

Sample Motion for Students' Unions

Union Notes:

- (1) The Government are currently pushing for the introduction of Identity Cards for citizens of the United Kingdom, and overseas visitors of longer than three months
- (2) The UK is a country, where governments are elected, to be the Servants of the People
- (3) Parliament is in place to scrutinize and act as a check-and-balance on the Executive
- (4) No-one is above the law
- (5) The United Kingdom is a Common Law Country
- (6) The Government have yet to refute the proposals made that Identity Cards will not live up to their expectations in fighting crime, preventing terrorism, eliminating benefit fraud, controlling immigration
- (7) The Identity Card proposals have, not yet, fully been quantified in costs that,
 - a. the tax-payer will indirectly pay;
 - b. directly pay for the issuance of cards;
 - c. levies for not complying with such legislation

Union Further Notes:

- (1) Biometric technology has not, yet, been explored on a large scale
- (2) Biometric technology is still in its infancy
- (3) Successive Governments have had limited results on IT projects, for example the Criminal Records Bureau fiasco, Passport Agency, CSA...

Union Welcomes:

- (1) Research, Reports and analyses provided on the subject by:
 - [NO2ID](#)
 - [Liberty](#)
 - [Privacy International](#)
 - [Stand.org.uk](#)
 - [FIPR](#), the Foundation for Information Policy Research
 - [The Law Society](#)
 - [Charter88](#)
 - The [Home Affairs Select Committee](#)
 - The [Joint Committee on Human Rights](#)
 - And many other organizations
- (2) The ability to communicate, free of charge, with Councillors, MSPs, MLAs, MPs and MEPS through [WriteToThem.com](#)

Union is sceptical of the responses provided by Her Majesty's Government

Union Believes:

- (1) The case for the introduction of Identity Cards remains unproven by Government
- (2) These proposals are being forced through Parliament without the opportunity for proper scrutiny
- (3) Government has intentionally, consistently, and knowingly, misled Parliament and the public on Identity Cards.

- (4) Identity Cards will fundamentally alter the relationship between the Citizen and the State
- (5) Guilt, rather than innocence, will be assumed
- (6) Minority groups will become even more persecuted than they already are
- (7) The proposals will be expensive when money could be spent elsewhere, on new hospitals, eliminating tuition fees and providing improved public services
- (8) Everyone will negatively be affected by these draconian powers if the Bill were to be passed
- (9) Chances of defeat will largely depend on the House of Lords, and some strong-willed, independent, [courageous MPs](#) who have the sense to understand the ramifications of the Bill and are prepared to defend the interests of their constituents

Union Resolves:

- (1) To oppose the introduction of ID cards, compulsory registration and the National Identity Register
- (2) To hold, at the earliest possible date, a referendum on affiliation to the No2ID Campaign [amend as per your Union's protocol on Affiliations — consider the Education Act, 1994] and to amend the Union's Budget as appropriate to finance the affiliation
- (3) To raise awareness, to all students, academic and non-academic staff of the Government's draconian proposals.

Union Mandates:

- (1) All officers to lobby their disgust at these expensive, illiberal and unjustified proposals to their home and college constituency MPs before the next meeting of Council [or whatever your Union has]
- (2) Officers to encourage the student populus to write to their Councillors, Devolved Assemblymen & MPs on this issue
- (3) Representatives to NUS to take the matter to the National Executive