

Stop the Nazi BNP

No to racist attacks Unite to fight for jobs, homes & services



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The neo-Nazi British National Party (BNP) now have 16 councillors in England. Elected in Lancashire, Staffordshire, the Black Country, Yorkshire and Hertfordshire, the BNP are becoming more confident to spread their ideas of racism, hatred and division.

The BNP has no solutions
 The BNP has won these seats by trying to pose as a new and radical alternative to the mainstream parties. They are nothing of the sort. The BNP are a small neo-Nazi group, whose leaders privately support the ideas of Hitler and the Nazis in Germany. They encourage prejudices that divide working-class people.

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The BNP have no real alternative to solve the problems that working-class communities face: low pay, lack of secure jobs, and years of neglect and underfunding. Instead, the BNP try to scapegoat the Asian community, Muslims, asylum-seekers and other groups, for problems that are really caused by the government and their big business friends.

How did the BNP win seats?

By exploiting the huge anger that exists against New Labour, the other mainstream parties and their careerist politicians. When New Labour was elected in 1997, many people hoped for a change. Instead, we got even more Tory policies: tuition fees, cuts and privatisation in public services like schools and hospitals, while tax for big businesses was reduced. Under New Labour society in Britain has become more unequal than ever.

In Burnley, where the BNP won three councillors in 2002, they now have eight - the second-biggest group on the Council. But Burnley's Labour Council has carried on with the same unpopular policies that gave the BNP the chance to grow in the first place. Earlier this year, Burnley Council agreed to make £1 million worth of cuts in services (including compulsory redundancies, cuts in leisure services and withdrawing grants from most voluntary groups over a period of three years) at the same time as increasing council tax.

Bans on anti-racist events help BNP to grow

At the same time Burnley Council, together with the police and government, have banned a number of anti racist events (eg Anti-Nazi League festivals), leaving the BNP the space they needed to grow unchallenged. To stop the growth of the BNP and other far-right groups, we have to build a movement from below.

We can't trust New Labour, the Tories or the Liberal Democrats, whose policies have allowed the BNP to grow. We can't rely on the police, who allow the BNP and other neo-Nazis to organise while banning the local community from coming out to protest against them. YRE supports the right of local communities to set up democratic and accountable community defence campaigns where these are needed to defend themselves against racist and neo-Nazi violence.

Jobs, homes & services - not racism!

Above all the campaign against the BNP must take up issues that can unite working-class people - like low pay, privatisation and cuts in schools. To undercut support for the BNP we must fight for proper investment in local services, secure jobs that pay a living wage, affordable housing and quality education for all. Youth against Racism in Europe is campaigning for an anti-racist movement uniting young people, trade unionists, community organisations and local campaigns against cuts and privatisation.

Join us!

Yes! I would like to join the YRE.

I enclose £1/£5 waged for a year's membership (please make cheques payable to "YRE").

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