

Violent disorder is fascism say Greens

Commenting on the street violence affecting communities across England, Green MP Siân Berry said:

“What we are witnessing on our streets is fascist violence fueled by racism and Islamophobia. Only by naming it and understanding clearly what it is can we work to defeat it.

“The rise of the far right and fascism has been fueled by toxic and divisive rhetoric from some in the previous government [1] We must demand better from our new government, and I hope that ministers will now step up and deliver.

“It is also important to ask what the police and security services have been doing to monitor the far right over the past decade. We have to question if a focus on monitoring Muslim citizens and climate protesters has allowed the far more sinister menace of fascism to ferment.

“We need to bring those responsible for instigating the violence to justice, but this won’t be enough to defeat an ideology which uses organised political violence to undermine our society, divide communities and compromise the state and its institutions, including the judiciary and the police.

“The engine that drives fascism is racism, so ministers need to speak up now with one voice to celebrate and defend our Muslim citizens and their place in our diverse society. The Government also needs urgently to create real new investment in supporting community cohesion.

“As Greens we stand in solidarity with our Muslim citizens, with people seeking asylum in the UK, and every community that’s been targeted, attacked or threatened by this racist violence. We commend those in the areas targeted who have united peacefully against this hate, and support community leaders and individuals who are working to bring communities together in the face of attempts to inflame divisions.”

Notes

[1] Dame Sara Khan, who worked as Rishi Sunak’s independent adviser for social cohesion, has accused politicians of using inflammatory language which has given a green light to those holding racist views: [Conservatives left UK wide open to far-right violence, says former adviser | UK security and counter-terrorism | The Guardian](#)

Other examples of divisive rhetoric fueling the far right and racism:

Former Home Secretary [Suella Braverman said](#) ‘The truth is that the Islamists, the extremists and the anti-Semites are in charge now.’

During the election Reform Party leader [Nigel Farage said](#) there are “a growing number of young people in this country who do not subscribe to British values, in fact loathe much of what we stand for”, when asked about

Conservative plans to bring in national service for 18-year-olds. Asked during that interview on Sky News if he was referring to Muslims, Farage said: "We are."

Former Labour MP [Jonathan Ashworth said](#) migrants are "put up in hotels and they can stay in these hotels for the rest of their lives"

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[Green Party statement on Southport Rioting](#)

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Amanda Onwuemene, Green Party Spokesperson for Policing and Domestic Safety said: "The far right is using disinformation around the horrific murders of children in Southport to do what it always does: spread hatred and fear.

"The attacks on a mosque and police by fascist thugs yesterday are an appalling violation of a community that has already suffered a devastating blow.

"The Green Party condemns this violence and stands in solidarity with the people of Southport against those who seek to divide it."

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[Green Party statement on Labour housing reforms](#)

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Responding to Labour's plans to build more homes, Adrian Ramsay, Co-Leader of the Green Party, said: "We are in a housing crisis that leaves many without the basic security of a safe and warm home".

“This crisis though is an affordability crisis.

“There are a million empty homes, and a million homes that planners have allowed but developers haven’t built – too often in order keep prices high.

“Meanwhile, we have over a million households on council waiting lists and more than 130,000 children are growing up in temporary accommodation.

“This is why Labour’s plan to hand more power and profits to private developers is flawed.

“Where is the incentive for private developers to build the affordable and accessible homes needed?

“Instead, we will get large executive houses on greenfield sites or luxury city flats.

“Planning reform is a distraction from Labour’s failure to step up and fund the real answers to the housing crisis, including large-scale investment in truly affordable, sustainable council housing.”

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[Greens respond to “disturbing” images of man being kicked by Police Firearms Officer](#)

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Following the [release of images](#) Manchester Airport that showed a Greater Manchester Police firearms officer striking a man twice as he lay on the ground, Green Party spokesperson on police and domestic safety, Amanda Onwuemene, said,

‘We’re horrified by the video of a man being kicked and stamped on the head whilst lying on the ground by a police officer at Manchester Airport.

“It’s deeply disturbing and there is no situation where it could be in any way justifiable.

“We’re pleased that an investigation is being held and the police must be

fully transparent and accountable if they are to restore public confidence after what appears to be a clear abuse of power.'

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[Greens respond to GB Energy announcement](#)

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Carla Denyer, co-leader of the Green Party said: "This is an important day for our country. After 14 wasted years it is a relief that we now have an Energy Secretary who understands the climate crisis and is prepared to take the action we need.

"But action on renewables will be pointless unless it goes hand in hand with the rapid transition away from North Sea oil and gas. New figures today show more oil and gas being produced, threatening to unleash nearly 12bn tonnes of planet-heating emissions, with the world's wealthiest countries – such as the US and the UK – leading the way, according to the International Institute for Sustainable Development

"Energy Secretary Ed Miliband is claiming that his plans will reduce bills but that will only be achieved if the Government invests in improving the energy efficiency of homes too. The significant cut in proposed public investment from £28bn every year to £8.3bn over the course of the parliament means energy will continue to be wasted while bills soar and the poorest households live in cold homes.

"Labour's commitment to clean electricity by 2030 is welcome, but without urgent action on transport and home heating we won't meet our climate targets. That is why the Green Party called for major investment in public transport and a nationwide programme of home insulation and conversion of home heating away from gas and towards electricity."

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