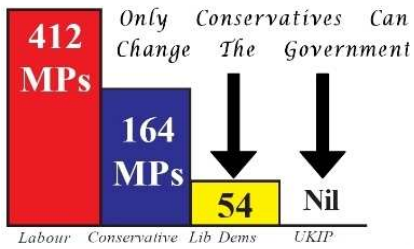


Make Your Vote Count!



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Letter to the Editor:
North Devon Journal

11 February 2009

Dear Sir

My Family thoroughly enjoyed the latest Agatha Christie production, the "Spider's Web" in the Queen's Theatre last week.

It was an excellent production and it was good to see the Theatre full on a Friday night - especially in view of the weather!

However, what did the audience think about the smoking on stage? In Wales and Scotland, it is banned but here in England smoking is tolerated in a performance "if artistic integrity makes it appropriate".

I appreciate that raising the comment could make me seem prudish and I do not want to detract from a very good production and enjoyable night out but there were children present and the subliminal messages of smoking acceptability (let alone the unpleasant smell which permeated from the stage as a consequence) need to be considered and to be honest, I do not think the artistic integrity would have been upset if there was no smoking. I appreciate that there was drinking too but at least that does not "interfere" with the audience. So, should we follow with a total ban? What do Journal readers think?

Yours faithfully

Philip J Milton

Prospective Member of Parliament for North Devon

