

# The Scottish Jacobite Party



## A Unifying Political Theory- The Citizen Rules

If decisions are based on an underlying theory then there is a greater chance that the decisions will be consistent and serve the goals of the political body.

The last General Election showed a remarkable lack of theoretical background for the main parties in British Politics.

New Labour is somewhere to the right of the Conservative party in rhetoric and action, far removed from their traditional base of support of the labour movement. In Ideological No Man's Land. The Conservatives are caught like deer in the headlights of an endless leadership crisis and the Lib-Dems can't decide whether they are to the right or left of Labour. Hardly surprising since Labour don't know where they are. Even the Scottish Nationalists can't decide whether they are for or against independence, now, never or later.

With a theoretical framework, it is possible to analyse any new situation in terms of theory and arrive at a position that fits with party policy. Flip flops on tuition fees shouldn't happen. Political expediency shouldn't happen.

At the 2005 US Grand Prix in Indianapolis, Michelin who supplied tires to 14 cars in the 20 car field had a problem with the tire construction. This happened during practice on Thursday and Friday. The FIA and the teams spent the rest of the weekend in discussions and by race time on Sunday had been unable to agree on a solution. The race started with six cars and has been universally viewed as a farce. By coincidence this crisis happened at Indianapolis which had just hosted the Indianapolis 500 on Memorial Day at the end of May. A dramatic contrast of political structures, leadership and understanding between a European based culture (Formula 1) and American (Indy Car).

In simple terms, Formula 1 is too many Chiefs, no Indians. Indy Car is one Chief, many Indians.

In Indy Car terms, it is the fans on the seats - The Indians - who pay the bills. The race must go on. The fans paid to be entertained and the entire effort is geared to that end.

In Formula 1, the Chiefs couldn't agree on an interpretation of the rules which would allow all of the teams to race, the 120,000 fans at the race track and countless millions watching on TV didn't get to see a race.

Scottish society evolved over history into an association of related individuals or a clan. Early clan leaders were chosen for their leadership ability and skills in battle. When that leader fell another was appointed in his place as the best from within the clan for the role. Around the sixteenth century, a son succeeded his father and then a grandson. Hereditary leadership had been invented. And the clansmen were

screwed. There was no going back, for as everyone knows - **Turkeys don't vote for Christmas.**

Our fine hereditary Chieftains became more powerful, build grand castles, discovered the fleshpots of London Society, squeezed the clansmen scratching a poor living from sparse highland soils and invented the Highland Clearances when it was more profitable to raise sheep than people. In the Scottish experience, hereditary leadership is not a pretty thing.

European society is based on powerful leaders supported by the toil of the peasants. Society of the Middle Ages has slowly morphed into the Europe of today. In general, it retains embedded within its fabric the idea of powerful leadership and weak workers. The ideas of the leaders are all consuming. The rules and regulations must be obeyed, damn the consequences. It was that mentality which was evident at Indianapolis on Sunday 19th June 2005.

The full arrogance and stupidity of European minds denied the paying public their rights.

America was founded by free men. Many the clansmen cleared off their highland crofts. The American Declaration of Independence is based on an entirely different set of values:- "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that **all men are created equal**, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. --That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it" It is this background that guides decisions in American racing. European racing is dictated by obedience to the Rules and the Rules are made by the powerful. However, the paying public have a right to be entertained. Indy Car and Formula 1 are in the entertainment business. The leaders forget that at their peril. Scotland is a superb country, rich in it's vast changing tapestry of spectacular scenery, rich in the myriad tales of it's colourful history and rich in the talents, energy and imagination of it's people.

But Scotland as a Society doesn't work. Two millenia of rules, regulations, habits and practices are grinding and abrading and constraining any efforts to get things done. Nothing in this country works the first time. It requires application, determination, effort and emotional energy to accomplish simple basic things in Scotland today. There is a constant refrain from on high about the lack of entrepreneurial spirit in Scotland. Entrepreneurs, by definition, are thinking people. Any thoughtful person would leave the country and set up business elsewhere. Setting up a business in Scotland is like driving down a straight road with road works every half mile. A sensible person will decide that the journey isn't worth the effort and turn back for home. Anyone who does reach their destination will be exhausted and drained by the experience. Effort which should have gone into more productive activities.

There are too many rules and regulations and people who follow the rules without thought. The Clan system still dominates Scotland though in a derived form. Any organisation becomes a surrogate clan and membership of that organisation requires obedience and loyalty to the organisation and its leader. Organisations include businesses, government departments, banks etc. The result is that the purpose of the organisation and its members is to serve the ends of the organisation and leader. Customers are not part of the organisation. Customers are a nuisance, an

impediment to the proper functioning of the organisation and are tolerated rather than served.

If Scotland as a Society is to make any progress, we must stand this view on it's head.

In any business, it is the Customer who pays the bills. **The Customer Rules.**

In the Public Sector, the same rule holds. The government and the public sector exist to meet the needs of the people. In the Public Sector, **The Citizen Rules.**

The Unifying Theory of the Scottish Jacobite Party is that **The Citizen Rules.**

## **A True Democracy**

Democracy is generally considered to have its origins in ancient Greece. In the city-state of Athens, adult males met to debate, decide and enact the law. In larger societies it becomes physically impossible for the citizens to assemble in one place and debate the issues of the day. Representative or Parliamentary Democracy deals with this problem. Voters in a district or constituency elect a member to represent their interests in the Parliament. In the British Parliament, each Member of Parliament represents about 70,000 souls.

In the British system, each MP is constrained by the party whip on most issues and one can ask legitimate questions about the nature of the representation. Questions which are further confused by our move to a Presidential rather than Cabinet format under New Labour and Tony Blair. In the American system, the need to raise enormous amounts of campaign funds corrupts and distorts the representation. Representative or Parliamentary Democracy may be the prevalent system but it is far from ideal in delivering representative government.

Various attempts have been made to get around the inherent problems of the First Past the Post system. In Scotland, we use three different voting procedures. Westminster elections use First Past the Post. The May 3rd 2007 Elections for Holyrood used the Constituency and Regional elections with list candidates to arrive at some measure of Proportional Representation. The May 3rd Elections for local council used the Single Transferable Vote system.

The technology exists to allow a single vote per citizen on any issue. Using the internet or satellite communication it is possible to poll every voter without the large expense of the current paper based voting methodology. This would be possible by issuing a unique password to each voter, by issuing a coded doggle to each internet voter or by using the satellite TV system and issuing an individual card to each voter. Any issue could be presented in the media and the opinion of all eligible voters registered and counted. Issues like going to war in Iraq or the ban of smoking in public places. Both of these issues have been decided by our political masters with little real public input.

Representative or Parliamentary Democracy constrains public opinion to the policies of the major political parties. These are usually represented in a linear fashion, with Labour on the left, the Lib-Dems somewhere in the middle and the Tories on the right. However actual public opinion will vary depending on the issue under discussion and will be multi-dimensional rather than linear. An accurate, real time, voting system would reflect this variation in public opinion and allow public policies

which are a true reflection of the public mood rather than the whim of an uninspired politician.

In fact, with an accurate, real time voting system, we don't need politicians. Political parties, including this one, would be obsolete. There is no need for a Parliament. The will of the people can be registered and implemented without any political intermediaries. **A True Democracy.**

A big concept and big concepts require time for reflection and thought. If there was no Parliament, how would the public business get done? The way it gets done now. Civil servants implement Parliamentary decisions and would implement the will of the people. Who would decide on the issues to put before the people? We have assembled a Dream Team of successful Scots who would form an Executive. They could debate relevant issues and decide if they needed public input. Would the voting system be secure? There are security concerns with any voting system. This issue would have to be given priority in designing the system to be used. Scotland can lead the way to a new Age of Enlightenment.

**A Free Nation, the world's first True Democracy.**