

Jade, Laura, Lyndsey, Jenny

Do you believe that the government should try to help with making this country more integrated or just leave it the way it is and try to keep sectarianism to a minimum?

We think ~~we~~ it should be left alone and keep sectarianism to a minimum.
If the government change it there will be a high increase in violence.

Should we encourage more mixed estates like Protestants and Catholics in one estate mixed together? If so how?

NO, Protestants and Catholics should not be mixed as there will be violence around the area and a lot more rivalry and conflict.

Should we encourage more mixed education? If so how?

We think they should mix education starting at a young age as they will adapt to it more easily and as they get older they will accept the difference.

Do you believe that the government should try to help with making this country more integrated or just leave it the way it is and try to keep sectarianism to a minimum?

Yes, because we are all people.
because we should all get on
it shouldn't matter if we are Catholic or protestant.

Should we encourage more mixed estates like Protestants and Catholics in one estate mixed together? If so how?

yes + no it all depends on what
family life is like

Should we encourage more mixed education? If so how?

yes, but start from a young
age as the children would
see nothing wrong.

● **Should there be an end to discrimination towards different communities like Catholics and Protestants?**

yes, because its not right we are all peop

What sort of Northern Ireland would you like to live in? – divided or shared?

divided, it would stop the violence a bit + calm everything down.

○ **How could we improve the relationship between the 2 communities?**

Join the two communities together gradually so we can all work together

Should there be an end to discrimination against the two communities? How?

there should be an end to discrimination against the two countries but it can't be done. Its the way of life. If it could be stopped then it should be.

A Shared Future

Policy Aims

Q1 Do you agree that the overall aim for policy must be for a more shared and pluralist society?

For example

Should we accept existing segregation and division and focus on stabilising and managing conflict?

or

should we try to promote more rapid progress towards a more integrated and shared society?

Supplementary question

What is your vision for NI in twenty five years?



Tell us what you think

Q1

The existing segregation and division has to be recognised and we have to strive for stability and to have conflict under control before progress can be made.

We want children to accept who they are and that others are different but that difference can be seen as positive not negative. We promote tolerance and respect for each other's culture and traditions and encourage the children to see each other as individuals irrespective of the "labels" we all wear.

No matter how much we work at grass roots level there has to be a lead at government level. How can ordinary people be expected to move towards a more integrated shared society when their political leaders cannot even work together.

In 25 years' time there is every chance that this 'tribal' situation will still be with us but it is how it is worked with that will matter.

WHAT WOULD A SHARED FUTURE LOOK LIKE?

Now that you have had a chance to read through the fact sheets, below is a list of questions you may like to consider before filling in the reply form. You do not have to answer all the questions, they are just to get you thinking: -

- From your experience living in Northern Ireland what is 'shared' and what is not? You may want to think of things like schools, youth clubs, housing, bus routes.
- Not everyone wants to live in a 'shared' society. How do you feel about this? What fears might people have about a shared society?
- What could be put in place to address these fears?
- What type of society would you like to live in? How could this be achieved? You may want to consider the role of schools, churches, politicians, voluntary and community groups.
- Complete the following sentence. A shared future for me is

a place where my identity is unique yet accepted in my society.

So you have decided what a shared future will look like. Who do you think should take this forward, government or an independent body?

Do you think young people should continue to be involved in the policy as it is developed? How could this happen?

1978

REPLY SHEET

We want to know what YOU think!

This is your chance to influence government policy – so remember whether it's one sentence or more, we want to know YOUR views!

Remember ALL replies received will be read by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister.

The problem with affecting the differing communities of Northern Ireland is, is that you cannot affect a community in such a way, as you can only directly affect the views of the individual. Therefore this creates the problem that not every individual can be affected by the policies that the government wants to introduce. Also the views and opinions of the individual are altered within these community where a majority amount of there time is spent.

Therefore the introduction of community classes teaches paving the way for a shared society must become part of

A SHARED FUTURE

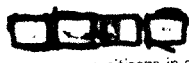
the curriculum from an early age within the school system, it must be introduced to older members of ~~society~~ differing communities through churches, community centres, through the ~~Penal~~ Penal system, Job centres, Post offices and also anyone applying for a licence to ^{who} own a place of business must also take these classes. This should be a long term system. All ^{individuals} members within our society will need to be acquainted with these things in large doses over long periods of time.

Return your reply sheet to:

~~Room A 5.10~~
Room A 5.10
Castle Buildings
BELFAST
BT4 3SR
Email stephen.hill@ofmdfmi.gov.uk

OFMDFMI
2007 017 60
0946 0000 0000

This pack was produced by young volunteers from:


young citizens in action
Partnership with the Department of Education
and Skills

