



This is
RIGGED

BANS WILL NOT STOP US

The Scottish government has made it clear that they will not listen to the people. Since January, we have been disrupting First Minister's Questions with a crucial question: will you vocally oppose all new oil and gas projects, and create a fully funded fair transition for Scotland's oil workers? Holyrood's only response has been to try and silence us.

Last Thursday, several people (including an 82 year old retired paediatrician, and a 17 year old) were refused entry to the public gallery on the grounds that they might, maybe, possibly have been planning to protest. This is f*cking rigged. Despite this, FMQs was still disrupted. Banning us from parliament is not going to stop the disruption.

What has been made clear, is that our government is unwilling to listen to the voices of their citizens, to represent the interests of the Scottish people. The attempted crackdown comes alongside news that the SNP have met with fossil fuel lobbyists over 200 times in the past four years. We can't say we're surprised.

Today, two people painted the front of the Scottish Parliament to call attention to our government's criminal inaction on the climate crisis. We tried asking - we challenged our politicians directly, in the seat of power, but they are unwilling to hear us. Pleading to politicians for a liveable future is clearly futile, so it is up to us now to create the change we desperately need. So, we are escalating - we will take it to the streets, to the infrastructure, to cultural institutions, to the media. This summer, we will shut down Scotland's oil industry until our demands are met.

From strikes, to suffrage, to civil rights, all of our liberties have been won by people who have disrupted business as usual, who have fought for our rights and refused to be silenced. Where would we be if everyone who had been told to, "sit down and shut up" by those in power had listened? When the alternative is food scarcity, water shortages, and the collapse of infrastructure, there is no time left to sit by and watch. As citizens of Scotland, one of the world's largest producers of oil and gas, we refuse to be complicit in one of the greatest atrocities in human history. People in frontline communities are facing the repercussions of our inaction on a daily basis. We are hurtling towards the total collapse of the systems that sustain life on earth. Now is not the time for fear and intimidation - it is the time for action.

We will not be obedient while our own communities are suffering. 1 in 3 Scots are unable to afford their energy bills. 1 in 4 people in Scotland currently live in poverty. All this, in a

country supposedly rich in oil and gas? Something doesn't quite add up. Lives are already being lost to avoidable climate disaster, to fuel poverty, to gross social and financial inequality. Our politicians are prioritising the interest of the fossil fuel lobby over the interests of the Scottish people. We have had enough - this is rigged, but it doesn't have to be.

We are committed to taking whatever nonviolent action is necessary to end the injustice of continued oil and gas licensing. This fight is about so much more than First Minister's Questions - it is about survival. This is the fight for basic rights and dignity for all living beings. Ordinary people in Scotland are stepping into civil resistance, because we have been left with no choice. Politics has failed us.

To quote Howard Zinn, "Civil disobedience is not our problem. Our problem is civil obedience. Our problem is that people all over the world have obeyed the dictates of leaders...and millions have been killed because of this obedience...Our problem is that people are obedient all over the world in the face of poverty and starvation and stupidity, and war, and cruelty. Our problem is that people are obedient while the jails are full of petty thieves... (and) the grand thieves are running the country. That's our problem."

The only way to stop disruption is to meet our demands. All the repression will do is strengthen our conviction. Our strength is in collective action. One person cannot hold the Scottish government to account and win, one person cannot take on the oil industry and win, but together we can. We can win this. There is no moment as crucial as now. Join us at www.thisisrigged.org to shut down Scotland's oil industry this summer.