Dear Professor Alston,

I am writing to you more out of desperation than hope.

I don’t know if you are aware but under this government’s "Regime" well over 119,000 people have died while on some form of welfare benefit as a result of this government's policies like Benefit Cuts, Sanctions,{please Google Calums List, or for further information please refer to organisations such as, Black Triangle, DPAC{Disabled People Against Cuts} Benefits and Work, or DNS {Disability News Service} and ask to speak to John Pring). For confirmation of the statement above regarding the death toll, and the way the entire system is setup, many of these people were classed as "Fit for Work" so if this was the case why have so many of them died, many sadly committed suicide and many coroners reports have concluded that in fact a major cause (or the tipping point if you like) was the person having problems regarding their benefits, the jobcentres, or the DWP/Atos/Maximus/Capita.

I hope by now you are beginning to see a pattern. I am an independent campaigner and have been an unpaid carer in the past. Sadly, my wee mate Keith passed away a few years back. Keith came to my door asking for help not long after his wife Jean (also severely disabled) had died, his benefits had been stopped. WHY? Because he did not reply to their letters. WHY? Well, because put simply he could not read or write to any recognisable degree. Furthermore, his right hand was twisted inwards at the wrist because of polio as a child. He was also an insulin reliant diabetic, a result of which eventually led to him becoming an amputee. They even tried to send someone like Keith for a "So Called Medical" to which I took him, and when we got there, they said the medical room was on one of the upstairs level. Clearly, they have no concept of health and safety, so we did not attend it, despite doctors’ notes, and support letters from fully qualified medical people. The DWP lay more credence by their own so called HCP {Health Care Professionals} many of whom would not know their Gluteus Maximus from their Elbow frankly.

There are also numerous reports worryingly similar regarding HCP not exactly telling the truth, or "LYING AS I CALL IT". Some of these have been taped, or witnessed by someone accompanying people to these "Medicals". My nephew went for one with his mother as a witness. He was so upset he was shaking and vomiting due to psychological problems {Anxiety Problems, Phobia’s, and Severe Depression}. When he was sick, this so-called HCP said to my nephew apart from all these things that is wrong with you do you have "ANY REAL ILLNESSES". He has also been examined at home where his mother and I were there and the HCP lied in his report. Once again, even in his own house with people he knows to support him, he was shaking like a leaf and vomiting into a bucket, which he had beside him, but for some, strange reason the so-called HCP omitted this from his report.

I can assure you of that if you want a copy please let me know. On a personal level, a good few years ago I was sent for one of these WCA {Work Capability Assessments} at the same place as Keith was sent to many years later) and for some reason the HCP asked me to lie on the couch and drew screen round me (why I don’t know because we were on about the 3rd floor who's going to look in?). Anyway, after the exam I sat down, but noticed my Walking Stick had been moved, just far enough that I struggled to pick it up. She moved it, unless the building had poltergeist, she mentioned in her report that "Mr Ward managed to pick an "ITEM" up from the floor without any help, conveniently missing out the fact that the "ITEM" was in fact my walking stick, and further omitting to mention that in doing so I was actually leaning on the desktop for support.

I could give you more examples if needed Professor Alston, but I am sure you will have received similar testimonies of this kind by various organisations. One last thing: Sir Ernest Ryder QC, the head of the Appeal Tribunal Service said {Part of the Article Below} Britain's most senior tribunal judge says most of the benefits cases that reach court are based on bad decisions where the Department for Work and Pensions has no case at all.

Sir Ernest Ryder, senior president of tribunals, also said the quality of evidence provided by the DWP is so poor it would be “wholly inadmissible” in any other court. Speaking at a Bar Council event attended by BuzzFeed News this week, Ryder said his judges found that 60% of cases were “no-brainers” where there was nothing in the law or facts that would make the DWP win.

In an extraordinary outburst against what he said was the incompetence of the department, he said he and his fellow judges were so incensed by the volume of cases where there was “no justifiable” defence to the appeal” that they were considering sending them back – or charging the DWP for the cases it loses. He said: “It's an inappropriate use of judicial resources; it's an inappropriate experience for the users, and the cost is simply not right.”

The percentage of cases lost by the DWP on appeal has been growing rapidly. In 2007, 44% of cases heard in the Social Security and Child Support tribunal went against the DWP. Ryder said the figures have now risen to a “staggering” 61%. There is more to the article but I am sure you get the gist of what I am alluding to here and I am not alone sadly far from it.

All that remains Professor Alston is for me to thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope you can help all of us in desperate need from the evils of this government. If they win the next election, expect the death toll to rise considerably and potentially even a revolution.

I am a member of Unite the Union and we are hoping to get the dreaded U.C {Universal Credit} Scrapped, and I have just recently been voted as the Disabilities Officer for my local Labour Party.

If you enjoy a good insightful film Professor try watching “I, Daniel Blake” although this government will blatantly deny it has any real truth in it, again try asking the people on benefits about their opinion on the film.

This government will do what they always do and tell you there is not any correlation whatsoever between the rising death toll of suicides or any links to people dying while being found fit for work. They are wrong and people are paying for their mistakes with their lives. Please help put an end to that when you Visit, and thank you in advance for any help you can give us, god knows we need it.

Yours Sincerely,

Gerald Ward.