

## FASCISM & FUNDAMENTALISM: Two sides of the same coin

**The English Defence League claim to be a non-racist group opposed to Islamic Fundamentalism. They seem a reasonable response to demented religious fanatics such as Islam4UK. But this is a thin-cover for the racist nationalism that defines the far-right.**

Although it tries to hide the fact, the EDL was co-founded by BNP members and activists. Its demos are dominated by Nazi-saluting thugs and right-wing football hooligans. Chants of "dirty Muslim bastards" and "we hate Pakis more than you" follow the group around the country.

EDL members are singing from the same hymn sheet as fascist bigots everywhere. By stirring up trouble between Asians and whites in local communities, the EDL have taken nationalist politics back to the street.

### False solutions to real problems

Like the BNP, the EDL have emerged against the backdrop of a political culture which has abandoned the interests of working class people. The mainstream parties have never really looked after our interests, and now the "left" has



seemingly lost the will to fight. It's no surprise that a pissed-off chunk of the white working class has turned to the EDL in search of a voice and a target for their anger.

But, like the BNP, the EDL will not solve working class problems.

Its demands back up right-wing media hysteria and strengthen calls for ever more repressive government powers to 'deal' with militant Islam. We've seen how so-called anti-terrorist laws are used against us all, to keep us under control. For the authoritarian state, the EDL is a gift. They divert our attention away from targeting the real enemies of the working class – the bosses, bankers and politicians – and distract us from organising for ourselves, as a class, to fight for control of our lives and communities.

When we do organise and fight back, the EDL betray their anti-worker credentials. They brand organised workers as "communist traitors" and view standing up to job losses, pay cuts, and management bullying as "criminal." Like all fascists, they prefer the working class to be docile and easily controlled.

### Two sides of the same coin

The EDL have far more in common with the religious lunatics they claim to oppose than with the rest of us. They are all small-minded bigots with a hatred for the traditional working class values of freedom, fairness and equality.

Their racial, religious and cultural 'identity' politics are in complete opposition to our idea of a world where we can all reach our full and unique potential, and we reject them totally.



Liverpool Antifascists was set up by ordinary people just like you to stop the fascists and expose their lies.

**GET IN TOUCH - GET INVOLVED**

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