# Safe Space Policy

**Approved by:** Executive Committee  
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**Review Date:** 12th December 2016
Safe Space, Equality and Diversity

Proposer: Sheeva Weil (Women’s Officer)

Seconder(s): James Perkins (VP Education), Natalia Rajapakse (BME Officer), Issy Cooke (SASS SRO), Jemilat Salami (Cass SRO), Kristi Ledger (Law SRO),

This Union Notes:

1. Students have in the past felt harassed or unsafe around the University or with other students or members of staff
2. Places where harassment or discrimination can take place include: University and Union premises, online through social media networks or websites affiliated to the University or Union
3. As per the ‘Harassment and Bullying Policy’, we note that harassment and discrimination is unacceptable
4. There is no zero tolerance policy to deal with discrimination based on: age, class, disability, gender and gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, political affiliation, pregnancy and maternity, race and ethnicity, religion and belief, or sexual orientation

This Union Believes:

1. University should be a safe space, where staff and students can speak freely without fear of prejudice and with equality of voice
2. Students should feel comfortable enough to participate fully in classes and social situations with other students or staff around the University
3. University should be a place which is welcoming and safe and includes the prohibition of discriminatory language and actions

This Union Resolves:

1. To take a zero-tolerance approach to cases of discrimination or harassment
2. To establish a safe-space email for the reporting of incidents of discrimination or harassment
3. To investigate the possibility of creating a Nightline service run by trained student volunteers and co-ordinated by the Union and University jointly
4. To inform and promote understanding of what safe space is
5. To promote the Union Support Service, complaints procedures and University counselling services to students and staff

6. To encourage staff participation in the Equality and Diversity training and explore the inclusion of safe space principles.