

The Allure of Politics

by [Kenneth Francis](#) (October 2019)



The Opposition, William Gropper, 1942

Have you ever wondered why people enter the murky world of politics? A seemingly thankless profession with long hours and little privacy. A job where many people both verbally and on social media abuse you; you're surrounded by frauds and sociopaths, and your career is bound to end in failure. What is the attraction of choosing what appears to be such an unappealing profession? French writer Albert Camus said that

those who have greatness within them do not go in for politics.

And Theodore Dalrymple wrote: “‘A policeman’s lot is not a happy one,’ sings the police sergeant in *The Pirates of Penzance*