TAXATION

Why do we pay taxes to an immoral government?



Not so long ago tax payer's money was used to bail out the banks after the 2008 financial crash. The bankster state had a tremendous laugh at our expense.

Yet people continue to trust the state with their money - assuming that politicians are both competent to manage it and will use it in ways that are in the public interest.

Is this trust deserved?

your money

This leaflet poses a series of questions inviting people to think about the issue of taxation, and how government spends our money.

It suggests that we might be better off holding on to our money and - where appropriate - using it to help each other *directly* - dealing with issues such as housing and infrastructure locally and via voluntary agreements and regional collaboration.

Reasons for taxation

Housing. We are told that taxation is necessary for the provision of housing, but - via mass immigration and neo-feudal land-use policies - the Government is in fact directly fuelling the housing crisis. (This is discussed more below.)

Infrastructure. We are told that taxes are essential to build infrastructure such as roads and bridges - but under the 'sustainable development' goals which our Government has embraced (under the pretext of 'decarbonization' and 'protecting the environment') our travel would be limited and road maintenance would be largely limited to urban areas.

Health care. We are told that taxes are essential to health care, but many people are rightly wary of the 'health care' offered by the state. With the fanatical emphasis on vaccination, and promotion of an almost cult-like belief in the HSE's value and importance, some would question how much of the HSE's work relates to actual health care.

Education. We are told that taxation is necessary for education and public schools, but many would argue that the schools have become either glorified childcare centres or centres of indoctrination.

Others would argue that children's education should never be delegated to the state in the first place.

Social security. We are told that taxation is necessary for the provision of social security - and a safety net - for the vulnerable, the disabled, and people struggling to find their feet. But very little tax money is actually allocated to this end in a sensible way. So we should ask: *would it make more sense to devise our own programmes for this purpose, rather than delegating the responsibility to the state*?

Crime, law and order. We are told that taxation is necessary for law enforcement and the prevention of crime, but many would argue that the actions of this Government itself are criminal.

In the meantime, the police and courts spend much of their time dealing with petty issues - such as non-payment of TV licenses - and are not particularly effective at preventing genuine and serious crime.









Questioning how tax money is spent

A moral obligation

We have a moral obligation - when giving someone money - to consider how they will spend it. And, if we conclude that the intended use of our money is morally unacceptable and irreconcilable with our ethical beliefs and values - we are justified in withholding it.

This applies in the case of giving tax money to Government just as it would in giving money to a friend, to a child or to an addict.

Here are a series of questions for the Government.

Housing and immigration. Why is the Government extending an invitation to citizens of foreign nations to make Ireland their home - to house them and grant them a weekly allowance - when it can not or refuses to do the same for thousands of Irish people?

Why are local people not being heeded when they raise concerns or protest the arrival of huge numbers of migrants in their towns and neighborhoods?¹

The environment. Why has the Government adopted a 'sustainable development' plan that is based on highly questionable scientific claims, and that will have dramatic negative effects on our way of living?

Why have they embraced fanatical environmental policies which prioritize 'conservation' and wilderness protection over human habitats and well-being?

Covid 19 and vaccines. Why have the Government taken so long to even discuss the excess mortality over the past few years since the rollout of the Covid-19 injections?² Are they ever going to hold a proper investigation in to vaccine injuries?

Should tax payers who argue that the Covid-19 injections are neither safe nor effective be expected to subsidize their marketing and distribution? Or a health system that ridicules them as 'conspiracy theorists' and 'anti-vaxxers'?

Accountability. Should we be expected to pay or subsidize the pensions and salaries of politicians, civil servants and media pundits who respond to our grievances with derision and condescension?

All in all, some of us observe that enormous sums of money are being allocated to various ends that we regards as unethical or nonsensical - while relatively little is being allocated to actually alleviate the most serious issue this country is facing: *homelessness*.³

¹ As of October 2023, there are plans to bring 950 immigrants to a small village in Co. Wicklow called Annamoe - which has little more than 100 inhabitants.

² See https://ripcounties.ie/

³ or more accurately, lack of access to land, and the inability (due to zoning decisions and planning regulations) to actually build on the land that one already has access to or could reasonably afford.

Housing and land

Some would argue that the Government are (finally) making an effort to address homelessness. However, through zoning decisions and planning regulations the Government are largely *responsible* for homelessness.

Through its adoption of 'sustainable development' plans the Government is grossly exacerbating this problem. The 'development plans' for various counties (including Waterford) make it effectively impossible to build in rural areas.

So the Government is directly exacerbating the most serious problem in this country, while wasting our tax money on largely nonsensical projects which they try to convince us are for 'our own good' or the 'environment'.

Land use policies

Through their land use policies, planning bodies and local county councils have essentially declared the vast majority of land in this country as 'off-limits' for human habitation. Even if one were wealthy enough to buy an acre or half an acre from a local landowner or farmer, it would not be possible to build a home there unless the area is specifically zoned for residential purposes. Even then, there are often very stringent criteria that need to be satisfied in order for a planning application to be successful.

This, in large part, is the cause of the housing crisis in our country. And much of the blame for this lays at the feet of Government - as they have acquiesced to pressure from so-called 'environmentalists'.

Giving to the Government vs. giving to the poor

Giving to or sharing your possessions with the poor is not the same as giving them to Government. The Government is not 'poor', nor 'in need', nor (on the whole) concerned with those who are.

Giving your money to Government will significantly *diminish* your ability to directly assist those who are genuinely in need.

Summary

We are made to believe or accept that coercive taxation schemes are the only way to address large-scale social issues and 'keep society running', but it's worth pausing to think on this.

Tax money is not necessarily spent in the way that you think or hope it is spent. A lot of it is simply *wasted*, but - what's worse - a lot of it is used in ways that are *directly harmful* to our society and the individuals within it.