FARRAGE AND FARRON

MARR SHOW 18TH SEPT 2016

FARRAGE AND FARRON

AM: You’ve both got very very different points of view but you both expect there to be real trouble ahead inside this Conservative government when so called Hard Brexit versus Soft Brexit has to be debated and argued. How much of a political opportunity is that for each of you. Tim first of all?

TF: I think it’s a huge opportunity for us but I think it’s a massive risk for Great Britain, because however you voted in the referendum the fact that there was absolutely no plan on the table, people voted for a blank sheet of paper, I don’t think the Conservative government had any plan at all to deal with what would happen post a leave vote. And still three months on post the referendum it appears that Theresa May has no plan and she’s not sharing it with us. And the difference to jobs in the United Kingdom, prices on our shelves, of us being in the single market and not in the single market, that issue alone is of vast significance and none of us know.

NF: I agree. Everything will get much cheaper, absolutely, because we open ourselves up to the world and we can get rid of the common external tariff and buy cheaper food. Do you remember years ago cheap butter, lamb from New Zealand? There were lots of opportunities. Look this idea –

TF: So the biggest market on the planet on our doorstep is something we’re going to turn our back on.

MF: Well I’ll tell you something, the biggest market on the planet...

TF: Lots of your lot believe we should be in the central market.
MF: ...has got a real problem. Let’s be absolutely clear about this blank sheet of paper. I do agree with you, there was no plan B. You know the government did not prepare anything, Whitehall did not prepare anything which was pretty irresponsible so it’s good job that Cameron and Osborne have gone. But the idea that people who voted for Brexit voted for a blank sheet of paper is nonsense.

TF: I don’t say it’s their fault. I say it’s yours.

NF: They voted for us to take back control of our lives. They voted for us to come out the single market, they voted for us to make our own laws and control our own borders. Now everybody from Boris Johnson to Kate Hoey and Frank Field to the UKIPers we all put that message out absolutely clearly. We want out.

TF: everybody on the leave side –

NF: We want out of the single market.

AM: Can I just intervene for a second gentlemen.

NF: Yes.

TF: We totally agree on every single jot and ticket.

AM: If we are opening up to the rest of the world and I’ve defined liberalism as open borders for capital and so forth and that great disruption which has change the last century could we see more of it in fact after leaving the EU rather than less of it?

NF: Well here is the nonsense. So many on the pro-EU side portray themselves as being internationalists. Actually the European Union is effectively a protectionist club that has shut
itself off from many of the emerging parts of the world and I want Britain to be engaged on a global basis, that’s real internationalism.

AM: If you were an African farmer Tim Farron you’d be nodding at what Nigel Farage was saying because they have had a very very hard time and many other groups trying to export their products into the EU.

TF: I think it’s an absolute nonsense because what is believed – I mean for example across the Commonwealth, most Commonwealth heads of government which are of course from countries many of them like those that you are describing, are absolutely horrified at what the United Kingdom...

NF: No they’re not, they’re queuing up to sign trade deals. Get with it. Come on. We’ve moved on Tim.

TF: and that is absolutely not true.

NF: They are, they’re queuing up. Australia, Cananda.

TF: Australia, let’s settle on that. A market of 20 million people literally the other side of the planet, in case you haven’t worked that out, and a market literally 20 miles away across the Channel with 500 million people in it. Who would you do a deal with Nigel?

NF: I’ll tell you what’s so interesting. They way that you disparage them as being on the other side of the world, we’re leaving the European Union, we’re going global. It’s an exciting new future for us.

TF: I don’t believe that cos I think the problem is what Nigel stands for...

AM: I knew this was going to happen –
TF; Is that kind of populist nationalist sentiment

NF: I believe in democracy. I believe in democracy.

TF; ...and I believe in democracy also

NF: Do you?

TF; And you fight for what you believe in and the thing is Nigel

NF: Do you respect the referendum result? Do you respect the result?

TF: I do. Do you respect the one in 1975, you kept going.

AM: Almost out of time. We are out of time –

ENDS