was argued he had three aims on behalf of Trump:

"John Bolton... has three main aims. The first is... the UK's withdrawal from the hard-won, US-trashed 2015 Iran nuclear agreement and the abandonment of fellow signatories France and Germany... Bolton's second aim is to drive a wedge between the UK and Europe... to disrupt, subvert and weaken the EU, whose very existence offends him... If the UK, ever more beholden to the US for its daily bread, can be used to foil Emmanuel Macron's ideas about integrated European defence, or undermine EU regulations covering digital multinationals, so much the better... The third Bolton aim: (is) to enlist a radically repurposed and realigned UK in pursuit of his singular vision of American global hegemony, of the truly exceptional nation whose power and dominion know no limits." ²⁸

Conclusion

The Conservative Party was **hijacked** by the section of the ruling class whose mandate is to tie the UK to the apron strings of the USA. **A significant section of the Labour Party HQ has bought into this plan.** To achieve it, the left-wing of the LP had to be silenced; and the slim majority of the British people wanting to leave, had to be bolstered. A **thrown election** by the LP was the solution.

What we must now do, is rebuild a true working class movement; and a new Marxist-Leninist Party. From outside of the UK, we do not pretend to be able to provide a detailed road-map. But there can be no illusions - Johnson's moves will hurt the working class. The working class will certainly resist this defeat, and it will bring forward its solutions. These are inevitable.

As Joe Hill said: "Don't mourn, organize!"

December 20, 2019.

Hari Kumar

²⁸ Simon Tisdall; John Bolton doesn't want a trade deal with the UK – he wants to colonise us"; *Guardian*; 13 August 2019