

Against the Witch-hunt

Matthew Jones

The current witch hunt or as it has become the effort to drive the left out of the Labour Party has two strands both tied to wider developments in the decline of US hegemony and the system of Imperialism. The first is the deliberately false equation of opposition to Zionism and specifically the state of Israel with anti-Semitism which of course is the hatred of or discrimination against Jewish people. The growing unpopularity of the Israeli state and the central place it holds in the Imperialist domination of the Middle East means that this deceitful campaign is gathering pace internationally using particularly the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism allied to intimidation up to and including sacking those who campaign for the Palestinians and speak the truth about the oppressive, racist actions of the Israeli state. The campaign to equate anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism has an element of the surreal – it both allows groups and organisations which have an obvious record of racism to accuse anti-racist activists of racism and also it has been extensively used to accuse socialist and pro-Palestinian Jewish comrades of anti-Semitism. This charge is itself anti-Semitic.

- 1) We support those unjustly victimised by the Labour Party falsely alleging anti-Semitism. We demand that those suspended or expelled be reinstated if they desire it and that the Labour Party issue a full apology for this disgusting campaign against the left.
- 2) We oppose the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism wherever this is raised or imposed – not only the Labour Party, but also in academia, public services and elsewhere. We support campaigns to defend the victimised most notably David Millar sacked by Bristol university, but also others.
- 3) We call for the trade unions to both defend their own policies in support of the Palestinians and to campaign against the witch hunting and victimisation of their own members, socialists and pro-Palestinian campaigners.

The second part of the Labour Party's campaign against the left is the move to reinstate the proscribed list after 50 years and then in a deliberate echo of McCarthyism attack comrades for associations with the previously victimised and retrospectively outlaw activities. Both of these moves by the leadership and bureaucracy of the Labour Party are deeply sinister and an effort to suppress free speech, freedom of speech and association and the basic solidarity which is the lifeblood of socialism. This method is also likely to be used outside the Labour Party as the crisis of capital and the state intensifies. The campaign plays into the tendency of the “official” organisations of the Labour left to maintain silence on victimisations and to avoid those who are suspended or expelled for fear of “contamination”.

- 1) We campaign for the ending of bans and proscriptions in the Labour Party.
- 2) We will continue a campaign to support those unjustly victimised by the Labour Party using proscriptions and the McCarthyite accusations of association and retrospective charges.
- 3) We call on the trade unions and organisations including Momentum and the Socialist Campaign Group to support their own members and others victimised by the Labour Party and to demand the end of bans and proscriptions.

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Amendment to Motion B [B1FK]

> Part-2: 3) add these words :

:We call on them to demand that the LP *halt and reverse* the four year long spate of unfair expulsions, suspensions and proscriptions . In so doing, to also demand the LP replace the unfit GLU with a complaints process that is fair and just.

4)Also to call upon trade unions and organisations including Momentum and the Socialist Campaign Group undertake direct actions (with ourselves & others, as needed) at LP-HQ's and CLP's to press those aims stated above in Part-1.

Amendment to Motion B [B2FK]

> Part-2: 3) add these words :

5) We call on the LP to bring to book, the nexus of saboteurs of the recent two G.E's and to this end, publish the 2020 Labour GLU Report and the 2020 Forde Report, wherein such sabotage is likely implicated and documented .

Amendment to Motion B [B3FK]

>add this after Part-2

Part-3:

In order to oppose the capitalist-class MSM which promotes the 'witch hunt ' ;

1)To urgently establish a national news-sheet accessible to all the public that represents the views of LAW with LIEN/ and our allies .

This would be free or at minimal charge.

This could be in any form; electronic or physical.

The goal would be to inform, entertain and educate the public about the 'witch hunt' and on left matters that are being suppressed, matters that need to be propagandised to further our movement.

[proofed wed 15th pm]