

Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn

By Graham Eardley, Chairman of UKIP Walsall

In David O. Selznick's 1939 film of Margaret Mitchell's novel "Gone with the Wind" Rhett Butler, the lead character played by Clark Gable, turns and says to Scarlett O'Hara in response to her tearful question "Where shall I go? What shall I do?", came one of the most pivotal lines ever uttered in the history of cinema.

"Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn".

Film censors at that time objected to the use of the word "damn" in the film, a word that had been prohibited by the 1930 Motion Picture Production Code. The code known as the Hays code after William Hayes the Republican politician and president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America (MPPDA) from 1922 to 1945.

The primary object of the code was to say to film producers what was acceptable for films produced in America for American audiences and included lists of band words and phrases that were deemed not acceptable. The code was eventually abandoned in the late 60s and a rating System of Film classification introduced.

Today people are all trusted to use their own common sense guided by ratings and reviews as to which film or entertainment they wish to see or even partake in by large.

I would say this is true of politics as well, if you our unaware that's politics has frequently been described as a dirty game then I would argue you too naive to be a politician.

If you are a politician or a parliamentarian, you must be prepared to take the rough words with this smooth – there is no censor or censorship.

Inside Parliament or the council chamber there are rules of debate and rightly so these rules should and must be enforced as fairly as it is possible, but as they say rules are made to be broken and tested

sometimes to their outermost boundaries. When faced with such a dichotomy as the issue of Brexit.

People least of all politicians should not be surprised or angry at our current Prime Minister's use of the word 'surrender' to describe the European Union (Withdrawal) (No.2) Act 2019.

As this act does restrict any chance of deal as it removes the nuclear option of just walking away from the negotiations, a tactic which has been used in the past, such as is the case when the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations between the EU and USA which have stalled.

I am also perplexed as to why people get upset when it comes to criticising the 11 judges on the Supreme Court who ruled that the recent prorogation of parliament. Surely in a free society in a free country, such questions should be allowed to be asked. People have the right to agree or disagree.

Fellow Brexiter and chief executive officer of The Freedom Association, Simon Richards, has even gone so far as to pose the question how many of the 11 justices actually voted for leave in the referendum of June 2016 given their establishment background. Although this is a question we will never know the answer to. But what the judgement may lead to is hearings similar to those we see in the United States when supreme justices are selected there.

I started this post with a famous film quote and it's where I shall finish in answer to the question posed by tearful remainers who ask "Where shall I go? What shall I do?"

My response is on wards and upwards to a free and independent sovereign nation. And if this answer doesn't suit well; "Frankly my dear..."

Disclaimer: This blog is written in a personal capacity and does not necessarily reflect the views of Centre for Brexit Studies and Birmingham City University.