

Sherlock Holmes and the case of the perceived ubermensch.

“Nurses should each be given Buckingham Palace and a go on Prince Harry’s Automatic Weapons,” read the Daily Mirror headline one strike-filled morning in 2023.

The Morning Star had chosen a variation on theme: “Unionised workers deserve to experience the same levels of self-importance as bankers vis a vis the rest of society. Arbeit Macht Frei - when will people learn to obey that important rule?”

Holmes, naturally, was disgusted by the whole sh*t show.

“Watson,” he said. “It is unfortunate that people keep themselves distracted by their posturing when they could spend the same time they spend posturing on actually becoming better people. Who among them is aware that Idries Shah has sensibly pointed out that it is easier to work on the primitive level, to arrange a mass rally and demonstrate than to improve oneself?”

“Between fifty and seventy percent of Britain actively discriminates,” I reminded Holmes. “Separate studies by the London School of Economics and the European Social Survey along with plenty of other prior data indicates that it doesn’t matter what Idries Shah says, most of the British public will consider it beneath their innate perceived-white intellect to dignify his sagacity. Indeed when Whoopi Goldberg said people should be nice to each other the majority labelled her anti-semitic because her statement denies jews the right to commit genocide.”

“Then they could read M.G. Piety,” Holmes instantly pointed out. “She has said, for example, some horses are faster than other horses, some people are better than other people, at a variety of things, including at adhering to the moral code programmed into us all before birth. Individuals must be examined case by case. Yet these virtue posturers who claim that the entire field of nursing is a fleet of ubermenschen who should be saluted and given privileges over others, they would be the first to call me an elitist if I pointed out I am a far better detective than anyone else.”

“They would start by faux-mocking you for your humility, Holmes. They would make out that demonstrating your superiority to them was a form of boasting. Then they would speak of how superior they are for, on the face of it, putting a plaster on someone or saying kind things to an ill person, or even incompetently mishandling an ill person (it may well be that nurses are not an angelic host and somewhere among them one of them may do something immoral or incompetent).”

“Do you recall the nurse who tried to bodyslam an angry NHS patient’s family member when the latter attempted to ask Boris Johnson why he was electioneering in the middle of a collapsing hospital in the middle of a crisis?”

“I do not, Holmes. But I remember the man.”

“Review the footage. No left wing or right wing commentator seemed at all interested in why an NHS nurse had tried to bodyslam a member of the public who wanted to

know why Johnson was not only destroying the NHS but doing a photoshoot for his electioneering on its corpse.”

“The old cognitive dissonance, eh Holmes?”

“Consider the true plight of nurses, Watson, if you want a darker example of cognitive dissonance. Currently in 2023 one in four nurses is clinically obese, compared to almost one in eight for other occupations within the health services. Or two in five, if your tally should focus on weight.

“The so-called left-wing would do well to take heed of the very precise advice and warning Noam Chomsky gave the world, including them, a few years ago. He pointed out that number of young people, across all ‘classes’ and walks of society, who are unifying against the insanity of what capitalism has done to our world is unprecedented and for tyrants quite frightening. The coming mobilisation of the young is extremely massive and eclipses any possible revolution which the usual virtue posturers may bring about. It’s time the political movements of the past step aside and watch the spiritual movements of the young rebirth society.”

“Isn’t there anything we can do?” I asked Holmes.

“Do? About what?”

“About the perceived-ubermensch, Holmes. All these people with jobs or businesses or money or titles or fleets of fans calling them saints - who don’t seem to give a flying f@ck about the suffering of all but their own little segment of society.”

“We leave them in the hands of their children and grandchildren, Watson.”



Matt Berry, as
Sherlock Holmes



Richard Ayoade,
as Doctor Watson



Benny Hill, as
the British public