

I believe that socialism must be able to present its theories and its doctrines, as well as its campaign policies, in a simple language of common sense and common understanding. But, nonetheless, it is not easy to fight on three fronts simultaneously: against socialist impatient of political means; against pragmatist who think that benign public administration is all we need or can have; and against sceptics who that all socialism is inherently anti-political and anti-libertarian and who themselves believe that social hierarchy, poverty and unemployment are the prices that all must pay for the culture and liberties of some. But it must be done, and in the long run all people will want to be citizens and citizenship cannot be fully practised other than among equals. And in the short run, a socialist society is not attainable; but we can lead our lives in an egalitarian and fraternal manner. Example can be as effective and persuasive as legislation in shaping a better future.

Bernard Crick, /Socialism/, OUPress, 1987, p.114