

Blood Donation

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Union Notes:

1. Blood donation saves lives.
2. The National Blood Service desperately wants more blood.
3. Up to 7000 blood donations are needed every day
(www.cks.nhs.uk/patient_information_leaflet/blood_donation)
4. Men who have had sex with men are banned from donating blood for life. However women who have had sex with a man who has had sex with a man are only disqualified from donating for 12 months.
5. New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Japan and Australia allow sexually active gay men to donate blood.

Union Believes:

1. The life time ban on blood donation from sexually active men excludes a number of willing donors of a potentially lifesaving resource.

Union Resolves:

1. To mandate the Ethical Issues Officer to begin an awareness campaign
2. Implement a petition of students saying they would be comfortable with receiving blood from gay men.
3. Advertise the issue when the National Blood Service are on campus, and encourage donors to say they are doing so on behalf of a gay friend.

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