

1997

Madeleine Albright becomes the first woman to serve as United States Secretary of State.



1998

Netscape announced Mozilla, with the intention to release Communicator code as open source.

2001

Five people attempt to set themselves on fire in Beijing's **Tiananmen Square**, an act that many people later claim is staged by the Communist Party of China to frame Falun Gong and thus escalate their persecution.

2002

U.S. journalist **Daniel Pearl** is kidnapped in Karachi, Pakistan and subsequently murdered.

Speed of a driver

As Theresa May and Jeremy Corbyn



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him in Brexit's inevitable economic damage. He doesn't want a second referendum because he doesn't know which side to back. This comfortable evasion cannot be sustained after May's crushing defeat on Jan 15. Labour will have to pick sides and live with the consequences. Members of Parliament and leaders in all parties will be faced with the starkest of choices: Britain's future will be decided within the next month. Neither party has enough votes to make that choice on its own. The question now is whether the leadership on both sides has the will, imagination or character to reach out to the other and avoid a no-deal disaster. There's nothing in their careers to suggest that is so.

After her defeat, May announced that she wanted to talk with the opposition to discover what compromise members of Parliament were prepared to support. An enraged Corbyn retorted that over the previous two years she had closed down every attempt at dialogue, and her only priority had been the Conservative Party.

It is Britain's misfortune that at this moment, when cooperation and statesmanship are needed to prevent political and economic disaster, both the prime minister and the leader of the opposition are known for being cautious, obstinate, unimaginative, tribal and charmless.

That's why the wilder suggestion now is that moderate Labour and Tory rebels may step forward and declare themselves a new parliamentary grouping, prepared to lead the country in a government of national unity away from the cliff's edge. It feels preposterous — but so does almost everything else.

Can May and Corbyn suspend their instinctive hostility? Can a fleet of courageous men and women in Parliament step forward if not? Britain is in desperate need of a driver who can seize control of the clattering train.

(Jenni Russell is a columnist for The Times of London and a contributing opinion writer.)

Wall. Am I an anarchist?



And now that I cut my daughter's nails with blue scissors and dress her in dinosaur overalls, I wonder if the end is near.

I know what I want: beautiful shoes like mom's" one onesie reads (I wish I was kidding). Others: "Future Miss Brazil," "Future bride" and "Princess in training." And if these stereotypes aren't enough, there are options that engage in precocious body-shaming: "Does this diaper make my butt look big?" But this problem is not unique to Brazil. In 2015, the Spanish clothing retailer Zara introduced girls' onesies with the inscription "Pretty and Perfect: It's what daddy said," while the counterpart boy's version read "Cool and Clever: It's what mummy said." The year before, a chain of supermarkets in Spain had to apologise and stop

selling baby's clothes with the inscriptions "Intelligent as daddy" (for boys) and "Pretty as mommy" (for girls). Lest North America start feeling smug, that same year, Target got in trouble for selling in its Canadian stores a set of boy's pajamas bearing the words "Future Man of Steel." The girl version said, "I only date heroes."

So you see, Alves, we are already deep in a world of baby girls who must grow up to be pretty princesses and wives, and boys dressed in blue who must grow up to date as many of these princesses as possible. Those princes and princesses get to go on to a future of unequal pay, domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, femicide, homophobia and transphobia.

So by all means, call your daughter a princess. Truly, no one is stopping you. It is sad, however, that while you are busy telling children who and what they should be, so many very real forces are conspiring within our country to stop them from safely growing up to be who they truly are, and that you seem so uninterested in doing anything about these instead.

(Vanessa Barbara, a contributing opinion writer, is the editor of the literary website A Hortaliça and the author of two novels and two nonfiction books in Portuguese.)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Tonight we passed the Reciprocal Healthcare Bill through the Commons - which provides for healthcare for British Citizens who live in the EU, deal or no deal. An important step for delivering Brexit
@MattHancock

02



So often, stories exploring Trump supporters have found that, no matter what, they back him. In a Michigan county he won by 12 points in 2016, I found something different: Some are peeling away from him, and growing tired of his shut-down stance.
@mviser

03



Today we honor a great American who gave his life to right the wrong of racial inequality. Our country is better thanks to his inspiration and sacrifice #MLKDay
@PressSec

04



If Nancy Pelosi thinks that Walls are "immoral," why isn't she requesting that we take down all of the existing Walls between the U.S. and Mexico, even the new ones just built in San Diego at their very strong urging. Let millions of unchecked "strangers" just flow into the U.S.
@realDonaldTrump

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

A civilian thought on wheels

SREEJITH S RAJA

Transportation has played a key role in the development of mankind ever since the time they were "invented". Various options are available today for mankind to move from one place to another. We can choose between our personal vehicles like motorcycles and cars to public transport like buses, trains and aircraft. Public transport plays an important role in bringing down the cost of moving people and cargo from origin to destination. We not only save money but also our valuable time.

When it comes to public transport in urban areas, there are some difficulties. In countries like Bahrain, people consider their private spaces and time while considering transport. They prefer usage of their cars to buses for various reasons. The routes of buses are not available to many areas of work like industrial belts. Even if they have buses, at times they may have to get down at a bus stop and trek to their offices far away. The schedule of buses is also not as frequent as required thereby the passenger takes a lot of time to reach his or her office. Instead, if he uses his personal car, he can bring it close to his office and park his car at the premises. He can come and leave conveniently based on his work. When it comes to travelling to work place, I personally have not used the public transport. The main reason being that my office is located 1.5 kilometres away from the nearest bus stop. Hence, I prefer to use the cab provided by the company so that I can get dropped in the company premises. The only time I use public buses here is when my family and me have to go places during weekends.

When it comes to maintenance of public transport, there are some civic responsibilities that comes with it. We see private vehicles being parked in bus stops. One day, my family and me were waiting for the bus at a bus stop. There were two ladies standing near us, waiting for the bus. A car comes close to the two ladies forcing them to move away from the stop. The ladies waiting for the bus quietly gave way for the car to be parked there. The family in the car were taking time to come out of the car. Seeing this, I went up to the driver in the car and pointed to the board saying that this was the bus stop. He retreated into the car and moved it elsewhere when I reminded him of the fine that he would attract if he parked the car. This happens mainly if the parking spaces are either not

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available or adequate.

There was another incident when my wife and me were travelling in a bus. As we boarded the bus after swiping our smart cards for the payment of the bus fare, one of the two young men nearby, used the overhead handles as pull up bars, preventing me from accessing the nearest seat. I had to look at him straight in the eye, after which he quietly moved away. We have also seen many people not offering their seats to ladies, families and elder members, even though they were reserved for them.

Many children enjoy riding the red bus and they keep telling their parents to allow them to travel by these buses. However, the parents are used travelling by cars and hence rarely give their children the pleasure of enjoying a bus ride. This is basically a mindset of the parents that need to change. We, as people, need to use and encourage the usage of public transport as much as possible. This will lead to lesser number of cars and other vehicles on the roads thereby cascading to a positive effect on reduction of pollution and traffic congestion on roads.

There is a general perception in Bahrain that the only people who use buses are from the low-income group. However, in more developed countries, it has been observed that the public transport system is more used by all people. The transport system is well developed and reliable in terms of time and convenience. In Bahrain, there are a larger number of private cars than public transport buses. This is mainly due to the choices of cars available in the market. If we look at similar countries to Bahrain, like Singapore for instance, we see that cars are more expensive and thereby people use the public transport instead of the cars. It may be noted that Singapore has a well-developed public transportation system that run punctually and with greater connectivity. If we have a fully developed and punctual public transport system, we can reduce the number of cars and make our air, less polluted.

Gustavo Pedro, the Colombian economist and politician said, and I quote, 'A developed country isn't a place where the poor have cars. It's where the rich use public transport'. Let us hope that this day will not be far off.