



## **Students' Conference @ UBU 2011**

**29<sup>th</sup> October 2011, 3pm**

**Anson Rooms**

**Chair of Student Council: Max Kiralyfi**

### **Priority for: Welfare & Equality**

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#### **Motion Name: Pro-choice Motion**

#### **UBU Notes:**

1. That the Students' Union has a pro-life society.
2. That 1 in 3 women will have an abortion at some point during their lifetime, a figure which will inevitably include a large number of both student members and Union staff.
3. That 76 per cent of the UK population are pro-choice.
4. That abortion is legal in Britain and has been since 1967.
5. That a pro-choice stance is not a pro-abortion stance, but instead affirms abortion as a morally and medically acceptable choice. Pro choice supporters believe that the final decision about pregnancy and abortion should always rest with the female and that her informed choice should always be respected.
6. That our abortion laws are more restrictive than almost every other European country. In the UK there is no abortion on demand. Women's reproductive rights have also come under threat under the current government, with David Cameron voting for a reduction in the limit from 24 weeks to 20 weeks.
7. That Oxford University Students' Union and Leeds University Students' Union have both adopted pro-choice policies.

#### **UBU Believes:**

1. That whilst any society is free to hold particular beliefs, the Students' Union, as an organisation, should actively support a woman's right to choose.
2. That women have the right to choose what they do with their own bodies, and having received proper information, should be trusted to make a final
3. That the Union must provide a safe space for any woman who has had, or is considering having, an abortion.
4. That no student should be made to feel guilty due to any actions of the Students' Union or at any events held in the building.

#### **UBU Resolves:**

1. That the Students' Union adopts a pro-choice stance, offering support to its



- student members and staff and respecting a woman's right to choose.
2. That the VP Welfare and Equality will raise awareness of, and promote campaigns against, any activities likely to erode women's reproductive rights.
  3. That any material displayed in the Union building should adhere to the principle of 'safe space' which has already passed at our Union and which resolves to 'ensure an accessible environment in which every student feels comfortable, safe and able to get involved in all aspects of the organisation free from intimidation or judgement.'

**Proposed by: Sophie Bennett**