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Marney, L. *It wasn't like this in 1979.*

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Most of you won't remember but it wasn't like this in 1979.

There was no National Collective then, no artists for independence, strippers for independence, paint strippers for independence, dental hygienists for independence. There was no grass roots movement then. There was the SNP and there was the rest of us: laughing at them, the tartan Tories with their romantic notions cutting about tying posters to a couple of lampposts. This was East Kilbride I'm talking about. Good old EK OK, where every home had a colour TV, the height of sophistication. Colour tellys weren't cheap, but everybody had one, you could afford it, there was pretty much full employment, EK was affluent working class; the land of milk and honey. Maybe milk and whisky.

I don't know if you saw the video that's going about facebook; the speech by Dennis Curran the guy who runs the food bank Loaves and Fishes. If you get the chance watch it, it's inspirational. What shocked me was that his charity is

based four miles out of town and there's no public transport to get to it. If people need food, if they need to feed their wee kids, they have to walk 4 miles, with their wee kids, maybe in the pouring rain, to get a bag of messages to feed their kids. I mean, come on! For fuck sake Dennis, relocate your charity!

No, what shocked me was the town that it's outside is East Kilbride. What went wrong? 35 years later and look at the state of me. What happened to that full employment affluent working class land of milk and honey?

Maggie Thatcher happened, two months after the 1979 referendum Maggie Thatcher came to power and she understood that Scotland had given her a mandate: to shit all over us. Please come in, come in and shit all over us why don't you Maggie.

Yeah, my generation fucked it up but be warned: the same people who let it happen then will let it happen again –they've

had their education grants and their bought house, good pension, bus passes and their free care homes. And they outnumber you young ones, you with the most to lose and the most to gain, and they use their vote. The most important thing we can do now is convince that older generation to vote yes for the sake of the kids. Talk to them, persuade them, they'll like it, they're lonely.

This country is hoaching with milk and whisky and it's time our young people had a wee shot at it. 35 years ago when we laughed at independence we didn't have a grass roots movement, a national collective. Thank god we've got one this time because the young people of Scotland are coming to claim their milk and whisky.