Press Release: 5th November 2015
Jerry Springer speaks at the Cambridge Union
“I am grateful for the opportunities that America has given me.”

Television star, politician, news anchor and musician, Jerry Springer, spoke at The Cambridge Union on 4th November 2015.

Members of The Union erupted into the infamous “Jerry! Jerry!” chant as the public icon started his opening address: “May you never be on my show,” he jokingly told an amused audience.

At the heart of Springer’s speech was the “liberal philosophy”, a philosophy that relies on the notion of natural justice.

“In the end [liberals] ultimately win because we happen to be on the side of what human instinct tells us to do. If we simply had politics do what your mother told you to do in the third grade - share your toys, help people - we would live in a better world”

“You could take the wealthiest republican guy, lovely family, big house, who lives next door to a poorer family. Its 2 o’clock in the morning and there’s banging on the door of the rich family. The poor woman is holding his six month old baby and needs help: every person, no matter what political leanings, wouldn’t say ‘you should have worked harder and got a car which means you could afford a good car’ - he would drive”

“It’s not okay that your neighbours are going hungry or without medical care. Be consistent with your values that religion, mother or whatever teaches you.”

This idea of neighbourhood influences Springer’s views on gun laws, immigration and the Iraq war. He believes that “nobody does it on their own”.

“If Bill Gates were born in Ethiopia, he would be dead at the age of five.”

Springer believes that America ought to be more compassionate with its gun and immigration policies: “If you knew those people, would you feel comfortable saying to the six year-old child ‘sorry you have to go?’”

Equally critical about the invasion of Iraq, Springer characterised the invasion of Baghdad as the “dumbest decision” in American history.

However, Springer remains grounded and humble: “I am grateful for the opportunities that America has given me.”
Naturally, Springer also spoke about his television career. “We’re only allowed to upload stuff that is outrageous. We’re a circus so only allowed to run crazy stuff. Its like saying if you’re a judge— I don’t like criminals, don’t send me criminals. That’s my job”.

Jerry Springer’s speech was more about his politics than his television career. He left us with a quote from Bob Dylan to mull over: “How many deaths will it take till he knows, that too many people have died?” The answer, he hopes, is not blowing in the wind but in the future generation of student activists.

—END—

For footage of the event go to https://www.youtube.com/user/cambridgeunionsoc