

Tom Leonard's poem 'The Liaison Coordinator', characteristically written in Glaswegian demotic, is an (always timely) warning that managing the poor should not be confused with eradicating poverty. On the other hand, Christine Hoy, a community health professional, suggests that there is an alternative argument for the defence.

The Liaison Coordinator

Tom Leonard

Efturryd geenuz iz speel
iboot whut wuz right
nwhut wuz rang
boot this nthat
nthi next thing
a sayzty thi bloke
nwhut izzit yi caw yir joab jimmy
am a liaison co-ordinator
hi sayz oh good ah sayz
a liaison co-ordinator
jist whut this erria needs
whut wi aw thi unemploymint
inaw thi bevvyin
nthi boayz runnin amock nthi hoossyz fawnty bits
nthi wummin n tranquilisers
it last thiv sent uz
a liaison co-ordinator.
Summy wia digree
in f*ck knows whut
getn pyd fur no known whut thi f*ck ti day way it

In Defence of Lazzin Coordinataurs

Christine Hoy

this wumin chapped the door sayz ahm a lazzin coordinataur
ah kennedhoo she'd cum roon, seeingashoo the dooktir hud been up the dayafore

ahcud see er lookin aw roon the hoose, awrawil she was speekin
ahcud see er lookin atmamaw wunnerin whut thi fuck she wiz dain

ahm weel yaised to seein mamaw foldin up paipers and lyin them unner the carpit, ye

see, mamaws no right, ither fowk want her tain awa but ah iwiz sayz naw,
mamawsmamaw, kenwhawamean?

so lazzin coordinataur sayz, yer mither cin stay at hame, bit dae yeez wan a haun? i
sayz ay, cuz i wiz nackeded
next thing thirs annuvur wummin it the door, sayz ah kin gae awa oot,
shes goan tae stay wi mamaw
an thats hoo ahm sittin here wi yaize noo, injoyin ma bevvv ana few smokes,
ahv no bin oot fir about a year
that lazzin coordinators barry.