

Are People More Pro-Nature in Urban or Rural Areas ?

As the implications of voting for Brexit sink in, questions of identity are coming to the fore in the UK. Environment, nature and our countryside play a significant part in the British psyche and in debates about identity. It's often assumed that people in urban and rural areas are very different in their affinity for nature but is this true? If it is true, what does this mean for nature conservation or environment groups, where they should look for support or how they should try to shape policy ?

My new blog [Values, Nature and Location](#) presents a set of data that compares a measure of being pro-nature with where people live, and their values. So far as I know it's the first such study of its kind, though do let me know if you think otherwise. One thing I can tell you is that class seems to have nothing at all to do with it.

Some other things you might be interested in:

In [What Should Campaigners Do About Brexit?](#) I argued that the UK NGOs should not simply accept the Brexit result but come to the aid of the young, in particular, who were let down by the campaigns on both sides of the Referendum. I still think that it's far from a done deal and [this blog](#) (written in July) imagines a way in which a campaign might be run to pull Britain back from a bad deal. That still needs to happen.

It is remarkable that whereas UK politicians get very aerated about demanding justice on consumer issues such as mis-selling PPI (Payment Protection Insurance), they have mostly closed their eyes and ears to the fact that the public was mis-sold the Leave proposition, with lies, deception and deceit. They deserve their vote back.

I'll be writing more soon but as the political class has largely surrendered leadership on this issue and gone on holiday or involved itself in internal party political dogfights, the field is open for non politicians to point out that the Brexit emperor has no clothes.

See also: [Fishermen Led Up The River by Farrage](#) – UK fishermen became an icon in the Brexit fight but are likely to be disappointed by the result. [Brexit, Values and Age](#): how value divides underlie the Brexit split. Plus [Brexit and Values from the LSE](#) and from values guru [Pat Dade](#).

And finally...

For environmental historians and campaigners dealing with decommissioning of oil fields in the energy transition, an old book I wrote *The Turning of The Spar*, an account of the Greenpeace Brent Spar campaign, is now [online as a pdf here](#) (large file).

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