

## **National Union of Student's National Women's Campaign Conference 2010**

[http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/asset/event/6001/WSC\\_2011\\_CD5\\_Minutes\\_10.pdf](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/asset/event/6001/WSC_2011_CD5_Minutes_10.pdf)

### **Motion no 803 : Opposing men's societies Conference believes**

1. There have been several men's groups that have recently sprung up on our campuses
2. They often promote activities that are detrimental to the women's cause, whilst claiming to offer help/support to men
3. By allowing Men's groups on campus you further promote the gender binary and cement it within the structure and image of Student Unions

### **Conference further believes**

1. Men do not suffer substantial discrimination directly as a result of their gender and as such do not constitute a liberation group any repression that may be observed in relation to gender stereotypes is a result of the repression of society by the patriarchy and as a result to remove that repression involves supporting the Feminist movement not organising as men
2. Student Unions should not be reinforcing the gender binary on campus as it goes against the concept of safe space as self defining trans students may feel they do not fit or are alienated from their own Student Union
3. Women's Groups do not exist to facilitate stereotypical women's activities, but to campaign for liberation against the repression women face and as such do not represent an extension of the gender binary and do not encroach on safe space

### **Conference resolves**

1. Lobby for an end to all men's liberation groups on campus/call for a complete ban
2. To re enforce the purpose of women's groups as Liberation groups on campus and not activity groups promoting stereotypical women's activities

### **Amendment 1: Opposing Men's Societies**

#### **Conference believes**

1. That an increasing number of unions have 'men's officers'
2. That these officers are being created in response to a perceived unfairness of their being a women's officer, but not a men's officer
3. Men are not discriminated against because they are men Women's officers exist to fight for equal rights and chances for women

### **Conference further believes**

1. Men's officers simply reinforce the advantage that men already have on campus
2. Men's officers have no campaigning role, as there very few issues to fight which affect men specifically because they are men
3. As men's officers have no real campaigning role, that makes their role simply symbolic
4. Men's officers undermine the role of women's officers, because they suggest that the position exists solely to represent, and not to fight for liberation
5. We must fight against the existence of men's officers, and attempt to prevent the creation of any new men's officers

### **Conference resolves**

1. To mandate the national women's officer to write 'how to' toolkit to help activists abolish men's officers where they exist
2. To mandate the national women's officer to lead a national debate on the necessity of men's officers

*This was passed*