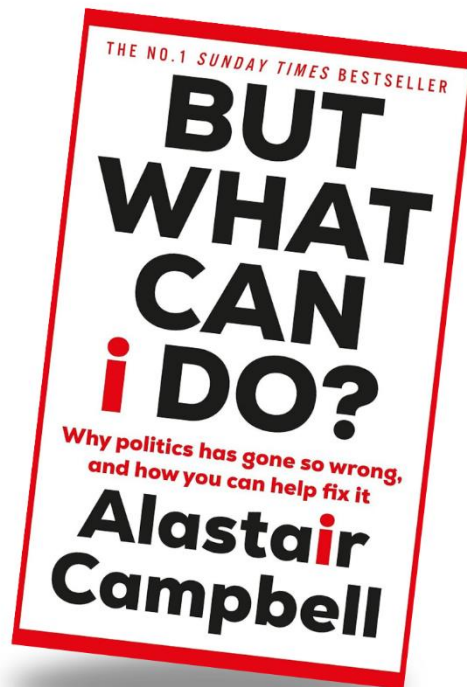


**Mr Barlett Reviews But What Can I Do?  
Why Has Politics Gone So Wrong and How You Can Help Fix It"  
by Alastair Campbell**

"The Rest is Politics" has consistently been one of my favourite podcasts in recent years. Its two co-presenters, Alastair Campbell (former Downing Street Director of Communications and Strategy during the New Labour Government) and Rory Stewart (former Conservative cabinet minister) can be relied upon to offer differing viewpoints on each political issue under discussion and it is then left to you, the listener, to form your own opinion.

Suitable for KS5 Students



Both Stewart and Campbell have also each written perceptively about politics. Stewart's "Politics on the Edge" is a memoir written by someone who became increasingly disaffected with how cabinet government failed to deliver on the published objectives, albeit during a particularly turbulent period. Whilst short on effective solutions, the book makes for a very engaging read. Campbell has also written memoir (several volumes, in fact) but it is his "But What Can I Do? - why has politics gone so wrong and how you can help fix it." that I wish to recommend here. Written in 2023, largely in response to feedback to the podcast, this is both a call to arms and a handbook on how to engage most effectively in political activism. The author's passion for politics is infectious and the strategies he advocates have been proven to work right at the heart of government. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book and I hope it goes on to galvanise many, particularly young people, to engage in the political process, at whatever stage. Perhaps, then, this book might prove as useful to the current generation as was Shirley Williams' "Politics is for People" over a generation earlier."