

## **Fish and Fascism**

*Dave Hill 3 July 2019.*

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If it looks like a rotten stinking fish,  
if it smells like a rotten stinking fish,  
if it acts like a rotten stinking fish,  
if it stinks like a rotten fish.  
Then it is a rotten stinking fish.

If it looks like a fascist,  
If it sounds like a fascist  
if it acts like a fascist,  
if it smells like a fascist,  
Then it is a fascist.  
Even if the label on the box  
says democratic  
and it dresses in a pin-striped suit.

Bolsonaro, Orban, Trump, Erdogan, Salvini  
the Law and Justice Party in Poland  
all say they are democrats.  
They stir hatred.  
They stir violence.  
They stir suppression of critical thought.  
in universities, schools, in minds.  
They intimidate those of us who protest.  
They threaten.  
They enact.  
They destroy civility.  
They peddle fear,

and hatred

They normalise dehumanisation

they desensitise cruelty

-they kill

Marielle Franco, Pavlos Fyssas, Jo Cox, Heather Hayer....

There is a road,

travelled in the past,

and being travelled now,

through the beatings and the killings

Of the subhuman,

"The Other"

the Outsider,

the immigrant,

the minority,

the LGBT,

the feminist

the homeless,

the impoverished,

the 'alien ideology',

the internationalist,

the trade unionist,

the communist

It is that road we,

we here,

we elsewhere,

we everywhere,

must work to block,

must work instead,

in opposition,

to build the road

to social justice,  
to economic justice,  
to equality

It is not easy.

Many of us have the scars.

We have to do it.

We must do it!

Like in the 1930s, the 1940s, the 1970s,

In different places, in different times,

like in past and recent history

We have to do it

With our words, our hearts,

our minds, our bodies,

our political and social organisations and parties,

our solidarity, our compassion-

our humanity!

our hard political analysis and understanding

Our leadership of experiences and analysis and action

Our leaderships not ossified but open

Fascists, neo-Fascists, pre Fascists, post Fascists,

proto Fascists, quasi Fascist... Fascists

No Pasaran

Like stinking fish,

they belong

in the dustbin of history.

Throw them there

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*There is a wiki at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dave\\_Hill\\_\(professor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dave_Hill_(professor))*