



Blair Mimics Bush: The Making of an Enemy Within.

February 27, 2003

By Simon Woolley,

Special to the NorthStar Network

Black Britons are now a Suspect Class

***Publisher's Note:** NorthStar Contributor Simon Woolley, director of London based Operation Black Vote, details the manner in which Black Britons have been targeted in a racially charged environment stemming from a wave of nationalist sentiment brewing over the international crisis over Iraq. Woolley was a participant in the massive peace mobilization that was held in London on February 15.*

As the United Kingdom blindly follows the USA into an unjust war against Iraq, we witness the creation of an enemy within. The demonisation of Black Britons: Africans, Asians and Caribbeans has been gathering apace. In fact, it's not just Black Britons, but anyone who is not white is being targeted as a potential national threat. Ever since American President George W. Bush waged war, first on terrorists, then Afghanistan and very soon Iraq, some newspaper editors in the UK have used the climate of hostility as never before to fill their columns with bigotry, race hatred, and bile. Not just against the threat of terror but against anyone they perceive threatens a narrow and often mythical sense of Britishness.

To fully understand the motivation of some newspaper editors and some politicians we need to look at a complex economic and political global picture that brings disparate groups and agendas crashing together.

For the last few years the illusion of dramatic economic rise in western countries, in particular America, has been exposed as just that, an illusion. For example, thousands of people invested billions of dollars in the Dot.com industry that produced, by and large, nothing. Most people could see that the Dot.com emperor had no clothes, yet blinded by greed and avarice, investors chose to ignore reality until it was too late. But the Dot.com absurdity was dwarfed by the trillion dollar, doubling dealing, cheating executives of Enron and WorldCom. Their downfall exposed the fact that the success of some of America's largest companies was based not on illusion but lies, blatant barefaced lies. As confidence fell the western markets plummeted, leaving many countries, including the US and the UK, teetering on the brink of recession.

