


 HULL UNIVERSITY  
**UNION**

M.1516-30 Motion to Reinforce Freedom of speech and expression of religion without fear and discrimination

HUU Notes:

“You cannot protect democracy by undermining the foundations of democracy. Our historic liberties of freedom of speech and freedom of expression of religion must not be jeopardised.” Cl, Wilberforce House

1. Individuals and societies of different opinions contrary to what may seem mainstream, regardless how large in numbers they may be or barely represented they are at Union Council, are part of the University and must have a voice. At the last Union Council, labels such as ‘homophobic’ were placed on Councillors who represented the voiceless and stood for the freedom of speech of those not represented at Council. A call for order was made which led to a stop in the delivery of an argument, meaning Councillors feel a difference in opinion is not worth voicing out. It is disrespectful such name calling and intolerance was tolerated; judgemental labelling not only undermines the freedom of speech of University students but also discriminates against them. In this way, Council no longer considers the argument of the individual but attacks them and bullies them by calling names and shutting down. Such judgemental labels strangle dialogue between parties of differences in opinion and pushes one party into the corner; aside it being a form of bullying, it represents the targeting and discrimination against the individuals and does not allow intellectual debate to flourish.
2. Council must pass motions to allow the freedom of expression of opinions and ideas without fear of discrimination and bullying.
3. **In line with the European Convention on Human Rights, Article 14 Prohibition of discrimination it is noted that: “The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms [...] shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.**

HUU Believes:

1. It is a true representative of students in the University. If this is the case, students must be represented and must feel represented without fear of being bullied or coerced into a manipulative pact. If HUU truly represents students, action must be taken to protect and defend the very students HUU stands for. If we cannot

protect and fully represent the views of all students, we are not truly a Students' Union.

- Mass "enjoyability": increasing participation, and happiness of volunteers
- Transparency
- Increased Engagement
- Increase Representation

HUU Resolves:

1. A logo representing the freedom of speech and freedom of religion without fear of discrimination will be placed on the HUU website.
2. The Zero Tolerance Policy will be covered in Union Council training.
- ~~3. At the start of Council meetings, the Chair must make the statement as follows:  
"We must respect the views and opinions of students represented by Council members here. Please seek to address the argument, not the personality."~~

Proposer: Eunice Kyereh

Seconder: Eric Martin, BA French and Italian, Chinese Free Elective