

sometimes seems too indefinite and sometimes too partisan and often lacks proportion.

A small additional difficulty must also be noted. Conservatism may be understood in two senses. It may mean the tenets of the Conservative Party, or it may mean a natural disposition in the human mind not by any means confined to those persons who vote on the Conservative side in party politics. To diminish the confusion that arises from this ambiguity I have endeavoured, when the word is used in the second sense, as what may be called pure or natural conservatism, to write it without a capital letter. When it is used in the more particular sense as the faith of the Conservative Party, it is written Conservatism.

The Conservatism of the Conservative Party, modern Conservatism, as we may say, is of course largely recruited from and dependent on the natural conservatism that is found in almost every human mind. It will be proper, therefore, to begin with some discussion of that pure or natural conservatism.