

WAR IN AFGHANISTAN



The war in Afghanistan has achieved little and understood less. Alan's opposition to it, and his formation of 'Labour Against the War'*, is an attempt to set a different agenda to peace and security issues. None of this is about being 'soft' on terrorism. Rather, it begins from a belief that you cannot root out terrorism without also getting to the roots of terrorism.

The articles Alan has written on this have tried to address some of the key themes of his overall argument:

You cannot bomb terrorism out of existence, nor bomb your way to a humanitarian answer to it

- The war was never about the liberation of women in Afghanistan, nor the suffering of its people
- The 'war zone' will move to domestic society, bringing new restrictions on civil liberty and the open society
- Global and regional instabilities will be accelerated by the absence of a 'justice' and equity agenda

Religious fundamentalisms will become an increasing threat to the West unless secular Left politics re-emerges to challenge the free-market fundamentalisms.

Alan writes regularly for newspapers and other publications. Here is a selection of the articles he has recently published. If you would like to receive Alan's articles by e-mail, please drop him a line at simpsona@parliament.uk and we will include you on Alan's mailing list.

* For information about 'Labour Against the War', or details on how to affiliate, contact latw@gn.apc.org