

Chapter 1 : New Labour - WikiVisually

Old Labour vs New Labour. At the start of this year, Ed Miliband had set a clear path for the Labour Party to follow. Fearing that a radical approach would further alienate voters, he declared that his 'One Nation' Labour would acknowledge the lack of relevance that both strands in his party's post-war history hold in 21 st century Britain.

Extreme internal division, and radical policies saw labour have a major, sharp shift to the left. The consequential effects of this saw many key party members leaving to form a Social Democratic Party, which had a strong alliance with the Liberals. I intend to look at the key moves made by New Labour that have taken the party away from the old ways, whilst attempting to construct my analysis around a central question, is New Labour a new Labour, or is new Labour a new party? Trade Unions have always been a fundamental part of the labour party during its history, and have generally supplied the majority of funding, in return for a large proportion of political power within the party. This may have been the case for most of labours past, but the current party reforms, have seen a reduction in Trade Union affiliation. Tony Blair has reduced Trade Union influence at all levels of the party, including conference, candidate selection, and funding. This is a major turn around, as the political nature of the party is derived from the early trade unionists. This signifies the new stance that the government has taken, and this also highlights why there was so much division in the party during the reigns of Neil Kinnock and John Smith, as some old MPs tried desperately to hang on to the roots of their party. In fact, even the man who arguably started the reform Kinnock , was also anti-Europe. During the election campaign of Kinnock used his anti-Europe policy as a front runner for voters. We now see Mr Blair slowly but surely trying to bring the nation round to the idea of further more European integration. Although as to not alienate his public supporters, he has promised a referendum before any decision is made, Tony Blair seems to be very much pro-Europe, and especially pro-Euro. It could be argued that any old labour government put into power after Mrs Thatchers policies on de-nationalisation of British industries, would have done their up most to work towards the restoration of national industry.. But this is New Labour, and it is unlike the old. It is no longer a radical party, as it was twenty, thirty and forty years ago. Mr Blair, like the rest of the educated western world, has seen the benefits of the market system, and has seen the demise of state allocation of resources. The movement away from the reliance on the welfare state, is also something fresh from New Labour. Keynesian economics have been left behind, and the governments intervention in the economy is now minimal. Highly progressive taxation has been an ideology associated very closely with Labour. Not only was this form of taxation have a negative impact on the wealthier voter, but it has now been pushed aside by the emergence of supply-side economic thought. By the Blair administration changing the constitution, they have changed the very foundations and structure of the party. Along with the constitutional change, we see a shift along the political spectrum. New labour is now described as occupying a position right of the centre, lying between the Liberal Democrats on the left, and the Conservatives on the right. This change could be put down to the evolution of politics that the developed world has recently witnessed during the last decade or so. The change could also be put down to the repeated failure of the left wing Labour parties of old, to win or maintain control of government. Now it is not clear to me whether the Conservative party actually believed that New labour were a new danger, or maybe they were actually just trying to remind the public of the problems of old Labour governments during their time in office. Changes ranging from constitutional alterations, up through the re-structuring of Trade Union power, the role and composition of women in the government, to the way the party is now funded. How to cite this page Choose cite format:

Chapter 2 : The rise and fall of New Labour - BBC News

LONDON — The British Labour Party is in meltdown. After reviving the center-left in the s, and then dominating British politics until , Labour now faces the gravest challenge in its

Share Tweet New Labour was forced by political circumstances to adopt neo-liberalism and the Conservative European, Foreign and Defence policies, and so abandoned traditional Labour party ideology. New Labour began government with a promise not to increase spending above Conservative plans for the first two years of their government along with no increases in basic or high income tax. The government was strongly pro-Europe and wanted Britain to play an active role in the policy making decisions of the EU along with a future promise to join the monetary union. Foreign policy took on an ethical role with the government promoting human rights and intervening to stop abuses. Alongside this they also increased spending on foreign aid and made the FCO more transparent. This essay will examine to what degree these policies which Labour undertook were a result of being politically constrained to adopt Conservative positions on the economy, Europe, foreign and defence policies. This explains a lot in why the government constrained fiscal policy by adopting the Conservative budget and also why it made the Bank of England independent, effectively constraining itself in monetary policy too. Although they did revoke Clause 4, which was rewritten by Tony Blair in , this was of more symbolic significance than anything practical. Clause 4 had stated that Labour would press for the nationalisation of private industries, but this had never properly been implemented except in a few natural monopolies arguably to preserve capitalism by injecting these failing industries with state investment by any Labour government despite having the opportunity to do so. Rather than adopt a neo-liberalist economic policy, it is actually the case that New Labour experimented with a new idea: This ideology supposes that capitalism should be tempered with help for those unable to work, but that communities friends and families should be more involved in the provision of this assistance and that the support is only there for those who genuinely need it rather than those who are just unwilling to work. They managed this, whilst sticking to their electoral promise, by increasing taxes in excise duty and the sales tax whilst simultaneously benefitting from a booming economy which increased tax receipts. Perhaps unintentionally a lot of this increase in spending actually went to wage increases and the hiring of more middle-managers rather than an increase in quality and service, as was likely intended. Another argument used to show that New Labour was now pro-business was their support for private finance initiatives PFIs to involve the private sector in provision of public services by tendering out contracts for firms to finance, build and then maintain a public service e. However it is wrong to believe that this shows that the government was committed to reducing the size of the public sector and to outsource this to private sector for neo-liberalist ideological reasons. On the contrary, the reason New Labour did this was to actually extend the amount it could spend on public services by delaying having to pay for the increase in expenditure until future generations and more importantly; future governments. Between and there were 68 new hospitals built across the country. New Labour presented an image of themselves as prudent economic guardians, with an intelligent Chancellor Gordon Brown who was constrained by monetary and fiscal policy bonds from returning to Old Labour ways of taxing and spending. This mediatic government successfully portrayed themselves as wanting a new way, through the revocation of Clause 4 and electoral promises. However, this was not the case, the government was not neoliberal in ideological practice but still had the socialist tendencies of tax and spend to increase the welfare state, regardless of whether this appeared to be initiated by the public or private sector. Conversely, they embraced Europe and played an active role in the Union, even promising to pave the way for an eventual British adoption of the euro currency providing the assessment test was met. There are a variety of reasons New Labour took this tact on Europe, despite being previously anti-Europe and wishing to leave the common market. Firstly, the Conservatives were in disarray over Europe and were seen to be tearing themselves apart over this matter. Labour wished to pick up easy votes from them by supporting Europe — something the median voter agreed with. Finally, the party was ideologically supported to a strong European community due to its social policies, which leftist grass-root supporters hoped would mean a tempering of

neo-liberalist policy and protection of the welfare state. Whilst in power New Labour was an ardent supporter of European expansion to extend the reach of the union. This was to increase the size of the free market so larger economies of scale and greater market access could be reached; something which could be argued to be pro-business. But furthermore, more fundamentally there was a desire to incorporate the social dimension of worker rights e. A larger Europe, which would automatically be English speaking as opposed to French or German, would increase British influence and diminish that of the French and German, allowing Britain to export its ideas to a larger audience abroad. The Foreign and Defence policy was slightly more interventionist and humane than the Conservative doctrine of maintaining the status quo but otherwise leaving the world to itself. New Labour believed that global powers should intervene to prevent human rights abuses with military force if necessary and the promotion of human rights was one of the reasons for the desire of European enlargement to indoctrinate this view abroad. Despite this commitment, and the introduction of arms trade regulations to stop British-manufactured weapons being exported to abusive regimes, there was still examples of firms circumventing legislation in order to export weapons abroad, often to regimes with records of human rights abuses for example Indonesia. Evidently this shows the statecraft-ship of political parties as they are willing to forgo their ideological beliefs in order to placate interest groups. The government on coming to power implemented a strategic defence review to see where money could be cut from the defence budget. Between defence spending fell from 2. They managed to do this without causing any dissent demonstrating the successful mediatic abilities of this renewed party. Despite these cuts, the government could have gone further in reducing the size of the territorial army or by scrapping the purchase of 2 new aircraft carriers. In conclusion, there was a massive shift in ideology within the Labour party, New Labour wanted to portray itself as a young party with a new team which was completely different from Old Labour on both policies and ideology. A lot of these new policies could be regarded as being a continuation on the Conservative policies which Labour was forced to adopt by the electorate. However despite adopting Conservative views on the economy this was only to a narrow view and in practise the party reverted back to its old ways of tax and spend but managed to display their actions as part of an attempt to make capitalism more inclusive and hence managed to forgo public fears of socialism by successfully manipulating the press. Finally, although the Labour government was forced to abandon Clause 4 and official connections with socialism in order to win over political appeal, the party was still very socialistic in its tendencies but was able to overcome this by successfully using the media and electoral promises to give of the right impressions of an economically prudent party.

Chapter 3 : Old Labour vs New Labour: Labour's ever-changing colours – A Level Politics

New Labour presented an image of themselves as prudent economic guardians, with an intelligent Chancellor (Gordon Brown) who was constrained by monetary and fiscal policy bonds from returning to Old Labour ways of taxing and spending.

These are external links and will open in a new window Close share panel New Labour was the dominant political force in the UK for more than a decade, but even its biggest devotees proclaim it over. Justin Parkinson looks at its rise and fall. Under Michael Foot, it suffered a landslide defeat, taking just Memories of the last Labour government, which had ended in economic paralysis and the "winter of discontent", were strong. The Social Democratic Party, founded by breakaway Labour moderates, was also draining support. The situation looked hopeless. Sharing a Commons office, they began discussing how Labour might, just might, become electable again. As Labour leader he fought hard to remove the left-wing Militant tendency from the party and attempted to modernise its image and policies. Under his guidance the red rose symbol - rather than the red flag - was adopted. Mandelson also talent-spotted Blair and Brown, to whom he became a friend and mentor. But the election saw another big loss, with the Conservatives taking a seat majority. They both rose under Kinnock, with Brown becoming shadow trade and industry secretary and Blair shadow home secretary. In and Labour had expected to lose to the Tories, but in came its biggest disappointment, with a third defeat in a row. After the election, Kinnock resigned and Smith took over the leadership, with Brown as shadow chancellor and Blair keeping the home affairs brief. Blair and Brown now wanted to beat the Tories on their own ground, making Labour appear an obvious, safe, reliable party of government. The phrase "Tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime" was a key example of the strategy. Blair, Brown and Mandelson, now an MP, were digesting the lessons of four election defeats. They became convinced that Labour must drop some of its old orthodoxies - such as being seen as a high-tax party - to convince the public it was ready for power. When Smith died of a heart attack in May , the modernisers knew their time had come. Mandelson, previously seen as closer to the early front-runner Brown, switched to back Blair. This caused a huge rift in "The Project", as the modernising scheme became known, which would last more than a decade. Brown, though widely regarded as the senior figure in the partnership, stood aside for the more telegenic Blair after the two met to hammer out a deal at an Islington restaurant. Thousands of articles - and even a TV film - have speculated about the terms of their agreement, especially an apparent promise from Blair to hand over power to Brown at some point in the future. The message was that Labour had changed. Our mission - New Britain. New Labour - New Britain. The party won a seat majority - the biggest in its history on a manifesto which not only promised no income tax rises, but also a pledge to stick to Conservative spending plans. Blair quickly became the global pin-up for centre-left politicians. The "Third Way", described as the ideological underpinning of the New Labour project and bringing market models to some government-run services, aroused interest across the western world. For now, New Labour could do what it liked in the Commons. The huge majority meant backbench rebellions could be brushed off. There was one significant casualty for The Project during the first New Labour government. Mandelson, who had moved from the background to the frontline, was sacked - twice - from the cabinet. He and Brown had long since stopped being close, but he continued to advise Blair. The Tories continued to struggle in the polls under William Hague, though, and Labour looked set for a continued spell in power. And, with the first-term pledge to match the Conservatives on public finances gone, Brown could start spending. The NHS, schools and other public services saw large infusions of cash. Stories about the "deal" between Blair and Brown became more widespread, with speculation about when the chancellor would become prime minister. Had the two decided that Blair would give way by , after 10 years as Labour leader? Or any of dozens of other arrangements? Some commentators regarded the pair as joint prime ministers anyway, with Brown having primacy over vast areas of domestic policy. Increased spending on hospitals and medical staff were popular among all sections of Labour. However, the leadership used up much of its goodwill within the party with the Iraq war - opposed by Labour MPs - and by introducing "top-up" university fees for higher education students in England - opposed by 71 of

their MPs. The latter measure passed by just five votes, after the intervention of Brown to ensure his backers supported the government. At the Labour conference, the rock star Bono likened Blair and Brown to two members of the Beatles, calling them the "John and Paul of the global development stage". The description might equally have been applied to their lives in Downing Street. While a compliment to their talents, it brought back memories of two great egos increasingly unable to share adulation - and power. Despite hundreds of thousands of protesters massing on the streets of London in and a parliamentary rebellion by Labour MPs following a bitter debate, the war went ahead. The defeat of Saddam was swift but the situation in Iraq was volatile with frequent suicide bombings and UK service personnel and Ministry of Defence staff dying as UK and US planning for the aftermath of war came under criticism too. Image copyright AP Under pressure from the Brownites, frustrated that their man had still not risen to the Labour leadership, Blair finally gave way. He announced in late that he would fight the next election and then serve a "full term" in office, but leave without contesting a fourth election. The expression "full term" caused confusion. Did it mean four more years, 10 years as prime minister? Whatever it meant, Blair won an unprecedented third term in power for Labour in , with a reduced, but still sizeable, Commons majority of . After Tory leader Michael Howard stood down, the government faced a sterner challenge in David Cameron, a man who, like Blair and Brown more than a decade earlier, was determined to make his party electable once more. A young man, he had even described himself during his leadership campaign as the "heir to Blair". The threat was real. There were also frequent newspaper reports of Blair and Brown falling out to such an extent that they were hardly speaking, let alone working, together. Finally, in , following an attempted backbench coup against him led by Brownites, Blair announced he would leave office within a year. Brown, whether people believed a deal had been reached or not, had always seemed the most likely successor as Labour leader. Leading Cameron in the polls, many thought the prime minister would call a general election for autumn . Media speculation was allowed to continue, if not actively encouraged. The Conservatives, whose post-conference poll boost was seen as prompting the decision to abandon plans for an election, called Mr Brown a "bottler". His poll ratings slumped, never to recover. This struck directly at Brown, who had been chancellor for a decade before entering 10 Downing Street and taken the plaudits for UK economic success. As the financial contagion spread, the government acted to bail out the banks, nationalising and part-nationalising some of the biggest names on the High Street. Brown gained praise for leading a global effort to stem the worst of the crisis, and he and Chancellor Alistair Darling raised the rate of income tax for top earners - something Labour had pledged not to do in their manifesto. Electorally the party did disastrously in local and European elections, also losing the London mayoralty and being beaten by the SNP in Scotland. Lord Mandelson swiftly became the de-facto deputy prime minister and front man for the government. It was assumed the Blairites would be brought back onside by his return and he was seen as playing crucial roles in stopping coup attempts succeeding. By the time the general election was called for May the economy was out of recession - just. But Labour seemed to know it was heading out of office. The party came second to the Conservatives, with no-one gaining a majority. After a flurry of talks a Conservative-Lib Dem government, the first Westminster coalition since the s, was formed. David Cameron and his allies had captured much of the coveted centre-ground of politics, so hard won by Blair, Brown and Mandelson in the s. Brown left, to set up a leadership contest, saying the election result had been "my fault and my fault alone". Anthony Giddens, the political thinker behind the Third Way, declared: But, given that four of them grew up as special advisers, and then ministers, under New Labour, its influence looks likely to live on.

Chapter 4 : Old Labour, New Labour, same old Labour – Crimes of Britain

Once New Labour was established, it was developed as a brand, portrayed as a departure from "Old Labour", the party of pre, which had been criticised for regularly betraying its election promises and was linked with trade unionism, the state and benefit claimants.

These same pundits pointed to the steady decline in membership of the two main parties, as well as the success of insurgent parties in the European and regional elections, as evidence of this sea change. In the event, the pundits were ridiculed for getting it wrong. Yet is it possible they were just a year too early? More than half of Labour voters have turned out to be committed Eurosceptics. But unlike their Tory counterparts, the Labour Outsiders had no one at the top of their party to speak for them. And one of the great themes of British politics in the post-war period has been the gradual collapse of that coalition. In 1997, 69 per cent of manual workers gave their vote to Labour; by 2010 it was only 45 per cent. If you compare the 1997 and 2010 election results, support for Labour among ABC1 voters barely changed, but among C2 voters it fell from 40 per cent to 30 per cent and among DE voters from 48 per cent to 37 per cent. In the local elections last month, the party did well in London, Swindon, Milton Keynes, Reading and Crawley, but fared badly in its working class heartlands. In the north, for instance, its vote declined by 1. That same demographic is likely to feel even more at odds with the Labour Party following its almost unanimous support for Remain. So where will these voters go? In Wales, where Leave triumphed by 52 per cent, but many of them will end up politically homeless and that creates an opportunity for the Eurosceptic wing of the Conservative Party. Could this alliance survive? If that happens, will the new leader try and preserve this radical alliance? They are hoping for greater protection from the social and economic change brought by globalisation. They seek more work, better-funded public services, less power to corporations and the elite and, above all, less of the immigration that they believe puts pressure on their wages and communities. You see his point. Of course, a coalition between Tory Eurosceptics and C2DE Labour defectors would be problematic for other reasons – different attitudes to austerity, for instance. But the new leader would probably need to hang on to these voters because the losing side in the referendum campaign might want to preserve its own coalition. This morning, as the full import of what had just happened began to sink in, the historian Simon Schama made the following plea on Twitter: The fight starts now. He imagined a new political order consisting of four new parties: But it would take a political genius to hold it together.

Chapter 5 : New And Old Labour????? - The Student Room

The birth of New Labour, by linguistic necessity, created Old Labour. It was a moniker for the era of Tony Benn and Michael Foot; of militant trade unions and entryism by radical Trotskyists who.

The name dates from a conference slogan first used by the party in 1997, later seen in a draft manifesto published in 1998, *New Labour, New Life for Britain*. It was presented as the brand of a newly reformed party that had altered Clause IV and endorsed market economics. The branding was extensively used while the party was in government between 1997 and 2010. The party emphasised the importance of social justice, rather than equality, emphasising the need for equality of opportunity and believed in the use of free markets to deliver economic efficiency and social justice. Following the leadership of Neil Kinnock and John Smith, the party under the New Labour brand attempted to widen its electoral appeal and by the general election it had made significant gains in the upper and middle-classes, effectively giving the party a landslide victory. Labour maintained this wider support at the general election and won a third consecutive victory in 2005 for the first time ever in the history of the Labour Party. In 2007, Blair resigned from the party leadership after thirteen years and was succeeded by his Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown. Labour lost the general election in 2010, which resulted in the first hung parliament in thirty-six years and led to the creation of a Conservative "Liberal Democrat coalition government. Brown resigned as Prime Minister and as Labour Party leader shortly thereafter. Miliband resigned in 2010 and was replaced by a democratic socialist, Jeremy Corbyn, leading one MP to comment that New Labour is "dead and buried". The new version of the clause committed Labour to a balance of market and public ownership and to balance creation of wealth with social justice. Indeed, he was the first Labour leader to win a general election since Harold Wilson in 1964. There was a clear majority supporting devolution in Scotland and a narrower majority in Wales "Scotland received a stronger degree of devolution than Wales. The Labour government passed laws in 2007 to establish a Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly, the first elections for these were held in 2007. In 2006, the Good Friday Agreement was made, which allowed for a member elected assembly and a power-sharing arrangement between nationalists and unionists. Blair was personally involved in these negotiations. After the United States strikes on Afghanistan and Sudan in 2001, Blair released a statement supporting the actions. Crowds numbering 100,000, and more demonstrated in October and again the following spring. Three years earlier, Blair had announced that he would not be contesting a fourth successive general election as Labour Party leader if he won the general election. The bank had been destabilised by the subprime mortgage crisis the previous year in the United States and a private buyer of the bank could not be found. I think frankly most members of the public will want us to turn the page". They felt that his cautious approach, which sought to avoid controversy and win the next election by capitalising on the unpopularity of the Conservative government, was not sufficient. Campbell followed a professional approach to media relations to ensure that a clear message was presented and the party planned stories in advance to ensure a positive media reaction. Campbell developed a relationship with News International, providing their newspapers with early information in return for positive media coverage. The brand was weakened by internal disputes and the apparent failure to deal with issues. Blair also announced the need to be more assertive in foreign affairs. Their studies showed that tactical voting increased in 2005 "there was a strong increase in anti-Conservative voting and a decrease in anti-Labour tactical voting. The party declared after its victory that it "won as New Labour and would govern as New Labour", but Cox and Lawson challenged this view, suggesting that the party won on account of public opposition to the Conservative Party. His work *The Future of Socialism* stressed the idea that socialism is moral and should pursue liberty, fellowship, social justice and equality. Crosland also proposed that education reform allow greater egalitarianism, proposing the abolition of the eleven plus exam. He spent considerable resources maintaining a good public image, which sometimes took priority over the cabinet. Blair adopted a centralised political agenda in which cabinet ministers took managerial roles in their departments and strategic vision was to be addressed by the Prime Minister. His economic strategy was market-based, attempting to reform the welfare state through a tax credit scheme for poorer working families and he assigned the Bank of England to set interest rates. Previously, he had worked

in television broadcasting and helped the party become increasingly effective at communication and more concerned with its media image, especially with non-partisans. He felt that the agenda of the press broadsheets in particular would influence important political broadcasters. He was a valued news source for journalists because he was close to Blair—he was the first press secretary to regularly attend cabinet meetings. Blair was influenced by ethical and Christian forms of socialism and used these to cast a modern form of socialism. The Commission on Social Justice, set up by John Smith, reported in that the values of social justice were equal worth of citizens, equal rights to be able to meet their basic needs, the requirement to spread opportunities as much as possible and the need to remove unjustified inequalities. The party viewed social justice primarily as the requirement to give citizens equal political and economic liberty and also as the need for social citizenship. It encompasses the need for equal distribution of opportunity, with the caveat that things should not be taken from successful people to give to the unsuccessful. Markets were also useful for giving power to consumers and allowing citizens to make their own decisions and act responsibly. New Labour embraced market economics because they believed they could be used for their social aims as well as economic efficiency. In government, the party relied on public-private partnerships and private finance initiatives to raise funds and mitigate fears of a "tax and spend" policy or excessive borrowing. Gower proposed that under New Labour this position was consolidated through schemes to encourage work. The prison population in rose to over 76,, mostly owing to the increasing length of sentences. Following the September 11 attacks , the Labour government attempted to emphasise counter-terrorism measures. This alleged conspiracy has become known by the sobriquet "Neathergate". In February , the then Prime Minister David Cameron stated that the "doctrine of state multiculturalism" promoted by the previous Labour government had failed and will no longer be state policy.

Chapter 6 : How Different Is Old Labour from New Labour Essay Example | Graduateway

New Labour's great political achievement was to make Labour a party of economic aspiration and competence. That forged a bond with a Middle Britain of "suburban patios" and smaller towns.

The new version of the clause committed Labour to a balance of market and public ownership and to balance creation of wealth with social justice. Indeed, he was the first Labour leader to win a general election since Harold Wilson in 1997. There was a clear majority supporting devolution in Scotland and a narrower majority in Wales. Scotland received a stronger degree of devolution than Wales. The Labour government passed laws in 1999 to establish a Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly, the first elections for these were held in May 1999. In 1999, the Good Friday Agreement was made, which allowed for a member elected assembly and a power-sharing arrangement between nationalists and unionists. Blair was personally involved in these negotiations. After the United States strikes on Afghanistan and Sudan in 2001, Blair released a statement supporting the actions. Crowds numbering in the millions demonstrated in October 2001 and again the following spring. Three years earlier, Blair had announced that he would not be contesting a fourth successive general election as Labour Party leader if he won the general election. The bank had been destabilised by the subprime mortgage crisis the previous year in the United States and a private buyer of the bank could not be found. I think frankly most members of the public will want us to turn the page". They felt that his cautious approach, which sought to avoid controversy and win the next election by capitalising on the unpopularity of the Conservative government, was not sufficient. Campbell followed a professional approach to media relations to ensure that a clear message was presented and the party planned stories in advance to ensure a positive media reaction. Campbell developed a relationship with News International, providing their newspapers with early information in return for positive media coverage. The brand was weakened by internal disputes and the apparent failure to deal with issues. Blair also announced the need to be more assertive in foreign affairs. Their studies showed that tactical voting increased in 2001—there was a strong increase in anti-Conservative voting and a decrease in anti-Labour tactical voting. The party declared after its victory that it "won as New Labour and would govern as New Labour", but Cox and Lawson challenged this view, suggesting that the party won on account of public opposition to the Conservative Party. His work *The Future of Socialism* stressed the idea that socialism is moral and should pursue liberty, fellowship, social justice and equality. Crosland also proposed that education reform allow greater egalitarianism, proposing the abolition of the eleven plus exam. He spent considerable resources maintaining a good public image, which sometimes took priority over the cabinet. Blair adopted a centralised political agenda in which cabinet ministers took managerial roles in their departments and strategic vision was to be addressed by the Prime Minister. His economic strategy was market-based, attempting to reform the welfare state through a tax credit scheme for poorer working families and he assigned the Bank of England to set interest rates. Previously, he had worked in television broadcasting and helped the party become increasingly effective at communication and more concerned with its media image, especially with non-partisans. He felt that the agenda of the press broadsheets in particular would influence important political broadcasters. He was a valued news source for journalists because he was close to Blair—he was the first press secretary to regularly attend cabinet meetings. Blair was influenced by ethical and Christian forms of socialism and used these to cast a modern form of socialism. The Commission on Social Justice, set up by John Smith, reported in 2001 that the values of social justice were equal worth of citizens, equal rights to be able to meet their basic needs, the requirement to spread opportunities as much as possible and the need to remove unjustified inequalities. The party viewed social justice primarily as the requirement to give citizens equal political and economic liberty and also as the need for social citizenship. It encompasses the need for equal distribution of opportunity, with the caveat that things should not be taken from successful people to give to the unsuccessful. Markets were also useful for giving power to consumers and allowing citizens to make their own decisions and act responsibly. New Labour embraced market economics because they believed they could be used for their social aims as well as economic efficiency. In government, the party relied on public-private partnerships and private finance initiatives to raise funds and mitigate fears of a "tax and spend" policy or

excessive borrowing. Gower proposed that under New Labour this position was consolidated through schemes to encourage work. The prison population in rose to over 76,, mostly owing to the increasing length of sentences. Following the September 11 attacks , the Labour government attempted to emphasise counter-terrorism measures. This alleged conspiracy has become known by the sobriquet "Neathergate". In February , the then Prime Minister David Cameron stated that the "doctrine of state multiculturalism" promoted by the previous Labour government had failed and will no longer be state policy.

Chapter 7 : Old Labour vs. New Labour : ukpolitics

A good 'old Labour' man they'll proclaim. What is interesting and is certainly a reflection of how the British 'left' carry on today is that they ignore successive genocidal campaigns, and how the British economy is reliant on imperialism.

The Labour Party was formed to represent the working class at a time when the franchise had not yet been extended to such groups. However changes in the class and occupational structure of the nation since the s, saw the party looking to broaden its appeal beyond this core idea. Firstly, Old Labour characterizes the party prior to the modernization programme begun by Neil Kinnock in and completed by Tony Blair. The core ideology of Old Labour was the outcome of equality. Therefore it believed in the redistribution of wealth from the rich to the poor, putting heavy taxes on upper-class citizens. They had a strong belief in collectivism, emphasizing the interdependence of every human being. Old Labour believed in nationalization, which is the process of taking a private industry or assets into public ownership and the redistribution of wealth. They wanted to manage the economy in co-operation with the trade union and big businesses. Old Labour also took the Bank of England into state control, enabling them to control interest rates. The Old Labour party was in favor of universal welfare benefits. They supported comprehensive school, giving children of mixed abilities the availability and opportunity to go to school. They tried to enable the people equal opportunities to ensure social justice. They also emphasized upon rehabilitation measures, rather than tough custodial sentences. They believed that rehabilitation would help deter criminals from recommitting crimes. Tony Blair realized that if they wanted to win something change needs to occur and as a consequence New Labour came out of defeat. New Labour emerged following a process of party modernization completed by Tony Blair; he first used the phrase when addressing the Labour conference party leader in It involved a less powerful role for the trade unions and made the party more appealing to middle-class voters. The New Labour was characterized by the notion of a Third way. The party moved more towards the center of the political spectrum; it existed between conventional socialism and mainstream capitalism. Tony Blair called the Third Way a stands for a modernized social democracy, passionate in its commitment to social justice and the goals of the center-left. It was in favour of a public-private partnership. It allowed the involvement of the private sector in the delivery of public services. New Labour now had preference for selective welfare benefits. Still providing equal opportunity combined with an emphasis on personal responsibility. Under New Labour citizens get welfare benefits based on factors such as income, with the idea that if less money is distributed more can be spent on other things such as the National Health Service NHS. New Labour focused on decentralization of government power to the lowest level. On becoming chancellor, the first thing Gordon Brown did was to grant independence to the Bank of England. They also lowered taxation rates and were more favorable towards wealth creation than Old Labour. Regarding punishment, it also aimed to be tough on crime, but also tough on the causes of crime. It made sure that the punishment fit the crime, but it also battled the causes of crimes. Following the modernization of the party, New Labour won three consecutive General Elections between Whereas Old Labour had been based on the big ideas of socialism and collectivism for the advancement of the working class, New Labour attempted to reconstruct the state with a more democratic and individual responsibility based on the idea of communitarianism. Old Labour was more dogmatic, where it now has changed to becoming more pragmatic. It appeals to not only the working class but to all the classes. New Labour attempts to maintain the dynamic aspects of a liberalized economy, changing from a public sector provision to a public-private partnership. New Labour still believes in universal welfare benefits however they are more selective before taking into account factors uch as income before granting citizens welfare benefits. This eliminates people who are taking advantage of the government and concentrates government spending to people who really need it. The Labour party has evolved to reflect changes in society and voters needs. The gap between the Left and Right has significantly narrowed. Labour no longer seeks nationalization but prefers equality of opportunity rather than outcome. The Labour Party is no longer the preserve of the socialist working class but a party for middle England as much as the workers as well. Choose Type of service.

New Labour is concerned more with businesses than trade unions, and is slowly becoming more and more like the Tories, with legislation such as the new education bill. I, by the way, am a believer in Old Labour.

Wednesday, 17 April, , Old Labour warhorses would have dismissed such a claim as far too optimistic. Old Labour stalwarts may be tempted to herald the return of their dominance And New Labour newcomers would have rejected it, insisting the party had put its old, election-losing tax and spend ways behind it for good. Both sides would probably have agreed, however, that if such a thing did ever happen it would represent a major failure of government policy. Yet that is precisely what the chancellor delivered in his sixth, watershed Budget. Political gamble He stuck to his two election promises not to increase the basic rate of income tax - but National Insurance contributions are still a levy on income. Duncan Smith slammed wasted years In both and , Labour attempted to convince voters that it could "save the NHS" and other public services through good economic management. And every time the chancellor delivered a Budget he pledged vast tranches of new money to the public services. At the same time he quietly increased the overall tax burden through so-called stealth taxes - but still the public services did not get better. Now, after five years all that has been cast aside and, to many eyes, the government has returned to its Old Labour roots. Worst job And many of those MPs sitting behind Mr Brown were clearly delighted by this apparent conversion even though they had, it was claimed, been ordered not to look too gleeful. Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy, whose party has been advocating hypothecated tax increases for years, was particularly pleased that Mr Brown had finally taken his advice. Privately he may be less than delighted that his Unique Selling Point has been demolished. He also insisted that Labour had broken its election pledges not to raise income tax. Electoral consequences It is certainly the case that, under this Budget, middle earners, in particular, are being ordered to pay more tax to be poured directly into the health service, which most agree is in almost permanent crisis. The huge gamble for the government is that real, measurable and identifiable improvements in the day to day operation of the NHS must be experienced by ordinary voters before the next election. If they are not then the electoral consequences are predictable. Also, while Old Labour stalwarts may be tempted to herald the return of their dominance - the truth is that New Labour has not really changed its spots. Old Labour would have squeezed the rich because that was, ideologically, the right thing to do. New Labour has done something similar through pragmatism and necessity. Hidden surprises And elsewhere, through its approach to business, the City, the jobless and in a host of other policies, Tony and Gordon are as New Labour as ever they were. And, had it not been for the tax rises, his boost for bingo players and small breweries would have given him some snappy, positive headlines. Similarly his decision to freeze petrol duty and car tax and introduce a "Brit disk" for lorries would have grabbed the attention.

Chapter 9 : Old Labour to New | Politics | The Guardian

When the New Labour Party took control in 1997, their decision on the future of the UK's economy, was once again one that would have opposed most economic policy of the old Labour government. Tony Blair has kept true to the election manifesto and followed the former conservative government's economic policies for the first two and a half years.

Share via Email New Labour: From the beginning of his leadership, Blair consciously sought to avoid "over-promising", the mistake made by both Ramsay MacDonald and Harold Wilson. Not for New Labour the rhetoric of "a fundamental shift in the balance of wealth and power in favour of working people and their families". Yet the pledges contained promises that Labour had been making for decades and had failed in the past to keep. They included the historic demands for a minimum wage and for Scottish and Welsh devolution, to which Labour had been committed by Keir Hardie and had never managed to deliver - though the Labour government had spent a considerable amount of its parliamentary time trying and failing to get devolution on the statute book. Another pledge, to reduce class sizes to 30 or under in primary schools, was an old chestnut from the 1970s. Wilson went into the election pledged to reduce class sizes to 30 "at the earliest possible opportunity". Thirty-three years later it remained to be done. Blair did not promise to do it all at one go, but he wanted to be able to make some progress at least. Perhaps the greatest contrast with previous Labour governments has been in the economic sphere. Gordon Brown, steeped in the history of the Labour party himself, has arguably done more to learn from the past than any of his predecessors. He has been unquestionably the most successful Labour chancellor of the exchequer in history, as well as the longest serving. Gordon Brown has been the first Labour chancellor not to have been embroiled in economic crisis. The fact that the economic commentariat no longer bemoans stop-go or boom and bust economics - as it did for much of the 1950s, 60s, 70s, 80s and early 90s - is a tribute to his success. In other areas there has been more continuity with previous Labour governments than some commentators recognise. Indeed, rhetorically the "New Labour: New Britain" slogan of 1997 was much more traditional than contemporary observers perceived. It was also the oratorical device with which John Major sought to capture the hopes and aspirations of his generation in the first speech of the new parliament. Perhaps Peter Mandelson was more self-consciously the grandson of Herbert Morrison than commonly thought. There are areas where New Labour has been criticised as having nothing to say. This privileged stratum of education, the exclusive preserve of the wealthier classes, socially and physically segregated from the state educational system, is the greatest single cause of stratification and class-consciousness in Britain. Previous Labour governments had failed to tackle this and as has been seen, Gaitskell had attacked the inadequacy of party policy on the issue from the floor of party conference in 1963. He set up a royal commission, which, as they say, took minutes and wasted years. It reported in 1964 that nothing happened; such were the economic crises of the time, the Labour government felt it lacked the resources to take forward its recommendations. In many of the areas that New Labour can be most criticised for a lack of a fully thought-through solution to an ongoing conundrum, it is doing no worse than following in the good footsteps of "Old Labour". Some of the more personal attacks have been similar too. James Callaghan was attacked for his appointment of his son-in-law Peter Jay to the Washington embassy. Gaitskell himself was mocked for consorting with his Froggish friends, while Nye Bevan braved barbed taunts for his "Bollinger Bolshevism" and a friendship with Tory media mogul Lord Beaverbrook that he shared with Michael Foot. Ramsay MacDonald was accused of an undue fondness for Marchionesses and even Keir Hardie had to face down accusations of putting his regard for certain suffragettes above the socialist crusade. Clement Attlee had an open bias towards promoting fellow alumni of his old public school, Haileybury, to senior government jobs, yet somehow managed to escape criticism. Hugh Dalton, who still mourned the death of his friend and idol, the Fabian and poet Rupert Brooke, who bore an alarming physical resemblance to actor Hugh Grant, urged the promotion of dashing floppy-haired young chaps who caught his eye. The Bevanites backed other Bevanites, and the Bennites other Bennites. Ernest Bevin liked to promote people from the West Country, where he had been born. Herbert Morrison liked Londoners, and Scots. There was, perhaps, a grain of truth in many of these accusations of cronyism and human frailty. It was the "Islington elite" tag that the

Scottish Labour MP and minister John Reid sought to challenge in a series of speeches he made during in which he drew a distinction between "New Labour" and the media caricature he dubbed, after nouvelle cuisine, "Nouvelle Labour". We promised then that we would renew ourselves in order that we could renew our country Keir Hardie, the founder of our party, made it his home from until his death in and he returned there even when he represented West Ham and Merthyr here in the Commons. It has taken this Labour government to achieve two of those three -and, may I say it, the right two To order your copy with free UK postage please contact sales methuen.