

Not Venal, Evil

The hilarious **news** that the ever-odious George Galloway might have been – gasp – being **paid** larger sums of money per year than **some of us** have seen in a lifetime, by **Saddam Hussein**, has been described as “thrilleresque” by Glenn Reynolds on **Instapundit**, as “a bombshell” by **Andrew Sullivan**, and as “an impressive scoop” by Malcolm Hutty on **samizdata.net**. And now the **Guardian** is reporting that Galloway is going to sue.

But in all this **excitement** about Galloway's possible hypocrisy and fall from political grace, let's not forget the real issue here. George Galloway is an unfailing spokesman and advocate for evil, and whether or not he was bribed is a mere side issue. If the vile things he has done and said in connection with Israel, Iraq, and so on, were in fact right, there would be nothing morally reprehensible about taking money for them. As we have **said**, if a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing at a profit. By concentrating on the bribery issue, we are letting the likes of Galloway off far too lightly. So instead of saying darkly, as Malcolm Hutty does –

[N]ow it appears that [Galloway] was motivated by pure greed rather than just a love of controversy.

...[H]e was giving aid and comfort to the enemy for personal gain.

– which risks sounding as though we agree with our anti-capitalist opponents that seeking personal gain is a *bad* thing, let's remember to speak out against sin, not the wages of sin.

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Treason

I think Hutty's main point was that Galloway's action amounts to treason.

by a reader on Tue, 04/22/2003 - 20:29 | [reply](#)

But they say they're against greed

The reason it's worth mentioning that anti-war activists may have

been motivated by greed, is that that's what they profess to despise about the pro-war leaders. It's one of their major arguments for opposing the war.

So, not only are they completely wrong about the facts of the case, but they're hypocritical as well. Even *they* don't believe what they're saying. They clearly just say things to win supporters, not because they believe them.

Being wrong and vocal on life-and-death issues is bad enough. Being wrong and knowing that you don't believe what you're saying is particularly vile.

by [Gil](#) on Tue, 04/22/2003 - 21:05 | [reply](#)

Hypocrisy

Hypocrisy is the only thing immoral people can criticize in others, because it is the only vice that you can judge in the absence of a good sense of morality yourself.

by [Chris](#) on Wed, 04/23/2003 - 19:37 | [reply](#)

I disagree somewhat with the post.

If the vile things he has done and said in connection with Israel, Iraq, and so on, were in fact right, there would be nothing morally reprehensible about taking money for them.

That's true, but if he was saying those things *because he was being paid*, then he was in fact wrong to say them. Even more wrong than if he was saying them because he believed them, yet he was wrong in his belief.

David Schneider-Joseph

President, **Americans for a Society Free from Age Restrictions**
Chief, **Tewata**

by [DavidSJ](#) on Wed, 04/23/2003 - 22:42 | [reply](#)

To my constituents

What will he say to his long-suffering constituents? How will he wriggle out of this one?

by [Sylvia Crombie](#) on Thu, 04/24/2003 - 01:50 | [reply](#)

Galloway

There is, of course, the glaring hypocrisy. It is, after all, we on the right that are portrayed as greedy.

It is an interesting question of why those who proclaim their concern for the innocent citizens of Iraq so loudly fought so hard to keep the prisons, torture chambers and rape squads in business.

The horrors of the Baathist Regime were hardly secret, there must be a reason that so many fought so hard to let it continue, undisturbed. For at least one of the leaders of this movement, we may have found the reason.

It would be interesting to have a long hard look at the books of organisations like ANSWER.

I am rather uncomfortable with the newspeople going through those records found in Iraq. I'd be much happier if it were the FBI, CIA and the Brit SIS, with help from the IRS.

Much of the rank and file of the 'peace' movement is made up of what Lenin called the useful idiots, I do wonder how the leaders finance their lifestyles and travels.

by **Peter W. Davis** on Sun, 04/27/2003 - 04:04 | [reply](#)