

THE Sun

SAYS

Off the wall

THE world watching the war raging over Downing Street's décor must think Britain has gone mad.

Boris Johnson brought about the most seismic political revolution in half a century by sheer force of personality and willpower, in defiance of a Remainer-dominated parliament.

He made a promise to 17.4million Brexit voters and kept it. He won an 80-seat majority and ended the terrifying menace of an anti-Semitic Marxist Labour Party taking power.

He was slow off the mark when it fell to him to lead us through our gravest crisis since World War Two – but then instigated a Covid vaccine programme which has saved countless lives and is the envy of the world.

Our economy, kept alive through successive shutdowns by an unprecedented rescue package he and his Chancellor put in place, is forecast to bounce back faster than any other nation's in the G7.

Large parts of Britain are set to benefit hugely from the levelling-up agenda which, after Covid, is his central aim.

Why do we list all this? Because perspective has been lost. Because Labour and their media allies believe Boris should be sacked and punished over wallpaper and curtains – at a Downing Street flat he doesn't even own.

We agree his answers on how he eventually paid for them have looked shifty. He should have come clean far earlier.

But we cannot stomach the confected hysteria of Keir Starmer and his MPs. It is hard to watch those who spent three years shamefully plotting to overthrow the biggest democratic mandate in our history trying to claim the moral high ground over a bloke who may or may not have bent a rule to foot a decorating bill.

Nor can we forget the partisan role of the Remainer-heavy Electoral Commission, now probing Boris's bills, in fruitlessly hounding Leave campaigners.

France has stuck by a President who openly fuelled anti-vax lunacy, Germany with a leader who responded to the heartbreaking catastrophe in India by moaning about EU vaccine supply. Canada re-elected a PM who repeatedly went out in racist "blackface".

We will truly have lost our minds if our Prime Minister's enemies, knowing they cannot beat him at the ballot box, contrive to topple him over some curtains.

Bravo, Barnier

THERE was a twist yesterday on the final page of the long Brexit story:

As MEPs voted to approve the EU-UK trade agreement, Michel Barnier proved more thoughtful than any of them.

A few banged on about Brexit being a "historic mistake" for Britain, as though our enhanced trade deals and superior jabs rollout had never happened.

But Brussels' ex-chief negotiator said it was a failure of the EU to listen to Britain. The danger now, he added, was in ignoring euroscepticism elsewhere.

Funny, that . . . The Sun said exactly the same five years ago.

TRY OUR QUIZ TO SEE IF YOU'RE AS RUTHLESS AT WORK AS CUMMINGS

By GRANT ROLLINGS

YOU might think a psycho is someone who knifes you from behind a shower curtain.

But they can be far trickier to spot and come in many forms. They can be charming, ruthless, manipulative and very successful.

Boris Johnson's ex-aide Dominic Cummings, who has some of those traits, was this week described as a "career psychopath". Other traits are lies, risk-taking and lack of remorse.

Dr Kevin Dutton, author of *The Wisdom Of Psychopaths*, believes ruthless chief executives and lawyers are likely candidates. He also thinks top politicians are "going to be high on the psychopathic levels", as they make life-or-death decisions.

But in everyday life, the tell-tale traits are not so easy to assess. A psycho may be next to you at work and neither of you will know. Or could you be one?

To see how psychopathic you are, take Dr Dutton's test below. If you strongly agree with a question, give yourself three points, if you agree two points, disagree one point and strongly disagree zero points. Your rating is explained below the quiz.

JEEPERS PEEPERS . . . Cummings

Are YOU a 'career psychopath' like PM's adviser Dom?

YOU rarely catch me making any plans, I'm far too spontaneous.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

I'D have no problem cheating on my partner if I knew I could get away with it.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

IF I got a better offer, I wouldn't mind cancelling long-standing plans.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree



Strongly disagree

I DON'T get bothered by seeing animals injured or in pain.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

IT would be fun to drive fast cars, ride rollercoasters and go skydiving.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

I THINK it's OK to step over other people in order to achieve my own ambitions.

Strongly agree

Agree



Disagree

Strongly disagree

I'M very persuasive, and getting people to do what I want is a real talent of mine.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

MY ability to come to quick decisions means I would be suited to a dangerous job.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

WHEN the people around me are crumbling under

pressure, I'm usually the one with a cool head.



Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

I'M rarely to blame for things going wrong, it's usually the fault of the people around me.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

IF someone gets conned, who cares? They were asking for it.

Strongly agree,

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

HOW DO YOU RATE ON THE PSYCHO SCALE?: 0-11: Low chance of being a psychopath. 12-17: Below Average. 18-22: Average. 23-28: High. 29-33: Very High. It is important that you should not take this as a diagnosis.



BITE SCARY . . . Lecter

'CAN BE HANDY IN YOUR JOB'

IF you are a bit psycho, try not to worry too much, there are times when a killer focus can come in handy.

Dr Dutton explains: "When most people hear the word psychopath they think of Hannibal Lecter in *The Silence Of The Lambs* or serial killer Ted Bundy in real life.

"When psychologists talk about psychopathy

there are key traits including ruthlessness, fearlessness, mental toughness, self-confidence, coolness under pressure, emotional detachment and deficits in social consciousness.

"All of those traits dialled up to the right level and deployed within the right situation can bring success. There are always going to be

certain types of professions which require precision engineered psychopathy. At the right level these characteristics can be helpful.

"But it is a problem if you display some of them in your personal life with your family.

"You need to be able to turn your levels up and down like you would on the dials of a music

studio mixing desk. The psychopaths you see in prison have them stuck on high or maximum and can't regulate them.

"On the other hand, some people have them stuck too low and are unable to be assertive when needed."

●Black And White Thinking, by Dr Kevin Dutton, @TheRealDrKev, is out now, £9.99.