

PRIME MINISTER

Woman's Realm - The Great Debate

You have agreed to see Woman's Realm on Monday at noon for an interview in their 'Great Debate' series. The series started with articles describing the way in which social attitudes had changed during the seventies and are likely to develop in the eighties, and has continued with a number of interviews.

A synopsis of the interviews conducted to date is attached (Annex A); the full texts, which you may not wish to read fully, are at Annex B.

The interviewer, Mr Fid Backhouse, has suggested an outline for his interview with you on Monday. He is asking for your personal feelings, rather than a resumé of government policy, on the ground covered in the series - the 'live now, pay later' society, the 'dramatic rise in materialism' during the fifties and sixties, and 'have we lost sight of important personal values and standards?' The outline is attached; some examples of the questions are:-

On industry - what alternative employment can be found for redundant workers from our 'old' industries given that new technology needs a much smaller labour force; is it realistic to think we can recover; are we in danger of killing the patient with our strong medicine?

On national character - are we a nation divided; can you imagine what it is like to be unemployed; do you have a message for the women of Britain who have to bear the constant strain of having their husbands and children out of work; do you have a message for the youngsters coming on to the job market; what sort of Britain would you like to see in 1990?

/Mr Backhouse

Mr Backhouse would like to bring a photographer with him to take some up to date shots of you for a few minutes at the start of the interview.

Content with the suggested outline of the interview and with the presence of the photographer?

Liz Drummond

LIZ DRUMMOND
Press Office

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