

2043 Safe Student Sex (passed 2 Feb 2017)

Proposer: Jo Swo (Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer)

Seconder: Zak O'Brien (President of Sexpression Society)

Summation:

Students should have free and equal access to contraception, in previous years we were able to give them away for free in abundance however this stopped last year due to NHS restrictions. This policy mandates Management Committee to investigate the possibility of using our annual budget to provide free and accessible contraception once again. It also mandates the Student Union to install contraception dispensers in Union House toilets, work with the Sexpression society and for Advice SU to hold 'Sex Ed' workshops for students.

Union notes:

1. According to Concrete's 'Sex Survey' in 2014 :
 - a. 70.66% of students disclose having had unprotected sex
 - b. Only 8.02% of students disclose having a STI
 - c. 49.54% of students disclose finding sex 'Very Important' in romantic relationships
 - d. 56.75% of students disclose finding sex 'Fairly Important' in their life overall
2. UEA Student Union used to supply free contraception to students but stopped after the NHS stopped providing them with unlimited access, using instead the C-Card Scheme
3. Not all students have sex, but those who do should have free access to contraception
4. The UEA Medical Centre provides access to some forms of contraception

Union believes:

1. All students should have free and equal access to contraception on campus
2. It is the responsibility of the University and Student Union to educate students on the importance and practice of contraception
3. Students who seek advice on pregnancy or termination should be treated with respect and dignity, without fear of discrimination or judgement
4. Safe Sex is something to be encouraged and not shamed
5. The C-Card Scheme can be seen as having obstacles such as registration and an 'induction talk' which may put off students from accessing the contraception they want

Union resolves:

1. To mandate Management Committee to investigate the possibility of providing contraception (for both sexes) free of charge, and never on a means tested basis, to students.
2. For the Student's Union to install condom dispensers (male and female) in the toilets in Union House (male, female and gender neutral). These must be at an accessible height for wheelchair users.
3. For Advice SU to offer confidential and free 'Sexual Health' workshops with students and relevant societies (e.g. Sexpression)
4. For the Student Union to support Sexpression in their outreach work and collaborate with them on future events encouraging the discussion of safe sex and sexual health.