

# The Development of Modern British Government

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# Population Change in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**1800**

Population: 8 Million

Largest Town: London –  
800,000

6 Million living in small and  
scattered rural communities  
and towns

**1830**

Population: Over 16 Million

Largest Town: London – over 1  
million

Manchester: 200,000

Birmingham: 100,000

# Continuing Population Expansion

**1830:** 16 million

**1860:** 37 million

**1900:** 40 million



**Chairing the Members – William Hogarth, 1755**



**The House of Commons – George Hayter, 1833**



**Chartists 'Monster' Rally  
Kennington Park, 10<sup>th</sup> April 1848**



**Chartist Riot –  
Engraving from 1886 by Cornelius Brown**

# Parliamentary Reform

**1832:** First Reform Act

**1867:** Extension of the franchise to leaseholders

**1872:** Secret ballots introduced

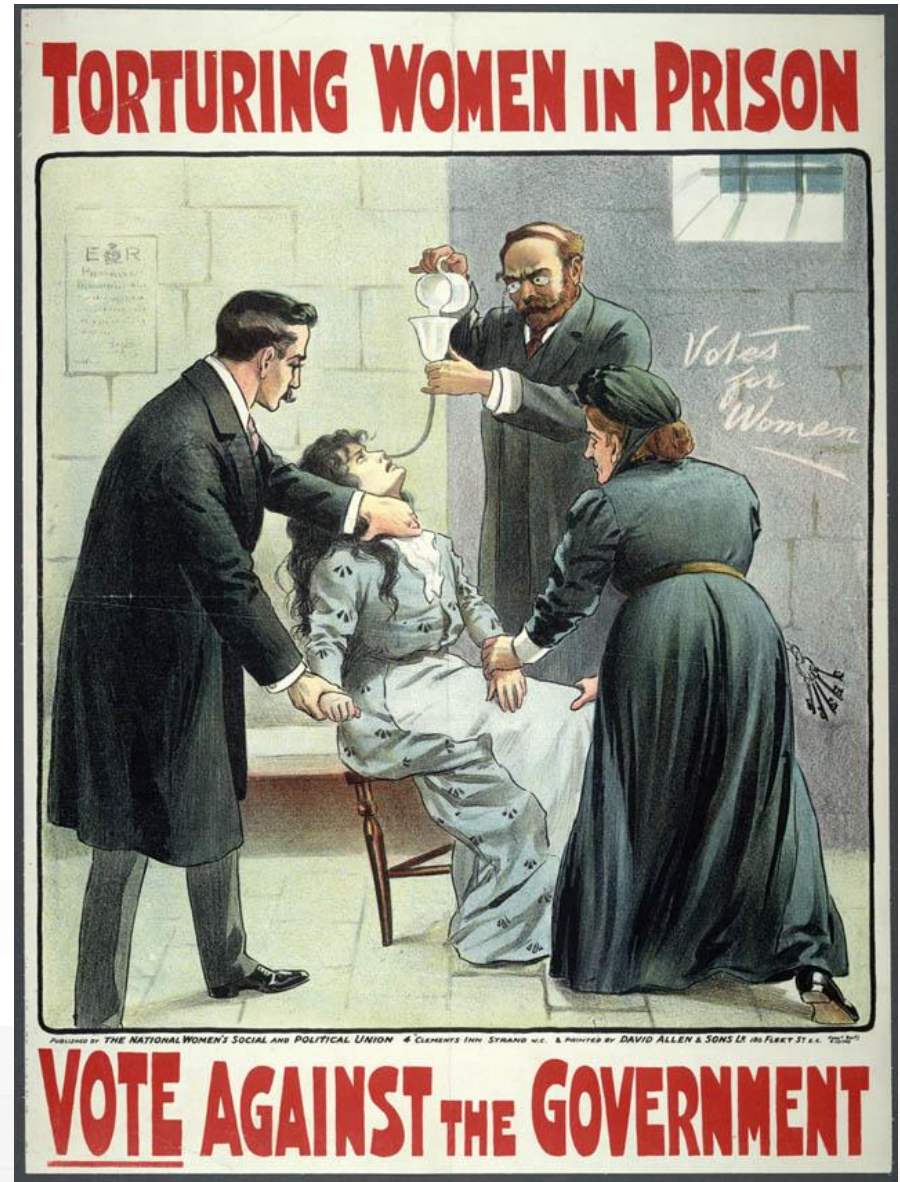
**1874:** First labour MPs

**1884:** Extension of the franchise to all householders

**1918:** All men and women over 30

**1928:** All women





The Suffragettes

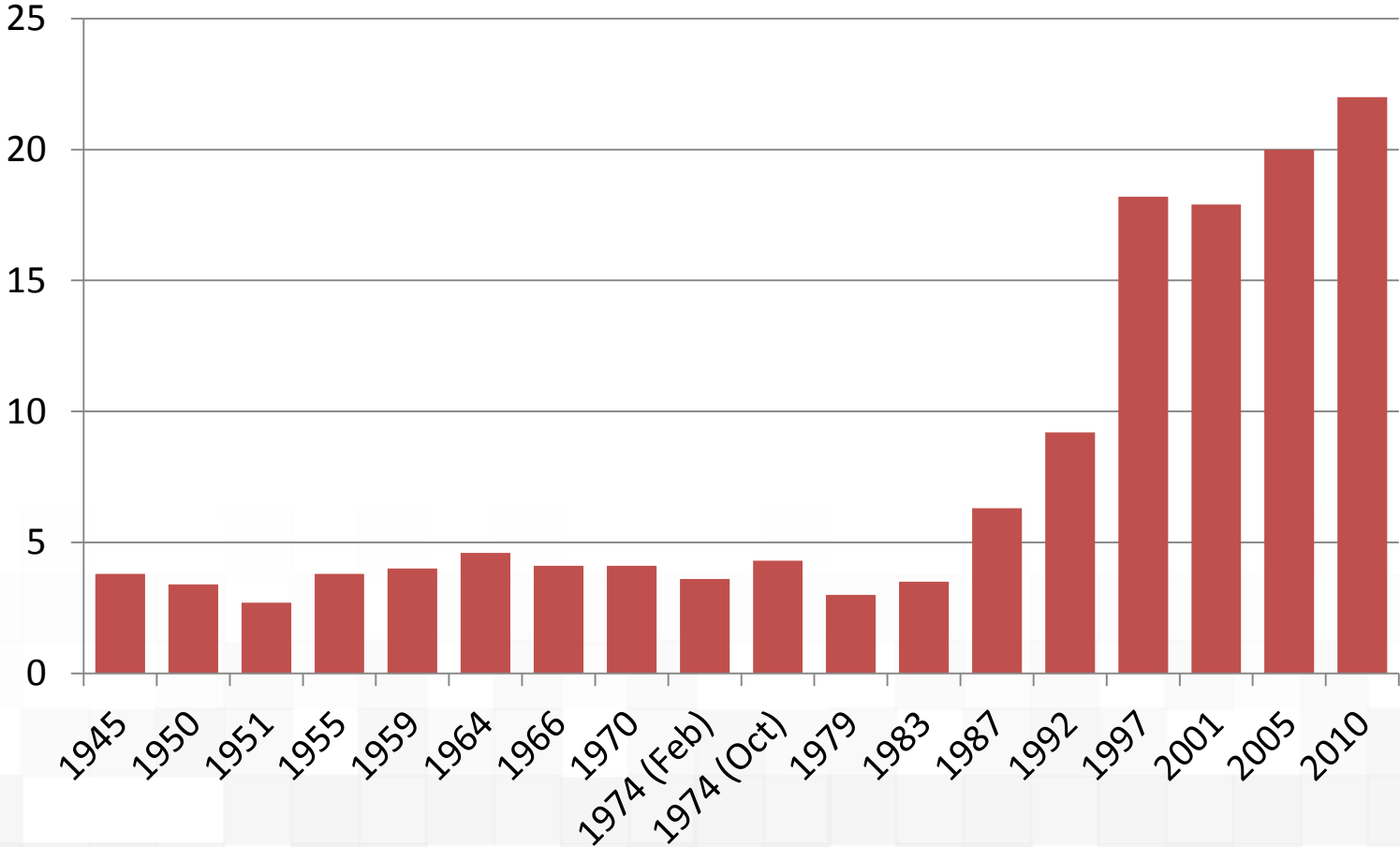
# Reformed Voting

**1885:** Electorate 5.5 Million  
Voted 4.5 Million

**1929:** Electorate 29 Million  
Voted 22.6 Million

**2010:** Electorate 45 Million  
Voted 29 Million

# Female MPs in the House of Commons (% of total MPs)



# **BME MPs in the House of Commons**

(absolute values)

No MPs from ethnic minorities until 1984

**1997:** 9

**2005:** 15

**2010:** 27 (4% of the total number of MPs)



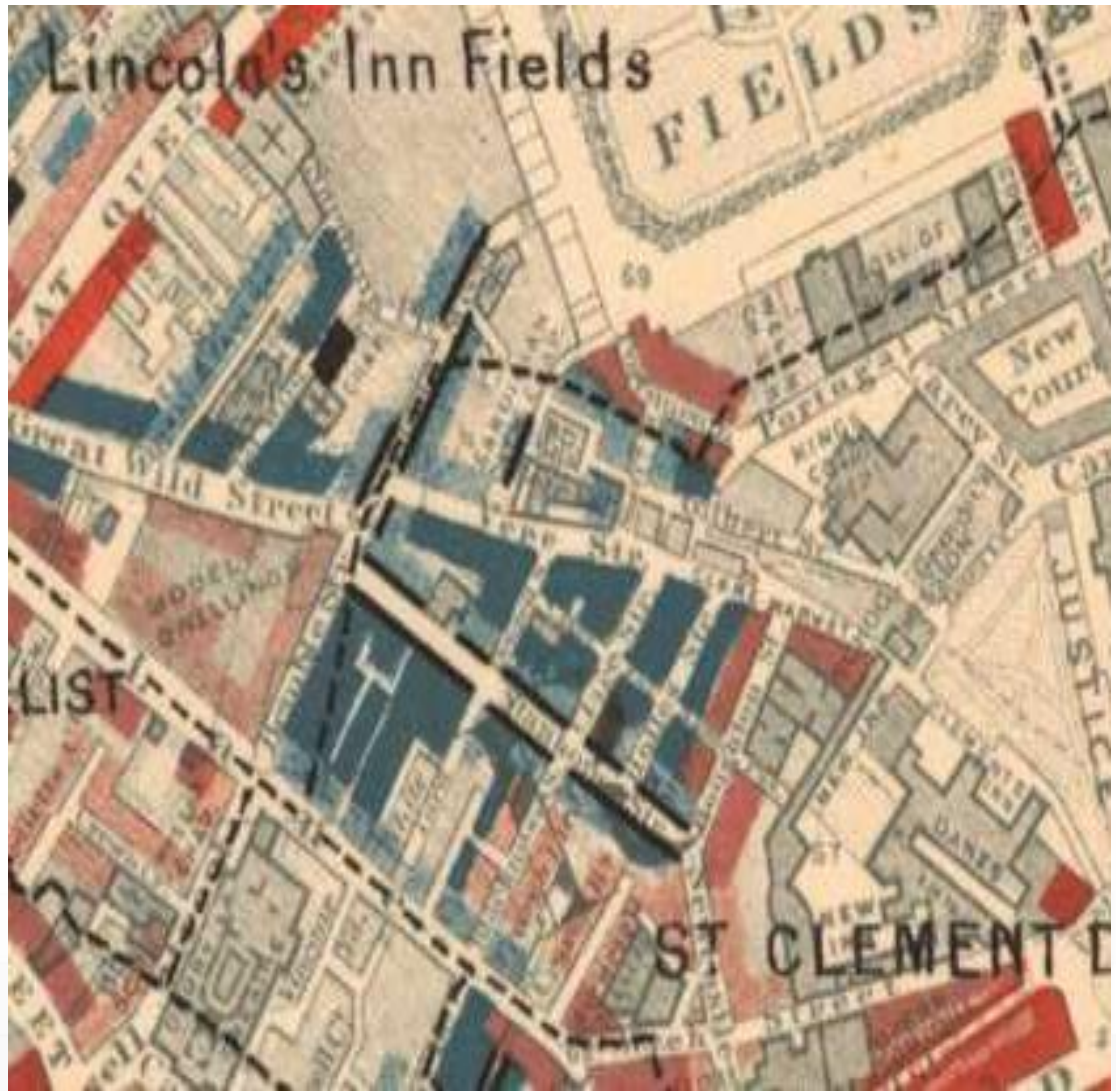
**Keir Hardy**



**New Inn Passage, Houghton Street, 1901**



 <b>BLACK:</b> Lowest class. Vicious, semi-criminal.	 <b>PURPLE:</b> Mixed. Some comfortable others poor
 <b>DARK BLUE:</b> Very poor, casual. Chronic want.	 <b>PINK:</b> Fairly comfortable. Good ordinary earnings.
 <b>LIGHT BLUE:</b> Poor. 18s. to 21s. a week for a moderate family	 <b>RED:</b> Middle class. Well-to-do.
	 <b>YELLOW:</b> Upper-middle and Upper classes. Wealthy.



## Charles Booth's 'Poverty Map'



**Dorset Street, London, 1902**





**Clement Attlee,  
Campaigning  
before 1945  
election**



## WWII Evacuation Policy



# The Labour Government

**National Insurance:** sickness, unemployment, want, pensions

**National Health:** all services free

**Housing:** massive building programme, 850,000 houses by 1948

**Education:** free and universal secondary education

# Nationalisation

- Coal
- Railways
- Bank of England
- Road Transport
- Cable and Wireless
- Gas and Electricity
- Steel

# Impact

- Era of big government had arrived
- Public sector employed about 10 million people
- Cost about 50% of GDP
- 700,000 civil servants
- Touched the lives of everyone

# Thatcherism: Switch to Smaller Government

- Moved fast to cut costs, reduce size of government, bring deficit down
- Took on trade unions
- Reduced personal and corporation tax, but...
- Left welfare system virtually untouched

# Privatised Nationalised Industries

Denationalisation:

- Gas
- Electricity
- Telecoms
- Water
- British Airways
- Cable and Wireless



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## 'Right to Buy'





## Poll Tax Protests

# British Government Today

- Population: 60 Million
- 500,000 directly employed civil servants
- Approximately 6 million public employees
- Budget £719 billion
- 120 Ministers and supporters are answerable for the decisions they and their staff take and for the money that is spent