

## Letters to the Editor



### Family manifesto

Sir, The prime minister's vision of a country that works for everyone, not just the privileged few, should address family breakdown. We believe that a comprehensive strategy to strengthen families is essential to tackle successfully other social problems, from addiction and mental ill health to children having a poor start in life and educational underachievement.

Today 44 Conservative MPs — who comprise almost one in four of all backbench Tory MPs — and eight Conservative peers are launching the *Manifesto to Strengthen Families*, outlining how better support for families can be achieved. These proposals must be a goal across all government departments.

The consequences of unresolved domestic conflict and messy parental splits are often painful and long-lasting for children, particularly the poorest, who are caught in the crossfire. Many children blame themselves. We urge the government to ensure that parents receive the support needed to enable their families, and the country, to thrive.

FIONA BRUCE, MP

LORD FARMER

Conservative Party treasurer 2011-15