THE PROBLEM WITH
BREXIT...

Communist Party of Great Britain (Marxist-Leninist)
STOP IMMIGRATION!
TAKE BACK OUR POWER!
BRITISH JOBS FOR BRITISH WORKERS!
RETURN SOVEREIGNTY TO PARLIAMENT!
HOUSING FOR US BRITS, NOT FOR FOREIGNERS!

THE PROBLEM WITH BREXIT...

REFUGEES WELCOME HERE!
CONTINENTAL CULTURE IS GREAT!
HELP SMALL BUSINESSES!
I'M A GLOBAL CITIZEN!
WE LIKE GOING ON HOLIDAY!

I'M NO FAN OF THE EU BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BE SEEN ON THE SAME SIDE AS ALL THOSE RACISTS...
I'VE GOT NOTHING AGAINST FOREIGNERS, BUT WE NEED JOBS FOR OUR OWN SONS & DAUGHTERS FIRST...
...WILL IT CREATE MORE JOBS OR NOT?
-I WORK PART TIME AS A CLEANER, A LOT OF THE OTHER GIRLS DON'T EVEN SPEAK ENGLISH. WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO THEM?

...WITH BOTH SIDES STILL KEPT IN A SIMMERING FRENZY OF CONFUSION & PREJUDICE, THE GREAT ARGUMENT ABOUT BRITAIN'S EU MEMBERSHIP RAGES ON.
...BITTERNESS, FRUSTRATION, ARROGANCE & FEAR CHARACTERISE THE MAJORITY OF HEATED DEBATES... & THE WHOLE AFFAIR IS PRESENTED TO US AS IF TO FURTHER STOKE THE FIRES OF INTOLERANCE.
...And who's responsible for this state of affairs?
The British ruling class, of course! ...You see, as the global economy has been lurching from one financial crisis to the next, the imperialist bourgeoisie have learnt to conceal and hide the root causes of all the ills which affect working people.

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**EYES ON THE PRIZE LADS...**

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**MAXIMUM PROFIT**

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...Whether they're a humourless, hard nosed CEO, or a 'cool', groovy entrepreneur who gets involved in charity work, the capitalist must strive for maximum profit to keep their position in the pecking order.

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For capitalists in developed countries like Britain, this often means taking the wealth used to pay worker's wages to poorer countries, where the production costs are lower...

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...And for those businesses which need labour power to exploit here in Britain, the capitalist often imports workers from poorer countries on a part-time basis, using agencies which advertise the jobs abroad. Needless to say, these workers end up with lower pay & fewer rights.
The capitalist ruling class have been blaming immigration for a failing healthcare & welfare system for decades, & for years, the European Union could be used as the excuse for why nothing could be done about it.

It's those bloody E.U. Regulations mate, har-har! They keep sending all the asylum seekers here!!! Britain is full!

...by playing on the most backward prejudices of the British public, the media presents migrant workers, refugees & asylum seekers as one big 'foreign problem', forced on Britain by the E.U.

So it should come as no surprise that many people who bear the brunt of public service cuts & falling living standards become consumed by xenophobia & racism...

...the bourgeois media have been fanning the flames of division & fear for as long as anyone can remember!

...but that's not all........
...Assuming moral superiority, the Remain camp chose the tactic of presenting 'freedom of movement' as a friendly policy of 'come one, come all', enabling any foreign national to live and work in Britain as an equal, and any British worker to go and enjoy the varied & enriching cultures of European countries.

I'm off to Britain to earn my fortune!

...and I'm off to Barcelona!

But obviously, the degree to which people actually benefit from EU membership varies greatly, depending on their economic circumstances... and those who benefit the most are those who rely on access to the European labour market in order to keep their businesses turning a profit.

Who's going to pick the @*!#ing strawberries now??!!?

...so while sections of the establishment are divided about what 'Brexit' actually means, it should be understood that the most powerful bourgeois are united in attempts to secure a trade deal which will allow them to keep free movement of labour & capital in place, regardless of whether they're a right-wing nationalist or a socially-liberal remainder.

...as for the 'noble cause' of returning sovereignty to Britain...
...IT MAY BE A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE FOR THE INFLUENTIAL B렉시티ERS TO HAVE EXPLOITATIVE EMPLOYMENT LAWS AND IMMIGRATION RULES ISSUE FROM WESTMINSTER RATHER THAN BRUSSELS...

...BUT NO MATTER IF YOU'RE BLACK, WHITE, BORN & BRED HERE OR RECENTLY ARRIVED - PARLIAMENT IS SIMPLY A COMMITTEE FOR ORGANISING THE AFFAIRS OF THE CAPITALIST RULING CLASS, SO IF YOU WORK FOR A LIVING, GENERATING PROFITS FOR THE IMPERIALIST BOURGEOISIE...

... YOU ALL HAVE THE SAME CLASS ENEMY !!!
British workers demand Brexit!

It is not in our class interests to allow the referendum result to be overturned.

The truth is that Britain’s membership of the EU is bad for the British working class; it certainly offers no protection from the ravages of capitalism and the economic crisis. Contrary to the myths peddled by the TUC, the bonfire of workers’ rights that we have witnessed over the last few decades was in no way hampered by Britain’s membership of the EU, with its much-vaunted love for ‘human rights’. Quite the reverse: EU rules now make it illegal for member states to nationalise any vital industry or service for the benefit of its people, if that in any way interferes with the potential for profit-taking (which, of course, it does!)
The EU was always, and remains today, a bosses’ club, designed to ensure more efficient exploitation of workers at home and abroad, and to help the fading European imperialist powers recoup their strength and retain their place in the world that emerged from WW2, when socialism was spreading like wildfire across the globe, and the US was the only imperialist power strong enough to stand in its way.

As a tool for strengthening the power of the ruling classes of Europe, and for strengthening the warmongering Nato transatlantic alliance, it is most decidedly in our interest to see the EU, and with it both British and US imperialism, weakened. This is why British workers must not allow the referendum result to be overturned.

Meanwhile, the representatives of the ruling class in parliament are at sixes and sevens as to how best to appear to fulfil ‘the people’s will’ while at the same time serving their capitalist masters’ interests. It is a circle that is proving very hard to square.

As a result, Theresa May’s strategy and favoured proposals differ according to which day of the week it is, while Jeremy Corbyn’s Labour party has never held a clear and consistent position.

Attacks on the Brexiteers and attempts to overturn the referendum

Divisions among the ruling class over Brexit continue to be clear for all to see. This alone should be a cause of joy to the working class, for many valuable lessons about the nature of capitalist democracy, bourgeois politics and the bourgeois state are being revealed, both in the actions of career politicians and in the unguarded accusations that are hurled between the rival camps and emblazoned across the front pages almost daily.

While ‘little Englanders’ (in particular the Brexiteers in the Conservative party as well as the Ukip leadership) hark back to the days when the British empire ruled the waves and was mighty enough to stand alone, and fondly imagine that Brexit will enable them to slash wages and regulation even further so as to help them win the battle of competition and survive the crisis, the liberal elements, still as committed as ever to Nato’s warmongering and the neoliberal agenda, continue to pursue their anti-people, anti-Brexit aims, and are more desperate than ever to overturn the referendum result.

This has been particularly evident in the pages of liberal newspapers such as the Guardian and the Observer, which have been frantically pursuing every possible avenue for overturning the vote.

One line of attack since the summer has been to jump on what is essentially a student petition: “Predicting a young people’s revolt over the coming months, student unions – representing 980,000 students at 60 of the country’s leading universities and colleges – are writing to MPs … calling on them to back a ‘people’s vote’ before a final Brexit deal can be implemented.”

Much pressure is being piled onto the Labour party to make campaigning for this ‘people’s vote’ (one cannot help wondering what the referendum itself was, if not a people’s vote) part of its programme.

If a second vote on the referendum takes place and Britain does vote on the final withdrawal deal, it is worth remembering that university students are not the only young people who were too young to vote in the referendum. For every student, there are many more disenfranchised working-class teenagers. If these young people could be mobilised to defend their class interests, the pro-Brexit vote would only grow.

Government and opposition chaos

The divisions within the Conservative party (and, therefore, the government) are mirrored by those in Labour. Both parties continue to tear themselves apart over Brexit, and this chaos of the bourgeoisie, relected in the two main bourgeois parties, can only be welcomed by class-conscious workers.

The government finds itself at a roadblock. The sheer impossibility of the situation should long ago have led to the downfall of the government. The problem is that most bourgeois opinion is terrified of a Corbyn-led Labour government, as there is no guarantee that it can be dissuaded from implementing at least some measures inimical to imperialist interests, even though it is a better bet than the Tories for finding a means of escaping the Brexit vote.

The chaos looks set to continue, and will only be made worse by the deepening economic crisis, which is bound to take a further lurch downwards before long.

Foreigners are constantly blamed for the lack of jobs, low wages and poor social provision that are caused by capitalism, and workers are urged by bourgeois politicians and media alike to swallow the lie that if it wasn’t for ‘all the immigrants’ there would be jobs available at high wages for all native-born Britons, along with readily available housing at affordable rents and a decent level of social provision.

Free-market economics is bad for workers

The truth, however, is that capitalism, in its desperate drive to push down production costs, must inevitably try to push down wages and social provision, too – not only to maximise profits, but also to survive the competition from its rivals and to win the struggle over markets.
If immigration were stopped tomorrow and average wages rose, it would not be long before enterprises presently relying on cheap labour closed down altogether, with their capitalist owners either being driven out of business and/or deciding that their money was better invested abroad and/or investing in new machinery that would reduce the need to hire expensive workers.

That is why, despite the constant increase in productivity (which ought to lead to a shorter working day and higher living standards for all), living standards for workers continue to be pushed relentlessly downwards all over the capitalist world.

According to Oxfam: “In 2015, just 62 individuals had the same wealth as 3.6 billion people – the bottom half of humanity. The figure is down from 388 individuals as recently as 2010. Since the turn of the century, the poorest half of the world’s population has received just 1 percent of the total increase in global wealth, while half of that increase has gone to the top 1 percent.”

This disparity continues to grow every single year. Foreign and native-born workers alike suffer as a result of this downward pressure on wages and benefits, whichever capitalist country’s labour force they happen to belong to. Our only possible defence is our ability to organise and fight back – an ability that is lost if the working class is divided against itself, whether on xenophobic lines or any other basis.

Far from exciting hatred, working-class immigrants to this country should be treated with sympathy, since it is clear that the overwhelming majority who leave their countries of origin only do so because they feel they must in order to escape poverty, starvation, persecution or war.

Just like us, they love their families and are simply doing whatever they can to take care of them and secure their futures.

So long as capitalism exists, so long will workers have to fight every inch of the way to maintain reasonable living standards for themselves and their families – and will periodically suffer real deprivation as a result of battles being lost.

So long as capitalism exists, there will always be a reserve army of unemployed – both of local people and of people abroad – who are desperate for work. Competition among workers for jobs is built into the capitalist system, but the proletariat must not allow itself to be tricked into believing that it is other workers who are the enemy.

The sole and only cause of this desperate situation is the continued survival of the capitalist system, which stands convicted of an utter inability to cater to the even the most basic needs of the overwhelming majority of humanity.

If capitalism was overcome and replaced by a planned, socialist economy, in which all society’s resources were used to provide for the needs of the working people and their families, there would be no such thing as unemployment and no such thing as competition for jobs.

Every person would be found something essential to do, and all labour would enrich the whole of society. Under socialism, with useful work for all, we shall be able to apply the fair, basic economic law of socialism: he who does not work, neither shall he eat.

It is the job of communists to expose the lies of all bourgeois parties, from Labour to Ukip, which encourage workers to blame one another for the ills of the capitalist system, and thus stand in the way of their uniting to overthrow it and achieve their liberation. The vast majority of those who have fallen for such lies have not done so as a result of some inbuilt and incurable racism, but from a desire to find answers to society’s evident problems and in order that they might know how those problems can be fixed.

If very many have been given the wrong answers, we are not in the business of blaming them, but only of striving to bring enlightenment, which in turn will illuminate the path to freedom. Bourgeois propaganda is everywhere, but communists have truth on their side. The false friends of the people must be exposed and an understanding of how racism and anti-immigrant sentiment play into the exploiters’ hands must be brought to workers.

Little by little, with hard work and perseverance, the masses must be converted from being reserves of bourgeois reaction into forces for socialist revolution and progress.

About the CPGB-ML

An understanding of society (theory) and a way of uniting to change it (organisation) are the two things that we need to make a socialist revolution. Ordinary people in Britain have everything to gain by getting involved in this process sooner rather than later. This world isn’t working for us and we deserve better!

Not only do we need to campaign against the bad conditions and lack of prospects for working-class people in Britain today, but we need to work for a completely different type of society – one where people’s needs decide everything.

So many problems face this world: environmental catastrophe, poverty, disease, racism and war. They’ll never be solved while capitalism remains, but they could all be sorted if society was set up for the benefit of the majority rather than the private gain of a few billionaires.

Our party is different because we consistently apply Marxist science to all areas of our work, and we’re not scared to tell it how it is. We refuse to be intimidated by the barrage of lying propaganda that fills Britain’s mainstream media. It is the capitalists’ job to try to stop us from building a socialist society; it is our job to do it anyway!

Challenge your ideas – challenge their propaganda – seek the truth – serve the people – change the world!

Contact the CPGB-ML to find out more.

Learn more and get involved: cpgb-ml.org