Injustice
A year on.

1. The five original arguments of the book (the views of many of those in power).

2. What has occurred in each area in the 12 months since final proofs checked.

3. What appear likely to occur in the near future in Britain if left unchecked.

First a note on what inspired the book – which was changed greatly due to reading a draft of Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson’s “Spirit Level” (2009)

Danny Dorling, University of Sheffield
Given at the London School of Economics, 17th November, 2010
Elitism is efficient

New social evil 1: “Just a few children are able enough to be fully educated; the rest must be led”.
What 18-21 year-olds are most likely to be doing

By home location at age 15

Source: A Tale of Two Cities The Sheffield Project
http://www.sasi.group.shef.ac.uk/research/sheffield/index.html
What 18-21 year-olds are second-most likely to be doing

Source: A Tale of Two Cities
The Sheffield Project
Exclusion is necessary

New social evil 2: “The poor will always be with us, no matter how rich we are; we need to teach them to be better poor parents”.
Graph: Personal short term debt (credit card) as % of assets (OECD)
Map: Government net borrowing/lending deficit - national debt (EU)

Source 2008/9
OECD and Eurostat
If this chart continued at this scale, it would have to rise eight feet to include the top full figure at $300,000. To include the 20,000 more people who declared more than $10 million on their income tax returns (capital gains are included on tax returns but not in the government surveys’ definition of personal income used to create the poster), the chart would have to be twenty stories high.

A poster drawn by Stephen Rose using 2005 income and wealth data. Inset below is of poorest pensioners.
Prejudice is natural

New social evil 3: “Other people are naturally, perhaps genetically inferior to those who have done best; many young people are not worth a wage (while a few others are worth millions)”.
We used to have different ideas
The last time a million people aged under 25 were unemployed was 1984.
New social evil 4: “The greed of the rich is helping humanity as much as it can be helped; we need that greed”.

Greed is good
Inequality and meat

Meat consumption in kg per year per person

Source: [www.shef.ac.uk/sasi](http://www.shef.ac.uk/sasi) - see presentations: is more equal more green
Inequality and waste

Source: www.shef.ac.uk/sasi - see presentations: is more equal more green
Despair is inevitable

New social evil 5: “To argue against mass marketisation is foolhardy; there is no alternative; mass poor mental health is unfortunate but inevitable”. Offer palliative therapy…
“When I’m worried about something I can talk to my mum or dad”
“When I’m worried about something I can talk to my friends”
“When I’m worried about something I can talk to an adult other than my mum or dad”. **Children who answered ‘yes’ to at least 2 of these 3:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOR</th>
<th>Emotional health of children 2008/09</th>
<th>Emotional health of children 2009/10</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>63.6</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>-6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>65.0</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>-6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and The Humber</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>57.3</td>
<td>-7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheffield</strong></td>
<td><strong>60.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>56.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>-3.8</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>61.9</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>63.6</td>
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<td>-5.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>61.6</td>
<td>56.0</td>
<td>-5.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>London</td>
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<td>53.2</td>
<td>-7.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>South East</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
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<td>56.2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>56.0</td>
<td>-6.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: “Tell US” Survey – cancelled 2010
A year on. All the arrows up

Income Inequality, share held by richest 1%, 1918-2005+

Inequality, in survival chances to age 65 in Britain, 1918-2005+ [BMJ]

Electoral Inequality, Segregation Index of Tory voters, 1918-2005+

Income inequality (X axis) verses Health inequalities (Y axis) in Britain, 1918-2005

Sources: ‘Injustice’ Chapter 5 + New Statesman (2010)

Sources: ‘Injustice’ Chapter 5 + New Statesman (2010)
In January 2010 we learnt that for the first time a majority of extra university places had gone to children from “working class areas” [HEFCE]


Elitism is efficient

In October 2010 we learn that 75% of Higher Education teaching budget is to be cut, all of social science (even economics?) and that universities are to be, in all but name, privatised - “The only social value the report seems able to think of is economic: these subjects contribute directly to the economy, it is alleged, and so we must have them. The Comprehensive Spending Review has reinforced this emphasis on science and technology by maintaining the science budget (which supports research, not teaching) at its present level.”

In June 2010 Frank Field is appointed because he calls a mean a median:

“Had I been asked, I would have argued for a target that was achievable. The 2020 goal isn’t. Any candidate sitting GCSE maths should be able to explain that raising everybody above a set percentage of median income is rather like asking a cat to catch its own tail. As families are raised above the target level of income, the median point itself rises. Not surprisingly, therefore, no country in the free world has managed to achieve this objective, not even those Scandinavian countries whose social models many of us admire.”

see: Poverty is about much more than money” by Frank in ‘The Telegraph’ 5/6/2010: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/politics/conservative/7803983/Poverty-is-about-much-more-than-money.html#disqus_thread

In January 2010 we learnt that for the first time we know the the best of 10th of Londoners have at least 270 time the wealth of the poorest” [HILLS]

see: BBC “Rich-poor divide 'wider than 40 years ago' The gap between rich and poor in the UK is wider now than 40 years ago, a government-commissioned report says.” 27/1/2010: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/8481534.stm
Prejudice is natural

In November 2010: “Barclays £2.2bn of bonuses on track to beat 2009”
[TELEGRAPH]

While poor to be made to do “Community Service” for the dole…
See: “Sinister government policy is treating jobless like criminals”, The Inverness Courier,

In September 2010 we learn that “Bob Diamond collected a 'mere' £42 million last year” in income, and bankers are still loathed
[DAILY MAIL] see: “Rambler with an interest in Bible studies is the City's highest earner on £60m a year” 27/9/2010:
In April 2010 we learn that – Gordon wanted to “help people”:

“Duffy: – but all these eastern Europeans coming in, where are they flocking from?

Brown: A million people come in from Europe, but a million British people have gone into Europe, you do know there’s a lot of British people staying in Europe as well. So education, health and helping people, that’s what I’m about.”


In June 2010 we learn the councils to be cut the (%) most are:

Doncaster
Redcar & Cleveland
Liverpool
Knowsley
Middlesbrough
St Helens
Blackpool
South Tyneside
North East
Lincolnshire
Blackburn with Darwen

(and Sheffield – singled out for cruel and unusual cuts)

And:
The ten councils to be cut the least are:

City of London
Ealing
Redbridge
Dudley (the only error?)
Barnet
Harrow
Brent
Havering
Wandsworth
Bexley
In October 2010 nobody notices that: The extreme inequality gap falls to 12.40 years when 2009 data is released (analysis of ONS data release and revisions of 19/10/2010, LE by district) Remember: “So education, health and helping people, that’s what I’m about.”

12.45 years

By November it is clear: The Health White Paper is privatisation by stealth. If the multibillion pound NHS budget is handed over to General Practitioners then many of them will subcontract for-profit health care companies.

Despair is inevitable
What appear likely to occur in the near future in Britain if current trends left unchecked?

When it comes to fortune-telling History looks back searching for certainties, Geography looks across at alternatives:

Look to Portugal if you want to see what Britain might look like if we became a little bit more impoverished and to see what happens where an aristocracy of the rich gains greater power. Or look to Israel to see a country with similar inequality to the UK now (even less!).

If you want to see what the newly privatised UK higher education system will look like, turn to the USA. If you want to know what our health system will look like if we allow those determined to privatise it to get their way, then take another glance west at ‘for-profit’.

A race to the bottom? Consider the great states of Indonesia, Brazil, India and China.

Or could we become like Singapore, where to buy non-medicinal chewing gum remains a criminal offence. A British Singapore would be a place of repressive laws which welcomed in millionaires and other ‘high tier’ migrants but gave other immigrants only guest-worker status at best. If those other immigrants became pregnant they would be required to leave (guest-workers). There would be increased ethnic division, much less inter-marrying. Menial jobs would be reserved for those from ‘lower’ racial or religious orders.
Or – be positive:

We reduce regional divides as Germany has;

We reverse decline in poorer areas using immigration policy like Spain;

We fund health care most were it is most needed, as in Italy;

We enact policies to reduce divides as in Greece, or Austria, or Sweden;

We design our urban areas better, as is done in the Netherlands or Japan;

We consider how housing is allocated better, as in Finland and Denmark;

We study different models of planning such as in France, Belgium and Luxembourg;

We begin to recognise that people live longer also in all these countries and NZ, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Norway and Ireland…

Unscrupulous private landlords are a minority, usually older and rich. Tenants are a very large majority of the young and an even larger majority of the poor. We stop being duped into borrowing money from the rich via gilts to lend to the young as student loans and instead use the £9tn national wealth more to balance the £1.5tn national debt, not to recreate it.

We do what we did, in fits and starts, from 1918 to 1978, but in a different way. We do what they do in all these other affluent countries. We do what the vast majority of people aspire to do – to see their children live longer, happier, better educated and rewarding lives than them.