



HANSARD  
SOCIETY

**HeadsUp** Forum

[www.headsup.org.uk](http://www.headsup.org.uk)

'Big brother... Should we have to carry ID cards?'  
(February 21st - March 11th 2005)

A platform providing students with a secure and structured space to discuss their perspectives of identity cards and the Identity Cards Bill.

'Big brother... Should we have to carry ID cards?' was an online debate for young people focussing on proposals for a UK-wide identity cards scheme. This HeadsUp discussion took place in parallel to scrutiny of the Identity Cards Bill taking place in Parliament.

The present identity cards scheme was introduced by the Government following the September 11th terrorist attacks in New York. Having run a series of public consultations, the Home Office put together a Bill proposing a scheme of non-compulsory biometric ID cards. That Bill is now in front of Parliament, where it has passed through the House of Commons and is currently before the Lords.

This HeadsUp Forum was organised to provide young people with an opportunity to express their support or opposition to the proposals. Do young people in the UK think ID cards are yet another attempt by the 'Big Brother' state to close in on our private lives and civil rights? Or are young people glad that steps are being taken to confront new and dangerous challenges facing 21st century Britain?

The objective of the HeadsUp project is not only to facilitate peer-to-peer deliberation on topical political issues, policies or events but to also provide students with a means of informing themselves about the topic. As with every Forum, 'Big brother...' was supported by detailed, student-centred background notes that included a 'plain-English' breakdown of the ID Cards Bill, an overview of ID cards in other countries and a summary of existing arguments FOR and AGAINST identity cards.

The debate involved students from 6 schools around England, aged between 11 and 17 years old. A number of students had participated in previous Forums but the rest took part for the first time and benefited from orientation by their more experienced peers. Every school made multiple visits over the duration of the debate and the number of student posts totalled 220.

---

This report summarises the debate that took place and includes key posts from students (transcripts are provided at the end). The Forum participants and the Hansard Society would like to invite interested parties, particularly parliamentarians and government, to respond to the findings and utilise them to inform future decision-making.

---

*Please note... It has been the practice in previous HeadsUp Forum reports to accompany highlighted posts with the names of their authors. However, in this Forum some schools chose not to register students as individuals, rather students posted under their teacher's name. As we have been unable to individually credit some posts, we have taken the decision not to credit any. Posts are available in their entirety and in sequence in the forum transcripts.*

**'Big brother... Should we have to carry ID cards?'**

**Summary Report + Conclusions**

Identity cards have been proposed on a number of occasions throughout modern British history. During the Second World War they became a reality for the purposes of administration of the rationing effort. That ID card scheme was eventually phased out in the early Fifties as Britain returned to peace-time normalcy.

During the latter half of the Twentieth Century, ID cards came to be regarded as an aberration of life amid times of war or ongoing national emergency. They were not considered appropriate outside of those conditions and any proposals for identity cards became a topic of controversy.

Now in 2005, the Home Office believes conditions have changed and that the challenges of terrorism, illegal immigration and identity fraud have made identity cards a necessity of modern British life. The Government, therefore, has asked Parliament to pass its Identity Cards Bill - legislation that would create a UK-wide identity cards scheme and an electronic register to hold the details.

The Bill proposes a significant change to the lives of British citizens and as a result has stimulated a great deal of debate about the pros and cons of introducing identity cards as an aspect of everyday life. This debate was particularly pronounced amongst a group of young citizens taking part in this HeadsUp Forum.

---

One of the key arguments for ID cards is that they will help protect the UK against terrorism. The Home Office argued that identity cards would disrupt terrorist activity by making it impossible to use multiple or fake identities. For some students this 'terrorist deterrent' qualification was enough to win their support:

**"The government only wants I.D. cards 2 stop terrorism n dat the cost of another 9/11 could cost us a lot more"**

However, other students were not so convinced by the link between ID cards and a reduction in terrorist activity:

**"I read somewhere that it would help stop teroists. Wots dat all about, thee not exactly gona put there real identity on it wid out geting a fake one made, the government need to sort this out."**

In arguing that the 'significance' ID cards would have on anti-terrorism efforts, some students questioned the public's understanding of the 'terrorist threat' and assumptions that all terrorists were from outside of the UK:

**"not all terrorists are going to be forien some will be british citizens too, and will have Id cards"**

Another key argument in support of identity cards is their potential application in tackling illegal immigration. It is argued that people without ID cards would be unable to demonstrate the right to live in the UK or gain access to benefits and public services.

Using ID cards to help in processing applicants was also picked up on by some students:

**"they will help show up illegal workers - and this is not just bad for illegal workers as many of them are exploited to work in dangerous conditions and unperpaid jobs."**

Yet, despite widely agreeing that illegal immigration was an issue that must be addressed, the students believed that the expectation placed on ID cards to make an effective contribution was misguided:

**"illegal immigrants only get to dis country by buyin fake passports all del do 2 get in wiv I.D. cards is buy dem off d black market"**

Overall, little time was spent in the Forum discussing the potential of identity cards to reduce either the threat of terrorism or the problem of illegal immigration. Instead the participants were more eager to discuss how 'everyday life' would be impacted by the mass introduction of ID cards.

---

Some students were confused about the need for ID cards when a number of forms of identification already existed:

**"students already have ID cards, then we hardly need a whole new system. Pensioners have cards (I think) and most adults have passports or driving licences."**

A number of young people expressed their surprise that conditions had deteriorated to extent where identity cards were seen as a necessary addition to life in Britain:

**"with all the 'ideas' the government have at the moment what are they going to introduce next. Maybe they could chip us all with our name and address so if we get lost we can be returned to our owners HA!"**

From a practical perspective there was concern that an ID card would become just another 'life accessory' to have to remember and, of course, misplace:

**"How many people are actually going to remember to take their ID cards everywhere they go? How many people are going to lose their ID cards?"**

The ID cards that are being proposed in the Identity Cards Bill are intended to be the principal form of identification used in the UK, and fears of mislaying the card were amplified by this potential ubiquity. Participants worried that if this was a card that could not only access anything but, in turn, was needed to access everything, then misuse of this card in the hands of criminals could have far-reaching consequences for the owner and wider society:

**"even though they are supposed to be "Copy proof" it will be hard for the government to stop people. People could easily steal your identity."**

The Identity Cards Bill proposes an ID card with an embedded microchip for storing biometric data (retinal scans, finger prints and feature mapping). The Government explains that in terms of security, this measure will make all other forms of identification superfluous.

The plan to incorporate information about physical characteristics unique to the owner was, for many, the single most consistent argument in favour of the identity cards scheme:

**"The ID cards would be made using your retinal scan, unless it was someone very close to you who could get your fingerprints it would be impossible for criminals to get hold of them without pulling out your eyes and chopping off your fingers."**

Convinced by the card's security credentials, some participants went on to speculate over the benefits of storing an even wider range of personal information than was being proposed in the actual Bill. Students suggested a broad array of applications, including storage of medical, criminal record or even bank details. Booking holidays, proving minimum age, taking out money and travelling by public transport, were all put forward as potential uses for a technologically-enabled identity card.

For others, however, the information being held on the card that was supposed to make it secure against theft, was the very same information that was so valuable to terrorists and fraudsters. These students were concerned that expectation of new biometric technology was over-inflated and questioned confidence in security assurances:

**"One pro-argument is that these cards would be near-impossible to forge, as you would need to be able to get a similar microchip and be able to enter information into it. This might be true, but plenty of things**

have been supposedly 'impossible' to accomplish, but have been done. This whole biometrics project is not only expensive and an invasion of privacy, it's also a new technology and could have unknown faults and loop-holes."

Debate about the type and amount of information that should be held on an ID card, eventually came out in favour of limiting the information:

"I think that an ID card system would work but there should only be certain information on it, e.g. name, D.O.B and country of origin."

In a similar vein, the issue of who exactly would be allowed to access the data held on the ID cards and their central database was raised by some participants. It was expected that the Government should be able to access the data; the police and hospitals were also thought to have important, legitimate reason to view the 'identity database'.

As for those who they felt should not have access to personal details, the students singled-out the rights of the commercial sector as being of some concern:

"Who gets database access... companies would be able to access someone's information, which is definitely out of order. I think even government agencies shouldn't have access to a database like that. A medical records database is a good idea, an ID card database with all of your life information is a bad idea."

---

So, had the debate narrowed in on an aspect of Identity cards that made them too radical to contemplate? Was the issue of privacy of such a concern to the students that it would make them contemplate scrapping the entire scheme?

Again there seemed to be little consensus on the matter. Some students took the view that so long as you were a law-abiding citizen, then there was little to fear from the roll-out of identity cards:

"I have nothing against the idea of ID cards. It is not really an invasion of privacy as, unless you are committing a crime, the police are not interested in your records. I believe it is scare mongering to call the idea "big-brother" although i understand why the forum has been called such. I agree ID cards could be the way forward"

The current Identity Cards Bill does not contain legislation to make the proposed scheme compulsory, and there was very little focus on the prospect during the debate. However, a good number of students were concerned about what ID cards would mean for privacy and the integrity of human rights:

**"I think privacy is really important. I wouldn't want other people looking at my stuff and there are somethings i wouldn't want anyone to know."**

Ultimately, the one argument 'for' or 'against' ID cards that united the participants to one degree or another, centred on the costs involved. Most forms of ID currently being used in Britain have some cost-to-the-citizen involved in the application, issuing or renewal process. Yet, the students were not impressed by the prospect of having to pay to get an ID card:

**"I think that the cost needs to be lowered in order for people to support it. If the cost was lowered then I believe that more would be interested and it would be a good idea. ID cards have many benefits but we have lived without them for years, could they cause more problems than they are worth?"**

Families and those on low-incomes were cited as being especially likely to see identity cards as an unwelcome addition to household outgoings:

**"Many people today, wouldn't actually be able to afford ID cards, especially not those who are living on benefits, or have a very large family. It is just another expense for people to fork out on, and the money could mean a lot to certain people."**

Arguments not only concentrated on the potential costs to the individual and families. The initial set up costs for the Government were also felt to be prohibitive. Some students argued that the money was better spent elsewhere:

**"it will cost the government... £6 BILLION. That could be spent on things like education, NHS, police ect. which the country needs to develop."**

The Home Office has acknowledged that high levels of investment will be required to launch the scheme but counter by highlighting the money that would be saved by the prevention of identity fraud. During the HeadsUp debate, a Which? magazine investigation into identity fraud published its findings, reporting that 1 in 4 British adults had personal experience of ID fraud. The national media picked up on the story, yet many students remained unconvinced:

**"Instead of punishing the whole community by making them carry intrusive ID cards, they can educate the public about how to keep their details safe, and to shred/burn any private information (bank statements etc.) instead of just throwing them away."**

In thinking about causes that had more 'rightful claim' to the money proposed for ID cards, a number of young people looked abroad, inspired by recent disasters and the humanitarian efforts that followed:

**"I think there are so many better causes that this money could be used for, like helping Tsunami victims or Hungry sufferers in Africa."**

---

In conclusion, the case for or against identity cards was unproven in this HeadsUp Forum. Participants engaged in deliberation and mulled over a number of issues relating to the Government's proposed ID card scheme.

This Forum was marked by the frequency with which the young people faltered between support and opposition for the scheme over the course of the debate. Each new piece of evidence or argument seemed to force the students to reassess their opinions.

Evidently, from a young person's perspective there exist a number of convincing arguments about the need for ID cards but also a good many arguments against their introduction. This would suggest that more should be done to justify the scheme and explain its relevance to young people in terms of its impact on their immediate lives and the wider context in which they live.

Prepared by  
**Ross Ferguson,**  
New Media Manager, Hansard Society

March 2005

**'Big brother... Should we have to carry ID cards?'**

**Forum Transcripts**

*Please note: This transcript includes even those posts that were submitted but not published because they contravened the Forum terms and conditions.*

21/02/2005 09:55:00

chilli

Getting started...

The Government has asked Parliament to pass its plans for a new ID card system. The Bill is currently before the House of Lords...

This topic space is all about voicing your support or opposition to the ID cards.

Do you think they'll make the UK a safer place and ensure that only the right people have access to public services?

Or do you think it's keeping personal information on millions of people is a threat to civil rights? And what about the cost of the scheme?

There are lots of different arguments and this space is about sharing yours...

21/02/2005 10:20:00

eranny70

ID Cards are a bad idea

I think the ID cards scheme is a stupid idea, and it'd make life for immigrants and refugees impossible. It would also intrude on people's private life, because you would have to notify them if you're getting a tattoo, a piercing or anything else like that. And the possibility that non-government organisations would be able to have access to this database is scary. In some countries, ID cards work, but their systems are completely different, mostly non-compulsory, and places where it is compulsory (ie. Israel) are usually in the middle of a war. Britain does not need ID cards. If you want to solve a problem, you don't always have to go to the very beginning of it. If you want to stop terrorists (one of the pro-ID arguments), you don't attack a country they could have come from, you find the terrorists, and you arrest them. This scheme is just a way for the government to be able to follow our every move. If this thing has to happen, then they need to scrap the biometrics rubbish, and the database containing ANY information on ANYONE should only be accessible to high-level police investigations and hospitals.

21/02/2005 13:32:00

flower

ID cards BAD IDEA

I personally think that ID cards are bad ideas this is because even though police departments and hospitals need that info on everyone personally they get by without all the ID cards and probably will get by without them. Also refugees are sent here for a reason and they would be sent back to where they came from where in some cases would be really hard for them to do and could be stopped if we don't have ID cards.

21/02/2005 17:07:00

eranny70

Re: ID Cards a Bad Idea

Refugees aren't sent anywhere, they escape, to seek refuge. If they get sent here, they are (usually) castaways, and if they get rescued by us, they are evacuees.

As for the police and hospitals, I don't think the police should have access as much as hospitals should. If someone has an allergy or condition to something (eg. penicillin), and they have a car accident and get an infection from a wound, the doctors need to know that they're allergic to penicillin. Some people carry bracelets saying they are allergic to something, but most people don't want to wear things like that. But you don't need ID cards for a medical database. It would just

make it easier if all of John Smith's medical records and medical history were on an international database(which they're not, in the UK anyway), so a doctor could check on him. The police have one with criminal records. But again, you don't need ID cards for that, you just need to set up an organisation to manage the database and make sure people carry their names on them.

21/02/2005 17:14:00

littles

Undecided

My view is undecided although I do linger towards accepting ID cards.

For:

Easy way set up bank accounts ect.

If in trouble, eg. unconcious or in trouble, the ID card will provide information to people as to who you are, medical history ect.

Sorts out criminals, illegal immigrants ect.

Against:

Fakes and forgerys will be made

Invasion of privacy??

littles

21/02/2005 18:56:00

eranny70

Re: Undecided

There are plenty of ways to set up a bank account. You can show a passport(most Britons have passports, probably the same amount of people who would get ID cards) or driving licence. All you need to do is prove your identity. Like I already said, you don't need ID cards with every bit of information on it if you have an accident and the doctors need to know something. Plenty of countries (Israel has one) have a national database of everyone's medical files so all a person would have to do is carry proof of identity with them. Even a picture of themselves with their full name and/or address on the back. ID cards won't help the immigration/refugee situation, they would only complicate it more. One pro-argument is that these cards would be near-impossible to forge, as you would need to be able to get a similar microchip and be able to enter information into it. This might be true, but plenty of things have been supposedly 'impossible' to accomplish, but have been done.

This whole biometrics project is not only expensive and an invasion of privacy, it's also a new technology and could have unknown faults and loop-holes. Hope that's helped make up your mind, sorry if it sounded a bit aggressive :P

Eran

22/02/2005 13:42:00

chilli

Situation at the moment

From the point of view of young people, like you and your friends, are you often asked for ID? In what sorts of situations? Or is it a rare occurrence?

And then what about adults who you know, how often do you think they get asked to produce ID?

The question being - on a day-to-day basis just how useful is a UK-wide ID card scheme going to be?

22/02/2005 16:16:00

eranny70

Use Of ID Cards

The only times I'd get asked for ID is when I'm going to a band gig that's in a club or pub, but most of the time you can go in with older friends. I think young people only need ID to get fags or alcohol. But as a pro-ID argument it would be pretty weak, because most places young people go to get alcohol or fags don't ask for ID anyway.

22/02/2005 17:54:00

littles

Cinema's

in cinema's people get asked for ID all the time- I personally know people who have and it's quite frustrating-cinema's can't expect us to carry around identification like passports all the time-what other options are there? I can't help but think it would help to have ID cards.

Eranny- if ID cards were made compulsory everyone would have to have one (a small minority without) that would be more than who already have pasports for example I only got passport a couple of years ago, because I live on a smallholding it was hard for us to get a chance at leaving

the country, so there wasn't much point in getting one.

**22/02/2005 17:58:00**

**ellies**

**limit of information**

i think that ID cards would be useful for students - there is already a student ID card system so young people can prove their age. I think that an ID card system would work but there should only be certain information on it, e.g. name, D.O.B and country of origin. Maybe, for the terrorist point of view or criminals, the criminal record should be shown. I think this would be enough information for the government to monitor the country.

**22/02/2005 23:21:00**

**eranny70**

**Reply to Littles and Ellies**

Littles: I think making any type of ID card system for problems like getting into cinema would be extremely petty. I think minors should be allowed into all movies, except blue movies, and that if kids are responsible enough to go to the cinema alone, then they're responsible enough to decide what movies they want to watch.

And I think that the ID card system would only be compulsory from the age of 16/18, so it does not really matter.

Ellies: As students already have ID cards (which only state their age, name and address), then we hardly need a whole new system. Pensioners have cards (I think) and most adults have passports or driving licences.

It would be horrible to put someone's country of origin on an ID card, and just as bad to show that they have a criminal record. It would make it even more difficult than it is now for ex-convicts to get a job or a home etc. if people knew they were ex-cons. So many people believe that 'once a criminal always a criminal' applies to everyone. The government can monitor the country as it is, and they're doing an alright job of it, though it could be better.

There's a line between law-enforcement and invasion of privacy, and thankfully not a lot of countries have crossed that line.

**23/02/2005 12:25:00**

**Huckleberry8**

**I reckon its just like minority port!**

its gona be like wel bad, people will try an change dere id cards mate an dat will not be cool. I could get acused ofa robbery dat i aint done and noone wuld believe me! reply wid yor opinions cus i fink we r all entitled to our privacy  
Keep it real! wicked

**23/02/2005 12:33:00**

**squirt**

**to huckleberry 8**

i totally agree wiv u mate coz if have id cards then ne1 can chav dem u know wot i mean!!!!!!!!!!

**23/02/2005 12:34:00**

**Happyjeans14**

**The ID cards could be ok**

I think the ID cards are an ok idea. I dont think our details being on a card is a problem but no-one should have to pay, if the government wants us to carry the cards then they should pay. I think they cost £80 which is a joke. I can't afford that, and if parents had to pay that could get really expensive for a family. I can see lots of good points to the cards, like cutting down on crime etc. But we shouldn't be expected to pay!

**23/02/2005 12:34:00**

**Huckleberry8**

**I agree wid da cinema**

I go to da cinema wid ma mates most weekends, its quite fun! but now wid dese id cards its jus gona bring problems, it will slow down da ques (duno how to spell but you know wot i mean) an I may even miss the film, Im real hopin dey dnt get dem cus dere jus gona be problem causes not solver them, I read somewhere that it would help stop terrorists. Wots dat all about, thee not exactly gona put there real identity on it wid out geting a fake one made, the government need to sort this out.

23/02/2005 12:36:00

princess  
ello

well, to be honest, i think it's a stupid idea. Who wants to pay £80 quid for a piece of laminated card. All it is is another thing to forget and loose. It is hard enough to remember everything when you are going out now, but to have to keep taking a useless piece of card with you all the time will just be really awkward. I also don't like the idea of having all of your personal details on record. Some people find their details really personal, and i think it would be unfair to make them put them on record. I think there are so many better causes that this money could be used for, like helping Tsunami victims of Hungry sufferers in Africa

23/02/2005 12:37:00

Huckleberry8

Squirt I like your thinking!

good im glad you agree wid me i fink we all need to here sum of yor points.  
The government is corrupt!

23/02/2005 12:37:00

chilli

Cash Issues

The Government is interested in seeing the ID cards become compulsory by 2013.  
Most of you will be adults by then and may look at the world differntly. Do you think the cards should be compulsory or voluntary?

23/02/2005 12:38:00

whalegirl

whalegirls in tha house

I think it is a rubbish idea because it is such a waste of money. things are fine how they are at the moment. what happens if people lose thier cards, or someone steals it?? it will just introduce more problems.

23/02/2005 12:42:00

princess

who's lstening

who really wants to have to carry a pice of card with them every where you go. Everytime you change your clothes, bag or purse, you have to transfer the card. And what if you loose it. Are you going to have to pay another £80 for a new one. That's stupid. Especially for little children, who can't be expected to carry a card around with them all the time. It just wouldn't work. At the end of the day, it's just a stupid idea, and i think wolly would agree with me.

23/02/2005 12:43:00

squirt

whale girl

i reckon we should rebel against our gov there just tryin to con us so we should protest then they will listen 2 us ne agree wiv me?

23/02/2005 12:43:00

princess

i agree

i agree with u totally walegirl. You rock

23/02/2005 12:43:00

Huckleberry8

Chili i think you got a point but...

I still think £80 is a bit extreme, and are u sugesting when im an adult i wont go to da cinema. I kno many adults that have similar views with queing problems

23/02/2005 12:44:00

Happyjeans14

my opinion

Yeah the money would be much better spent on helping people, If they want to do the cards, which i dont think they really should then what is the point in making them voluntary (dont no how 2 spell!) no one will use them and that would just b a waste of tax money!

23/02/2005 12:46:00

chilli

The Daddy of ID

So, there seems to be quite a bit of opposition to the prospect of ID cards.

It seems people are happy with the situation as it is at the moment.

As it stands we have to be able to prove our identity when asked to.

The government is concerned that there are too many ways of people either not proving their identity or faking it.

Question... what do you reckon is the most trustworthy form of ID you can produce?

23/02/2005 12:55:00

princess

what do u think

i seriously think that our government needs to stop wasting all of our money, and use it for something necessary and worth while. it is us that pays all of the taxes, so let us decide what we use it for. who is with me?

23/02/2005 12:58:00

princess

to happy jeans

i agree with your thinking. no- one is going to want a card, so wat's the point

23/02/2005 13:04:00

princess

to be honest

whatever the government do, with respect to the cards or any other form of identity scanning, people and teenagers are going to find some way to get around the system and make fake cards or use other peoples cards, so the excuse of using the cards to stop faking is not a valid excuse in my opinion. I think having the cards, wouldd cause more faking and many more problems. Kids might try to steal someone elses cars to use as ID to make them look older. It will just make todays situation worse

23/02/2005 13:06:00

princess

gambling

i personally feel that if something is fine as it is, what is the point in changing it. It would just be an unnecessary gamble, and i thought politicians were against gambling.

23/02/2005 13:09:00

axle

I think I.D. cards are good

The government only wants I.D. cards 2 stop terrorism n dat the cost of another 9/11 could cost us a lot more, it could also help wiv age n dat 4 alchohol n ciggirets but I don't fink people under d age of 15 should have dem cause u can't pay a fine n u r more likely 2 lose dem

23/02/2005 13:15:00

axle

2 princess

i fink u r rite bout teenagers tryin 2 fake dem but it would be much worse 2 have terrorists n identity fraud in a few years i fink it could b a lot worse n there is no point if dere not compulsory

23/02/2005 13:23:00

gruff

Evidence

Remember if you are going to make a statement you need to back it up with evidence, facts and figures. Check out the information in the Backup section.

23/02/2005 14:18:00

5thelephant

Good idea?

I have nothing against the idea of ID cards. It is not really an invasion of privacy as, unless you are committing a crime, the police are not interested in your records. I believe it is scare mongering to call the idea "big-brother" although i understand why the forum has been called such. I agree ID cards could be the way forward for some technologies and make stuff like opening a bank account easier. I also agree with the argument that it is a big advantage for hospitals who need to identify victims of illness/accidents for allergies etc.

BUT

they are not worth the money that will need to be spent and this money can be spent elsewhere to better affect

23/02/2005 14:22:00

niknak73

Id cards

I think id cards are very useful because how else do you identify people. We should have fingerprint id.

23/02/2005 14:23:00

niknak73

Id cards

yes i fink you are right

23/02/2005 14:25:00

niknak73

id cards

the id cards are a bad idea

23/02/2005 14:26:00

tellytubby

id for

i do believe that id cards are good, i beleive this because im over opiniated, the only bad thing is that chavs could rob you and use it for them selves

23/02/2005 14:29:00

tellytubby

like you know

id cards are cool, because people can be put into prison easily

23/02/2005 14:30:00

biged

prison

How would id cards help to put people in prison? Isn't putting people in prison about their established guilt through a court of law, not about identity?

23/02/2005 14:31:00

tellytubby

like you know

id cards are cool, because people can be put into prison easily. and its good that asilam seekers wont be able to come in because there isnt enough space in our country

23/02/2005 14:35:00

tellytubby

biged is wroung

of course it can help because you will know who are asilam seekers

23/02/2005 14:35:00

niknak73

biged

id does help people be put in prison!!!



23/02/2005 15:07:00

5thelephant

nik nak

you are totally wrong tomato soup alone has 20g of fat and is considered by leading scientists to be one of the most fatty foods of this century.

I think that you are wrong to delude people such and that you should be shot.

23/02/2005 15:52:00

gruff

Cost Control

There have been some good points made about the costs involved in the ID card scheme. A good few of these points have been concerned about the ID cards costing too much.

For instance, it might cost up to £80 to get an ID card but then the UK loses £,300,000,000 a year as a result of identity fraud. So, if the cards are going to stop the fraud are they not worth the cost? Here's a question...

If there was no cost involved for the individual member of the public, would that justify the card scheme in your opinion?

23/02/2005 17:09:00

littles

When discussed in parliament...

When discussed in parliament, a lot of parliamentarians believe ID cards to be a cure-all for problems such as illegal immigrants and benefit fraud.

It would be extremely difficult to forge, as it has a microchip, and many advanced mechanisms to keep it safe.

However the price does seem a bit outrageous, for an average family of 5 it would cost... £400.

Ouch. Lots of families simply cannot afford that price. Also, it will cost the government... £6 BILLION. That could be spent on things like education, NHS, police ect. which the country needs to develop.

littles

23/02/2005 17:14:00

littles

niknak73

A little way back (on page 8) you said we should have fingerprint ID. On the new cards there is fingerprints and retina scan (that's according to my teacher.) So you will have that tied in to the card. Some people don't like having fingerprints and retina scans taken, and that's another downfall of the card.

23/02/2005 17:19:00

littles

Criminals

I think if you've something wrong you should have to live with that. If you are an ex-criminal, interviewers for jobs, police and others will want to know. Anyway, if it has a date people will take notice for that.

Plus, for example, wouldn't you want to know if your new babysitter was recently a pervert or your housesitter a thief??

23/02/2005 17:24:00

littles

Gruff

My view would definitely be changed if the cost was left. I have nothing to hide, and so I would have nothing wrong with the card.

After all the £80 fee is a little daunting.

23/02/2005 18:31:00

ellies

nothing to hide...

if you have nothing to hide, then I don't see the problem with identity cards. However, even though criminal records would be useful on ID cards, in a lesson today I was told that they could have bank details and loans and things like that on them. Surely that should not be available for everyone to access?? I think that I still stick with my point that ID cards are a good idea IF THERE IS A LIMIT

OF INFORMATION. people should have some privacy.

23/02/2005 19:10:00

harmony

can justification be found in chan

In response to a previous point, I think that if there was no cost to the ID cards the concept would be met with considerably less opposition. Although ID cards have their advantages, most people will see them as unnecessary and an invasion into their privacy. The majority of the public appreciate the government's need to know certain information about them, however this approach of making ID cards compulsory may be deemed as too intrusive and unwarranted. Whereas if they were free, people may be more inclined to accept this policy. After all, why should the public be forced to pay for a measure which will benefit the government more than it will ever benefit the public itself?

23/02/2005 19:20:00

harmony

justifying the cost

In response to a previous point, I think that if the cost of the ID card was changed, then this policy would be met with considerably less opposition. Although the ID cards have their advantages, most people would regard them as unnecessary and an invasion of their privacy. The majority of the public appreciate the government's need to know certain facts about them, however this concept may be deemed as too intrusive and unwarranted. If the ID cards were free then people would find it easy to accept. After all, why should the public be forced to pay for this measure when it will benefit the government more than it will ever benefit the public themselves?

23/02/2005 19:48:00

axle

To littles

if we r goin 2 have I.D. cards den we r goin' 2 have 2 pay 4 dem either directly or thru taxes do u fink it would cost more money thru I.D. cards or terrorism n' future crime

23/02/2005 19:59:00

axle

a compromise?

i fink I.D. cards r a good idea the cost of crime in d U.K. is 60 bill a year (found it on BBC website) if I.D. cards could cut crime by over 10 pcnt den we could of made an improvement n i fink I.D. cards could cut crime by at least a qter specialy identity fraud d biggest growin crime

23/02/2005 20:05:00

axle

my compromise

i think people should be allowed 2 leave out details like financial situations n' criminal record cause den wen ever someone would look at u dey would automatically brand u as a thug or as being posh some fings would make people only c d outside of a person n dat isn't dat wat I.D. cards r tryin 2 stop in d first place tryin 2 give u a better look at a person

23/02/2005 20:14:00

axle

littles

good point on d pervert thing mayb we should have details like dat put on a card for a wile after d person is convicted say 4 2-3years if dey do nofink else so peopl r aware of dat but dey still av a chance 2 go straight otherys dey end up on d streets or commit suicide

23/02/2005 22:44:00

eranny70

Terrorism And Immigration

ID cards would NOT help prevent terrorism. Just as invading Afghanistan and Iraq didn't help stop terrorism, and just as invading Syria and Iran won't help stop terrorism. The way to stop terrorism isn't by force. We caused terrorism, we have to take responsibility, and we have to correct the mistakes we made.

As for the immigrant/refugee problem, this ID system would only complicate it. Here's how: Take 1000 new immigrants every day, cause chaos by presuming they are all terrorists, add humiliation and police brutality, and throw a complicated new ID card scheme with unreliable

technology into the mix...BOOM!  
To summarize, ID cards bad, compassion and patience good.

23/02/2005 23:02:00

eranny70

Re: tellytubby

Just a bit of constructive criticism:

Tellytubby, that is the biggest load of general racism I have heard since the BNP released their party broadcast. Asylum seekers do more for the community than you think. There are more British people of working age not working than migrants and refugees not working. I think what you need to do is go out and meet new immigrants and refugees and then see what you think.

23/02/2005 23:22:00

eranny70

Nothing to hide?

So one day, little, if you decide to get a tattoo on your back, or anywhere on your body, or even a piercing, you would not mind if the government, police, hospitals and "various third parties" knew about it? If this database would be accessible to both the police and to hospitals, and also updated all the time, then that would mean it would have to be on some sort of network, and for it to be available to "various third parties", that would have to be the internet, wouldn't it? Unless the government wants to spend another few billion pounds just to set up a country-wide network connected to every hospital, surgery, police station, dentist and plastic surgeon's in the whole of the Channel Isles. But I don't think they'd go to all that effort. They'll just stick it on the net with some expensive security system and hope it'll stay safe. But of course it won't stay safe. No information is safe on the internet. I know at least two people who could, with some work and research, hack into the NHS's records. And it's only getting easier to do it. Someone said earlier that it's scare-mongering to call it 'Big Brother-like'. Every scheme starts with something seemingly harmless, or even something too good to be true. Stalin promised Russia equal food and equal rights for everyone. So did Mao to China. If this thing happens, and if it does become compulsory by 2013, then I guarantee it that by 2020, the number of CCTV's in the country would double, maybe even triple. the greatest achievement of power is control over a population. And it's not as hard to achieve that (even in a Democracy) as you would think.

If I still haven't convinced you, then I suggest some literature: Howard Zinn, Paul Krugman, Noam Chomsky, and of course, Michael Moore. Some interesting films are The Revolution Will Not Be Televised, The Corporation, Jenin Jenin, The Big One, Roger & Me and all the other Michael Moore films.

Heads And Teachers: Sorry about the advertising, but they're all very educational :)

-Eran

24/02/2005 12:57:00

axle

ERRANYS

i know loads of imigrants I go 2 london evry oder weekend n dere not bad people but some1 should stick up 4 d people of dis country dis is r country n we shouldn't ave 2 take dem in I fink we should just rite off debt anyfing wich could stop ilegal imigrants is a good idea

24/02/2005 13:02:00

axle

terrorism

I.D cards could stop a large amount of terrorism cause dey couldn't get in 2 dis country or on a plane or any of dat terrorism isn't cause of us it's cause of some blokes in iraq who want 2 get rich n get lots of power

24/02/2005 13:08:00

axle

Wats rong wiv CCTV

wen my parents visited new york dey was 2 scared 2 get out d car cause of all d thugs n dat n singapore tho they thort it was gr8 cause it was really safe n' evry1 was a lot kinder i fink dis was cause d people lived in a country wher d rules wer alot better inforst

24/02/2005 13:24:00

chilli

## Biometrics

The proposed ID cards will be like no other ID before because they will contain information about a person's physical features - the fancy word is 'biometrics'.

So what do you think about this?

Is it okay to gather information about people that includes fingerprints, face shape and details about their eyes? Which could mean that the cards were pretty much impossible to fake?

Or is this an invasion of an individual's privacy? Is collecting biometric information on millions of people a step too far in the fight against terrorism and illegal immigration?

24/02/2005 14:12:00

tellytubby

eranny

i am not racist i just think that there is not enough room for them to come in at the moment. anyway my family are russian immigrants so i know that immigrants arent bad.

24/02/2005 14:14:00

Ellenv

fingerprints

i think, theoretically the finger prints idea would be a good idea so that people could be sure of the identity of people but i dont know how it would work if it was actually introduced

24/02/2005 14:15:00

niknak73

littles

i can see why people dont want fingerprints and retina but they might have too.

24/02/2005 14:19:00

5thelephant

re:eran

the people who are implementing this system could be trying to turn us into a controlled big brother nation. Yes, Tony Blair could be trying to control us but this scheme is not revolutionary. we are not the first country. france have identity cards... admitadly they do not use biometrics. What are wrong with CCTV? yes you can be watched but who wants to watch you? CCTV can be the only evidence that someone committed a crime. i suppose I could be falling into a complicated trap set by the labour party but I for one do not believe that. Am i being Naive?  
5thelephant

24/02/2005 14:20:00

lozop

Tellytubby

You're a racist idiot

everyone loves asylum seekers. They're really cool

24/02/2005 14:21:00

simplicity

ID cards - good and bad

i beleive id cards are good and bad. I think that the ID card is good because it can crack down on crime etc. but i would rather not be constantly looked over. This is just a personal opinion. Does anyone agree

24/02/2005 14:23:00

peter2

ids-terrorists

I think that terrorists are not going to go places that Id cards are going to be needed.

Plus not all terrorists are going to be forien somewill be british citizens too, and will have Id cards and so when they have blown themselves up the card would be distroyed too they would not be idenifiable

24/02/2005 14:23:00

tellytubby

erranny

your prejudice against my views, making you more racist than me

24/02/2005 14:25:00

5thelephant  
simplicity

Why do they want to look at u?

they can't look at you through your fingerprints or you retina the ID cards cannot watch over you  
this is the job of CCTV cameras

24/02/2005 15:44:00

Jammy Dodger  
Why?

What is the point of ID cards? They will cost loads of money and even though they are supposed to be "Copy proof" it will be hard for the government to stop people. People could easily steal your identity. Also, I wouldn't want to pay £80 for something that could be used by other people to commit fraud. Passports should be good enough, you could lose ID cards really easily.

24/02/2005 15:51:00

goose girl  
?

How many people are actually going to remember to take their ID cards everywhere they go? How many people are going to lose their ID cards?

How many people want to pay £80 for something they may not even want?

If you lose your card, people can get all your personal information from them. They can see your health details, if you have a criminal record and where you live. Do we want this information accessible to everyone if the cards are lost?

24/02/2005 16:11:00

harmony  
hi goose girl

Goose girl, I completely agree with you. This policy is going to be met with fierce opposition because of all the points you have made. It will be impossible to ensure that everyone remembers to take their card everywhere they go and if they do forget, what will be the harm? The cost is quite outrageous, £80 for a piece of card that is of little or no benefit to the public, yet if we lost it, which is inevitable, then will we be the ones forced to pay out for another one? And although I appreciate the government needing to know certain information about us, the idea of losing the card and someone else being able to access all your personal details is more than a little disconcerting.

24/02/2005 17:01:00

axle  
I.D.

good point errand I think that we could appear as a lot of terrorists as a weak country but I don't think there are many British terrorists and only real kind of terrorists we get are drug gangs and that

24/02/2005 17:14:00

axle  
2 harmony

I think the fine being enforced is a little over the top but can anyone think of an alternative if you lose it then the average British public would have to pay

24/02/2005 17:29:00

axle  
I.D. not so good?

I'd like to say I was wrong with my last estimate on it cutting crime by 25 percent because I never took in to account the black market for ID cards. Cause of course single people couldn't forge them but an organisation could get men on the inside giving away technology and they'd gain a lot. They would be very good just like with passports, maybe there are very few benefits it wouldn't help with international terrorists cause if they can get a passport they can get an ID card so ID cards could be very stupid if they cost 60000000000 but only stop benefit fraud costing us 300000000 please can someone tell me any benefits?

24/02/2005 17:37:00

axle

C.C.T.V.

C.C.T.V. would be a much better idea you could actually monitor people's actions people would behave a lot more civilly to each other if there was C.C.T.V. it would make much better evidence than any I.D. a lot of evidence is not good enough for people to prosecute we need to keep a better eye on people not if the tapes are publicly viewable then it's not about the government watching us it's about us keeping an eye out for each other

24/02/2005 17:43:00

gruff

Too much surveillance?

Hey what with the bobbies-on-the-beat, CCTV, personal information databases and now maybe ID cards, is this the 'big brother' state gone mad?

Or are we looking at necessary measures that keep Britain safe and prosperous?

24/02/2005 19:10:00

vladimir

forgery impossible

The ID cards would be made using your retinal scan, unless it was someone very close to you who could get your fingerprints it would be impossible for criminals to get hold of them without pulling out your eyes and chopping off your fingers.

I'm not sure whether I'm against them or not, but it's silly saying that they hold your identity and it's private, vital medical information can be obtained from them that could otherwise be ignored.

However I see the point about everything being put on. The gov wants to put 'TERRORIST' stamps on all terrorists who hold identity card. then stop them when they get on planes. Yeah that'd work!

## Big Brother

24/02/2005 19:21:00

littles

goose girl

I'm sorry but I disagree. Identity fraud could not be committed if you LOOK AFTER your card. Plus, who wants to carry around a huge passport.

And everyone saying that passports are fine- They cost £40, with nowhere near as much technology as the card.

24/02/2005 19:26:00

littles

eranny70

I would not actually want to hide any tattoos or piercing- for the simple reason that I would only get one done so that people could see it.

Plus I was talking about criminals and ex-criminals. I cannot see any reason why if they have committed offence, that they should have to live with the motto "think before you do" would apply to them. Personally I would never break the law because I have no desire to. and for those who do, they have to live with it.

24/02/2005 19:35:00

littles

eranny70

A while back on pg 13 you said ID cards would complicate things. But how exactly? Surely it would help things so that illegal immigrants can be found out?

24/02/2005 19:38:00

littles

Gruff

I personally don't think that we as a state have gone anywhere near that which George Orwell described in 1984 (where the Big Brother ploy came from) These are for our protection, the CCTV could very well save somebody's life.

24/02/2005 19:47:00

ellies

enough is enough

i agree with gruff - ID cards is a step too far. The next step after them is electronically tagging and monitoring every single person 24/7! I think that using the £6,000,000,000 the cards will cost to improve current security measures and fraud - proof identities, there is no need for ID cards. I also think that ID cards will cause a lot of problems. I lose everything so i don't know how I would cope with and ID card! Also, I personally wouldn't want anyone with a card reading machine to be able to access all my personal deatils. I also don't think that ID cards could be totally fool proof - people can now forge the magnetic strips on credit card, so who's do say they cannot develop similar technology for ID cards? If the card looks realistic, is anyone really going to take the time to look furthur?

24/02/2005 21:12:00

Happyjeans14

What next

with all the 'ideas' the government have at the moment what are they going to introduce next. Maybe they could chip us all with our name and address so if we get lost we can be returned to our owners HA!

although i do think the ideas of CCTV cameras would be better than id cards does everyone really want there every move traced. I certainly wouldnt even though im not doing anything wrong. I think the technology for these ID cards could be used to good effect though, for example the iris scanning would be good if it coul be used n banks, so we wouldnt have to carry cards, and that would really cut down on the problem o people using other people's bank accounts by putting false fronts on the machines.

24/02/2005 21:23:00

Happyjeans14

Chilli (or anyone else) confused a

I was just reading the earlier posts and there is one thing im confused about, The biometrics on the card, would hey be stored in a chip in the card, or would they be printed for everyone to see? If everyone could see them then that is even worse i would not like things like my weight and stuff printed in plain veiw for everyone to see, that is personal information!

I think the ID card could have its plus sides but they are way out numbered by the bad things!

24/02/2005 22:06:00

eranny70

Replies

Axle: The Western World (Great Britain, USA, France, Germany, Russia etc.) did do a lot for terrorism. For example, Osama Bin Laden is trained by the CIA, the Taliban were given money and weapons by Britain and the USA, Saddam Hussien was sold lots of weapons and technology, and was also selling lots of oil to the West, France started the Vietnamese war (though the USA finished it, sort of), North Korea was influenced to attack South Korea by Russia. There are a lot more examples but these will do (If you want to verify these things, just go to a library and read a paper from 20 years ago). You said that terrorists could get rich by attacking us, how? How will they get rich? Who will pay them the millions of pounds' worth of effort and planning and weapons to blow up Canary Wharf? Nobody. Now how do WE make money by invading Iraq? By setting up a puppet government(a government that's secretly under our control) and making them give us oil, or selling it to us really cheap. And also by selling them the technology to pump oil and to irrigate fields. If people wouldn't be immigrating here, then the population would get smaller, which means less consumers = less production = less jobs = less money = less consumers etc.. That's why we need immigrants. And it's out duty to accept asylum seekers, who are running away from people like Saddam Hussien. You said CCTV was a good idea because if people know there are lots of cameras, they will be more civil. So if a gang of people were harrasing you in the street, would you act civil towards them because of cameras, or would you wait ten minutes for one of the camera viewers to call the police, or would you defend yourself?

5thelephant: This isn't some sort of trap, especially not set up by Labour(so no need for the sarcasm:)). This is a step they take to stop crime, but they don't realize that if they take this step, in 20 year's time they'll take another one (ie. CCTV), and then another, until without realizing it, they're censoring Party Political Broadcasts and anything bad in the news. That's how it happens. And France's ID scheme is completely different than here. No biometrics for one. I'm not completely against ID cards. I don't think they should be enforced, I don't think they should be chipped, and I definitely don't think they should have biometrics on it. But if they have to, an ID scheme like France or Israel's would be more reasonable. CCTV isn't bad, if you're trying to protect ATMs and shops, and trying to stop gridlocks and traffic jams. But if you have too many, like maybe four on a street, then that goes too far.

Teletubby: Saying that I'm racist for accusing you of being racist is completely hypocritical. And of course there is enough room for new immigrants and asylum seekers. Look at what I said to Axle on the top of this post.

To everyone: I'm sorry about the long replies, but it's easier than replying to every single post separately.

-Eran

24/02/2005 22:40:00

tellytubby

5th elephant

i think your to nieve

25/02/2005 10:21:00

tellytubby

errany

you are being stupid about this... I think that the ID cards are a good idea as you can find out about illigal immigrants... This is not racist.. they are braking the law (just as much as thieves and murderers) and we need to find a constructive way foward without holding prejudices.

25/02/2005 10:29:00

chilli

Who benefits from ID cards?

In your opinion, who is going to benefit most from the launch of ID cards?

The public?

The authorities?

Or is it a win-win situation?

If you're having trouble making up your mind , check out the <a

href="http://http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home\_BackUpIdentityCards" target="\_blank">BackUp</a> notes for a full breakdown.

25/02/2005 11:34:00

eranny70

More Replies

Vladimir: Some people feel humiliated when their fingerprints are taken because it makes them feel like a common criminal. And you'd be surprised what people can do with technology these days. Microsoft was supposed to be "unhackable". A big terrorist attack on the USA was supposed to be impossible. People are inventive, they'd always find a way around it. And medically, all they need to do to access vital medical information is to make a medical database, which would be cheaper than the ID database. As soon as you're born, your name would be entered into the database, and everytime you went to the doctor whatever you were diagnosed with and whatever you got given would be entered as well. This way all you have to do is carry proof of identity, like a picture of yourself with your name and address on it (in your wallet). They do it in lots of countries. Israel has a database like that. But right now, if you move houses, you have to get you medical files off your doctor and give them to your new doctor.

Little: You can always carry a photocopy of your passport. Some people have tattoos in more 'discreet' places. Same with piercings. In an ideal world, ID cards would have criminal records on them. But since lots of people treat ex-criminals as bad people, even though they've paid their debt to society, it's a hard life for an ex-convict. Plus, the law used to be black and white (about 100 years ago). There were things that were bad, and things that were good, and everyone agreed on them. But now, the government makes so many stupid and pointless laws. Like drug bans, like smacking children, like that whole outrageous debate about fox-hunting. I explained in my post on page 12 on how it would complicate things, and make it hell on earth for asylum seekers.

Ellies: Great post, I completely agree with you.

Happyjeans14: The biometrics would be stored no a computer, and your access information into your details would be stored on the microchip. It would make more sense because that way you could save money by getting low-memory chips.

Teletubby: You are right about the illegal immigrants, but there is a much better way to prevent illegal immigration. By improving the asylum system we could let more people in legally, and find out if they are really running away from something. Also, earlier I called you racist because you said that all asylum seekers deserve to go to prison.

Chilli: The ID card scheme would benefit the authorities way more than it would benefit the public. With the ID Cards chipped this way, police could track down people who are committing really petty crimes, like shop-lifting from supermarkets or smoking marijuana.

25/02/2005 12:12:00

ecollett

is it rly a gd idea?

reading all veiws myself ad fiona have come up with the conclusion that if u want one get one! but if u dont then dont! id cards are a good idea for the following,:

people now who you are if your in trouble

you can prove your own age

stops fraud (if you look after probably)

bad ideas include:

you can lose it easy

people can use it for fraud

you cant lie about your age

anything that i haven't put above!

please give use your responsis as we would love 2 hear them NOTE: i can debate lyk anything!

25/02/2005 12:13:00

jvigar

id cards

i think id cards are bad but then again a good idea so they are good because they will tell people all the information that you need like to go on holiday or something so you woud not have to take any more details but then if you lose them you would have to pay loads of money and people could get you id and stuff

25/02/2005 12:15:00

cfarley

id cards

i think we shud hv it cuz then we cn get stuff were ment to and not get questioned init!!!!

25/02/2005 12:16:00

cfarley

.....

big up greendown!!!!

25/02/2005 12:16:00

alemos

against id cards

i think id cards will be bad as the amount of money you will have to pay if you lose it or even brake it's too expensive

25/02/2005 12:18:00

scoombs

ID cards

i think that ID cards can be a good idea, eveyone will be allowed what they're allowed and if you're not allowed to do it you're probably breaking the law.

however they cost alot of money and if everyone has to get one it'll cost a bomb, especially if you have a big family .it will cost £80 per card.

the increase in crime will be another factor too as illegal immigrants and other people will commit a crime by id card fraud.

also how will poor people pay for id cards ?

25/02/2005 12:20:00

alemos

id cards

it might help the authorities but they are the ones who should stop the immigrants not an id cards i dont see how can it help

25/02/2005 12:21:00

scoombs

Princess

we totally agree with you,  
we earn our money and now we're wasting it on ID cards.

25/02/2005 12:21:00

**biged**

Interesting views

Hey folks, this is good stuff.

You might be interested in checking out the <a href="http://http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home\_BackUpIdentityCards" target="\_blank">BackUp</a> notes for a full breakdown.

25/02/2005 12:23:00

**alemos**

id cards

id cars can be a good idea as it can help people to buy stuff with out being questioned or refused just because some one thinks your an under age

25/02/2005 12:24:00

**kmackinnon**

id cards

hey! i fink dat avin a id card will be a problem coz people wont wana pay £80 4 it and it will mean checkin dat u got it b4 u go out. but if people do want an id card its der choice!!!

25/02/2005 12:24:00

**chilli**

Earlier question

I put this question forward earlier.

Some of you are making points that relate to it.

i'd be interested to know...

In your opinion, who is going to benefit most from the launch of ID cards?

The public in their everyday lives?

The authorities in global fights against terrorism and illegal immigration?

Or is it a win-win situation?

25/02/2005 12:25:00

**scoombs**

cfarley

yeh but if you're 15 in a few days and want to go and see a 15 film then you cant get when all your friends can and you'll be left out.

what d you say to that den?

25/02/2005 12:25:00

**alemos**

id cards

well they can be good but at the same time we are losing our money

25/02/2005 12:25:00

**cfarley**

tut tut

i dissargee wiv scoombs because its invading the persons identity really and espacially wiv finger prints its a bit ott!!!!

25/02/2005 12:26:00

**alemos**

chilli

well i think it will benefit the authorities

25/02/2005 12:27:00

**randerson**

ID cards

For the price of the ID cards i think its quite stupid as your only going to save about £2 at the

cinema or on a bus. They can help but i sill dont like the idea of the price.

25/02/2005 12:27:00

scoombs

cfarley

you have just totally controdicted your self, you said you want it and now you've said you dont

25/02/2005 12:27:00

chilli

Going out to all the MPs

What's said here is going to all the MPs.

So, try and explain your opinions as well as stating them.

:)

25/02/2005 12:28:00

javigar

id cards

well things with the criminals we have to find away that they cant do fruard if we have id cards

25/02/2005 13:02:00

axle

C.C.T.V

C.C.T.V is the best idea we've got please can someone tell me the benifits of a sistem of I.D. cards when they would b faked by a black market r d government blind 2 d fact dat der is a black market out dere willin 2 do wat it takes to sell fake I.D. 2 dose who want it (c my 2nd last 1) if 1 C.C.T.V camera costs £400 den we could get 1 camera per evry 5 people

25/02/2005 13:07:00

axle

C.C.T.V.

I wouldn't mind being watched by C.C.T.V. cameras cause the only people who can c it r d community u live in n d government n I don't fink d government r guna try 2 take over d country cause in d system we r in d peoples voice is wat gives people dere power as all dey r is people like u n me

25/02/2005 13:11:00

axle

Forgery

can d government not c dat der r people out dere who could find inside people 2 show dem how 2 manufacture fake I.D. will have any 1 prepared 2 pay enuf in off limit areas n it will give dem even more freedom 2 get in 2 places we don't won't dem

25/02/2005 13:12:00

biged

Controversy

CCTV and surveillance is an interesting area for debate.

The controversy here is that the proposed ID cards are a new type of surveillance for the UK.

In the <a

href="http://http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home\_BackUpIdentityCards" target="\_blank">BackUp</a> notes you can find a full breakdown. And then link this up to your points on ID cards.

This way you can go further to convince people of the credibility of your points.

:~)

25/02/2005 13:15:00

mikeyd

ID Cards

I'm still undersided, it would b gd 4 forgery and stuff but it would be a pain havin 2 carry them around and havin 2 pay 4 them

25/02/2005 13:39:00

jmandalia

ID cards

the ID cards would be a great idea because it'll have all of your details and only you can use it but then again it costs alot and i don't think people would want to pay that much just for a high tech ID card.

25/02/2005 13:52:00

**jmandalia**

ID cards

my mate thinks no to the idea of having an ID card, beacuse if everyone carried one and you had to show them, e.g at the cinema, when you was really underage but had no problem getting in before they became introduced, then you would have a problem getting in.

25/02/2005 16:56:00

**littles**

ellies and eranny70

ellies- I personally don't think it is a step to far. As Vladimere mentioned a while back, it's almost impossible to fake somebodys retina scan and fingerprints unless of course you chop off their fingers or pull out their eyes-and realistically are the fakers and forgers going to go that far? Eranny70- i respect your pinions, but you appear to contradict yourself regularly, and I am confused now as to your main reasons for being against ID cards. also,if you want people to read your messages, leave spaces in your replies to make it more attractive to read.

25/02/2005 17:00:00

**goose girl**

re: jmandalia

jmandalia- you say ID cards will be good because they will have all our details on them. But what if they get lost? Someone would then have access to all your personal information. Would you want that?Also, you say your mate doesnt want them because it may stop her getting into the cinema when shes not old enough. Basically, she doesnt want ID cards so she can continue to brake the law.

25/02/2005 17:00:00

**littles**

Cinema's

Lots of people are saying that it would complicate things at cinemas and that you wouldnt be able to get in

However say that you are 14 and the film you want to see is a 15, than wait until you're 15 instead of going underage

I don't want to sound patronising or anything, but they put the rescriptions there for a reason.

25/02/2005 18:09:00

**ellies**

re: littles

What I was saying about forgery was that if someone had a realistic looking ID card and acted like they had nothing to hide, then who is to say that the authorities would always go to the trouble of checking that the finger prints and retina scans match up. I wasn't saying that they would actually chop of each other's fingers - i think the police would notice if you used a severed finger to check a finger print!!!

Well, i hope they would!!!!

25/02/2005 18:18:00

**eranny70**

Lol, more replies...

Someone said that ID cards would help book holidays. Well, booking a holiday is easy as it is, all you need is proof of identity. All adults have proof of ID (eg. driving licence, proof-of-age card, passport etc.), and since only adults can book an overseas holiday anyway, we don't need the trouble of a brand new ID card scheme.

Scoombs: The point of arguing this subject is to change people's minds about it.

Axle: If the people's voice can totally influence the government, and has full power of it, why did we invade Iraq? What happened to those million and a half people marching in London? It's a fact that the majority of Britain did not want war in Iraq, and it's a fact that at least 60-70% of Britons have taken cannabis in their life, so why did we go to war? And why is cannabis still illegal?

Goosegirl: Going into a 15 is hardly breaking the law. As I said earlier, not only are some of the laws nowadays completely stupid, but people who are responsible enough to go to the cinema

alone are definitely responsible enough to choose what films they would like to see.  
Littles: I don't think I've contradicted myself, but it'd be nice to know where. Also, my reasons for opposing THIS ID scheme are:  
Biometrics (too intrusive, too unreliable)  
Immigrants/Asylum (makes a big mess worse)  
Money (85mil?!? That's crazy.)  
They could sort out the money problem by sticking the £85 million it'd take for the ID scheme and using it on the immigration/asylum system, improving it and therefore being able to let more immigrants in, which would bulk up the £2.5 billion we get every year from immigration, which would bring that amount way over the cost of identity fraud per year (1.3 million), which means the economy still makes a huge profit from immigration. If it's a bit unclear, tell me and I'll explain again.

27/02/2005 10:37:00

axle

littles

you dont ave 2 fake some bodys retina or finger print u can use yours but say u were someone else, dere is benifit in this I.D. system if people can forge dem n we all kno dere r people out dere who r goin 2 do dat, d people out dere who r prepared 2 spend loads 2 get round passports could easily do d same wiv I.D. cards, d one use dey have is 4 stopin' benefit fraud wich costs 5pcnt of d amount I.D. cards would cost wats d point in dat

27/02/2005 10:42:00

axle

I agree Goose girl

u r rite dat I.D. cards would stop some peopl from seein films dere not suposed 2 see or buyin cigirettes or alchohol caus d kids propably can't afford 2 buy fake I.D. n wouldn't kno how but is it realy worth payin' 6 bln 4 dat?

27/02/2005 10:46:00

axle

alemos

we alredy ave a voluntry I.D. card system if u want 1 so u can buy stuff wich peple might fink u r underaged 4 if u fink it's a good idea den u can get 1

27/02/2005 11:00:00

axle

chili

its a no win situation d public either loose 300mil thru benifit fraud or 6000mil thru I.D. cards n d government ave terrorists disguised as important peopl wiv fake I.D. made by peopl in d blackmarket walkin round wiv shed loads of cash 2 spend on importin' illegeal immigrants n drugs

27/02/2005 11:09:00

axle

RE: tellytuby

illegal immigrants only get in 2 dis country buy buyin fake passports all del do 2 get in wiv I.D. cards is buy dem off d black market

27/02/2005 11:22:00

axle

Re:Littles

Of cause fakers n forgers wuld go dat far asylum seakers continually try 2 fake passports 2 get in wat wil stop dem gettin' fake I.D. cards off d black market who gave dem d fake passports?

27/02/2005 19:09:00

harmony

'everyone' should have an ID card

The government proposes that everyone should carry an ID card with them, an ID card that contains personal details and information that is perhaps very private to some people. Maybe the next question to ask is if the government are including themselves in this proposed initiative. Are the government and people in high authority happy to give such personal information? Are people like Tony Blair and the Queen unconcerned to involve themselves in this project? I am of the opinion that it be more than a little precarious to reveal such details in case the cards get lost. I know if I was in a position of this status and authority that I would be extremely reluctant to divulge

in this information. But where is the equality if people like them are going to get excluded from this scheme? If there are reservations about these people having ID cards because of lack of safety and security, then why would it be acceptable for the rest of the public?

**27/02/2005 19:41:00**

**axle**

a view from my litl brother

a bad idea caus pepl would b abl 2 forj dem n we wil lose more money on I.D. cards den fraud anyway do u agree?

**28/02/2005 09:41:00**

**eranny70**

**Faking ID Cards**

The whole point of these ID cards is that they'll be impossible to fake. It would cost lots of money to make one on your own. I think the easiest and cheapest way to get a fake one would be to have the government make you one, though that'd be very hard too. If you got some fake fingerprints (possible, but expensive), and found a way to fake your retina scan (some sort of contact lense maybe? I don't know) then you could have the government make you a real ID card which would be under a fake name and fake statistics. Would be hard though. I don't know how they'd cope with twins.

**28/02/2005 11:35:00**

**little miss**

**id cards**

I think that the cost needs to lowered in order for people to support it. If the cost was lowered then I belive that more would be interested and it would be a good idea. Id cards have many benifits but we have lived without them for years, could they cause more problems than they are worth? I know many people who think thay are a bad idea we need more information to make a final desision.

**28/02/2005 11:47:00**

**eranny70**

**Re: id cards**

There is a lot of information in BackUp, and you should also check out the links. I think the government would pay for the ID cards, especially if it was compulsory. I don't think people are worried about the price as much as they are worried about their freedom and their privacy.

**28/02/2005 13:05:00**

**axle**

**errany 70**

u r rite dat peopl would not b able 2 fake dem by dem selvs but peopl in large organisations wuld pay loads 2 get d technology from inside peopl in d government 2 fake dem caus dey could make bilns from sellin dem 2 terrorists n illegal immigrants.

**28/02/2005 13:12:00**

**eranny70**

**Axle**

That may be true, but how would giving someone an ID card stop terrorism? Will they confess to being terrorists? They're not something special, they're just people who think they're fighting for freedom and liberty etc.

**28/02/2005 15:59:00**

**littles**

**eranny70-twins**

earlier you questioned how they would cope with twins.

Even indential twins have different fingerprints and retina's. fingerprints are formed from the fluids in the wounds running past the skin, therefore it is pratically impossible to have exactly the same fingerprint.

12 points are marked on fingerprints which makes that unique-eg. scars marks ect. so on the twins, they would mark different parts of the fingerprints anyway.

**28/02/2005 16:06:00**

**littles**

**Just a query**

If someone did get hold of your ID card and attempted to see all your personal information-how would they. I mean it's not all going to be printed on a card, it'll be in the microchip, and surely only trusted people would have access to a machine that reads these cards. Unless theres another way to read cards, or you stroll up to one in say a hospital when no one is watching and scan but otherwise how?

I just totally contradicted myself but I'm just kind of confused about what you are all saying.

**28/02/2005 16:14:00**

**biced**

**biometrics and microchips**

Hi.

Yes there does seem to be a little bit of confusion. Maybe I can help...

All the biometric details (retina scans, fingerprints and the like) will be stored on a microchip inside the card. There is no knowing at this stage what the eventual card will look like but the only things on the front will be the person's name and their picture.

A special card reading machine will be needed to get the data out of the chip. The machine will be hooked up to a central database containing everyone's info. It is proposed in the ID Cards Bill that only certain organisations will have such machines.

But companies will get them too and there is a concern that people will be able to get hold of machines that can read the cards. No doubt efforts will be made to ensure that only legitimate groups can access information.

There's more on this in the <a

href="http://www.http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home\_BackUpIdentityCards

" target="\_blank">BackUp</a>.

**28/02/2005 20:06:00**

**eranny70**

**Who gets database access...**

What I'm scared about is that (like biced said) companies would be able to access someone's information, which is definitely out of order. I think even government agencies shouldn't have access to a database like that. A medical records database is a good idea, an ID card database with all of your life information is a bad idea.

**01/03/2005 13:17:00**

**princess**

**another view**

Many people today, wouldn't actually be able to afford ID cards, especially not those who are living on benefits, or have a very large family. It is just another expense for people to fork out on, and the money could mean a lot to certain people.

**01/03/2005 13:31:00**

**mikeyd**

**ID Cards**

I don't mind ID cards but I wouldn't pay for them

**01/03/2005 15:55:00**

**masterboy**

**id cards**

I am for id cards because it hides your identity

**01/03/2005 20:12:00**

**vladimir**

**paying**

how are we going to pay 4 them? If we are 13 do we still have to? I won't be willing to cough up £80 even when I'm 18. But I don't want my parents coughing up money for cards as well. However with the pedophiles on the prowl children really need identity cards. So what is to happen? I mean, the cases that could be solved and the number of pedophiles arrested would be much larger, however if children don't have them, what's to be done?

01/03/2005 20:34:00

vladimir

Criminal activity

When police find bodies, it would be useful to find the ID card of the person, but, what kind of criminal would be STUPID enough to leave the ID card in the body? People who were THAT stupid deserve to be locke up just for that!!

01/03/2005 21:07:00

Happyjeans14

Re: Harmony

Harmony - your comment back on page 26 is probably one of the best made yet. You are so right, if the queen, tony blair, prince charles and everyone else won't carry a card then no-one else can be expected to either.

01/03/2005 21:39:00

axle

Errany 70

Wat I'm sayin is dat it wont stop terrorism it'll make it worse cause dey can say dere some1 important

01/03/2005 21:47:00

axle

errany 70

I agree a data base dat shows evry1s life story is bad caus it leads peopl 2 make assumptions n in some ways it makes peopl look more at d surface stopin dem gettin 2 kno dem beter wich was d hole point of I.D. cards in d first place ex-criminals ave d same rites as u n me yet no1 seems 2 give dem a chance do u fink dey should ave 2 go thru more if so den say dey shuld spend longer in jail I.D. cards is not d anser cause u shuld always give sum 1 a 2nd chance

02/03/2005

biced

Link?

Vladimir...

Your linking of identity cards to paedophiles is a bit tenuous.

It is an interesting view but there has been no previous mention of the identity cards ability to physically protect children.

As a rule make sure that you can always back up your claims with evidence.

There's a whole load of background material available on the site in [http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home\\_BackUpIdentityCards](http://http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home_BackUpIdentityCards) target="\_blank">BackUp</a>.

02/03/2005 09:50:00

chilli

What's in your wallet?

What forms of ID are you carrying right now?

Anything?

Student card? Connexions card? Travel pass? Passport? Video rental card?

What do you see as main differences between these forms of ID and the proposed ID cards?

02/03/2005 10:10:00

eranny70

Replies

Happyjeans14: I don't think the government are going to be hypocritical about this. They'll have to have their fingerprints taken as well. Mind you, I think the police already have Prince Harry's prints on file. ;)

Chilli: The difference between the forms of ID you mentioned and this ID scheme is that this new system is much less anonymous. I don't mind carrying a proof-of-age card or a passport, but the fact that these new cards would have every single detail of my body and life is a complete violation of my privacy. I think if they decide to go with this stupid scheme I'd still refuse to own a card.

02/03/2005 11:30:00

YeomansJ

## Terrorism

What I don't understand is if there are so many illegal immigrants coming into the country, how can the Government plan to issue them with ID cards. Any number of them could be terrorists and having everyone else in the population with ID cards won't help to indentify them. This means they would have the same ability to attack targets as they do now.

02/03/2005 11:31:00

RowlattB

Are we being watched?

To all those who believe that ID cards are just a Big Brother Government idea I say this- I can get more information from a credit card than an ID card! ID cards only hold basic information like name and address, not bank or medical details.

It's simple- ID cards are simply a very secure way to prove who you are, nothing more than that.

We are definately NOT being watched.

02/03/2005 11:43:00

stang1

Look at other countries in the EU!

Hello i have to say what all of u are sayin has got true bits in it but i mean look at the momnt. 20 of 23 countries in the EU are using ID card with success.(i suppose) because if there would have been negative sides about it the english press would have killed ID-cards right from the beginning. Where i'm from we are using ID for as long as i can think of it and we don't have any problems with it. U are lucky because u get the "updated-version". Urs will have the size of a credit card the one if gotta carry around is bigger....it is not a big deal bigger but just a tiny little bit bigger and i have to say it doesnt really annoy me in anyway. The ID card issue is also there to get a bit closer to the rest of europe and make it easier to build up a world wide security network.

One other thing, which most of us probably wont like, is that it is easier control people of their age. The best example is underage drinking in a pub or purchasing alcohol or fags. This aspect might not be in favour of all of us but it is a fact!

I've been to a debate about it in the house of commons and i have to say that i think after hearing all these other opinions and facts and with my own experience by having a ID card and i have to say that ID cards are a good thing and are defenetly a thing to bring into the UK!

02/03/2005 11:45:00

RowlattB

Answer to YeomnsJ

You say that illegal immigrants can be terrorists and they won't carry ID cards.

Err... why don't we just look for the people WITHOUT any ID cards?!

They must be really easy to spot!

02/03/2005 11:50:00

YeomansJ

RowlattB

Yes, those people who don't carry credit card sized ID cards are very easy to spot.... hmmm i doubt it very much.

02/03/2005 11:51:00

RowlattB

Answer to YeomansJ (again)

Of course you could just ASK someone to see their ID card, and if they don't have one that is a pretty big clue...

02/03/2005 11:56:00

YeomansJ

RowlattB

So who are you planning to pay to ask EVERYONE in the country to see their ID cards?? There may be thousands of police officers in the country, but there is over 60million people who you would need to search. And as these people are planning Terrorist acts, won't they be purposefully avoiding the police? Furthermore there will be thousands of people entering the country everyday...

02/03/2005 12:28:00

eranny70

Stang1

The ID cards used in other countries do carry much simpler information, but these ID cards will carry all the medical information, all the criminal information, all the credit information and anything else that makes you different than other people. You said it would stop under-age drinking and smoking. Every person that sell cigarettes or alcohol to minors knows he/she is breaking the law. If the government wants closer ties to Europe, they should be more polite to them, they don't need to adapt their laws. If we wanted to be closer to Scandinavian countries, we would have legalised Class C drugs by now.

02/03/2005 13:20:00

flower

ID cards why should we have to h

Eranny70 hospitals already know most of the info on you any way and if they need to know more they ask you. I should know because i went ito hospital to have an operation and they asked me (and checked with my mum) if i was allergic to anything. Also we shouldn't have to carry ID cards because it gives us no personal privacy about our on lives and anyway people who come here to seek refuge are singled out because they wont be accepted for not having a card. And also i think the only reason why they want us to carry ID cards is because some idiot teenagers lie about there age so they can buy cigeretes and alcohol and it is those few people who give young people a bad name.

02/03/2005 13:31:00

flower

Stang1 on page 31

I understand what you are saying but if you had been living without it for however many years wouldnt all this come as a suprise to you. I mean yeah mabey it would work but do you ever wonder why your country ever got them in the fist place. Also it is a discrimination again people seeking refuge and people who are looking to move from a different country to idont know be closer to there family or even a change of secanary.

02/03/2005 13:36:00

flower

What ellies said on page 2

yes i agree i think we need more infomation on the subject like for example why we need them and how they would affect us

02/03/2005 15:45:00

eranny70

Flower

Hospitals in Britain don't have all your information. Your local hospital would, but if you had an accident in Scotland for example, and you went into a coma, and you had some nasty wounds the doctors need to operate on, they would have to identify you somehow and check if you're allergic to anything. I'm not advocating ID cards, I think they're a bad idea, but I think that a nationwide medical database would solve any medical identification problems. All you'd have to do is carry a little picture in your wallet with your full name and/or address on the back. doesn't have to be a ID card. I carry one just incase.

02/03/2005 19:12:00

solomane

ID Cards are a good idea

I think that ID cards are a great idea. If we do have ID cards then everyone will know what age we are. That way if we look too young or old for the age of a theme park ride for example, the people who work there will realise and you will be able to go on. They'll make life much easier!

02/03/2005 19:18:00

solomane

eranny70

I agree with you about the hospital but the ID cards might have more information on them. I still think that ID cards are a good idea but you are right.

02/03/2005 19:24:00

solomane

ellies

I agree with what you said about ID cards and they will definitely help the government monitor the country. But I think that the ID cards should have more on it than name, D.O.B and country and origin. It should have more info on it but not personal info.

02/03/2005 19:31:00

solomane

Against ID cards

From reading all of the messages that other people have wrote, I have decided to change positions. I think that ID cards are a bad idea. It is just so the Government can watch us all day every day. It's not fair! We should have our privacy!

02/03/2005 21:39:00

sanchez

undecided?????

it would be better for security eg. illegal immigrants but how far would it go??? people have tiny plastic cards and your whole life details are on there for people to view. However, it may help if your personal details are available to view eg, hospitals or injuries.  
im teetering towards no though

02/03/2005 22:02:00

sanchez

paying + cinemas + rememberan

theres been alot of discussion about these topics

my views are as so<

paying- these cards have a lot of technology to them and they could save your life eg, allergies information to paramedics. maybe a little less money but I see the governments point

cinemas- going underage id wrong. If its a 15 n ur not its 15 for a reason!!!! I might sound tight but thats just the way things are.

remeberance- wot I mean by this is wether or not you will remember them or not. Personally im a forgetful person but if we do have id cards, put them in a wallet or if you dont always on your person.

thanks :)

03/03/2005 09:34:00

biged

ID fraud affects 1 in 4

This was interesting to see in the news...

1 in 4 adults in the UK has had their identity stolen or know who has been a victim, according to consumer-watchdog magazine, Which?. That's millions of people and billions of pounds!

So...

Could ID cards be the solution? Nevermind illegal immigration or terrorism, is ID fraud the one good reason that convinces you that we need the proposed ID card system?

Or...

Are you of the opinion that ID cards are still a step too far? Should people just be more careful about passwords, destroying documents and being alert to scams?

Come on, what's your take on this development?

03/03/2005 11:07:00

eranny70

ID Fraud

Surely the government could take the money for the ID scheme and use it to educate the public about scams, ID fraud and how to keep their information safe.

03/03/2005 13:20:00

LockyH

against id cards

I totally agree with solomane we should have our own privacy once in a while

03/03/2005 13:24:00

solomane  
eranny70

I agree with you about ID fraud and I think that there is no point in having ID cards. Other people will probably find a way to fraud the ID cards if they get hold of them. What if you leave your card somewhere and someone steals it. If they are going to have ID cards then they will have to have high security.

03/03/2005 14:18:00

niknak73  
luckyh

I think you are wrong privacy is not that important, Id cards are a good idea!!!!

03/03/2005 14:19:00

5thelephant  
forging ID cards

unless they take Your eyeballs and your fingers they cannot forge an ID card. read the facts...

03/03/2005 14:26:00

biced  
Privacy - what does it mean?  
Okay...

What do you understand by 'privacy'?

Do you think 'privacy' means the same thing to other people as it does to you?

And...

Why is privacy important?

I'd be interested to hear the views of the HeadsUp collective.

03/03/2005 15:43:00

Jammy Dodger  
Privacy

I think privacy is really important. I wouldn't want other people looking at my stuff and there are somethings i wouldn't want anyone to know.

Privacy is really important

03/03/2005 16:15:00

goose girl  
privacy

niknak73- you say privacy is not that important, but would you want all your personal information on a card? Details such as medical records, whether you had a criminal record and other information would all be on this card. Do you want this information available for the government and other organisations to access when they want?

03/03/2005 16:31:00

LockyH

privity to solomane

id cards are important but iwould rather have them when your an adult

03/03/2005 16:43:00

LockyH

jammy dodger

jammy dodger

you r rite about the privacy i would not want people to know about my private life for example if i had a criminal record not that i do but i would not want anyone to know about it and neither about my age

03/03/2005 17:04:00

LockyH

niknak73

people have different opinions on different things

03/03/2005 17:13:00

ellies

privacy

i think that privacy is the right to keep personal information personal and not have it printed or published. Some information could give the wrong impressions about people, and if use on identity cards could cause bias or unfairness.

i think that in general, most people have the same views on the definition of privacy, but everyone has a different viewpoint on how important it is. I am still sticking to my previous points where i talk about a limit of information -but i am unsure about where the line comes between vital information and an invasion of privacy. Some people feel some things are more important to keep private than others.

03/03/2005 22:17:00

sanchez

privacy!!!!?????

of course it is important, you have a right to your own privacy (not goin too far into human rights here but i do believe its an issue for concern. If your part of an ethnic group then would you want it revealed to the people looking at id cards. Cos thst wouldnt be privacy cos ppl wud see your details. its like telling a stranger where youlive! its dangerous!!!!!! does ne1 else agree???

04/03/2005 09:47:00

eranny70

sanchez

i'm not sure if you wrote it on purpose, or if you just didn't think about it, but you said something about people hiding their ethnicity. why should anyone want to hide their ethnicity? it's absolutely nothing to be ashamed of, people should be proud to be Kurdish, or Jewish or Asian.

04/03/2005 12:03:00

jfairhall

fun

hiya mel wat u been up 2 i can see u!

04/03/2005 12:08:00

rmarr

Against

im against the idea of ID cards because

1> someones age is private

2> it a invasion of privacy

3> it proves they dont trust us!

it is also going to be really anoying, (if even though you are underage) e.g cinema that you got into a 18 before but now the id cards are out you cant!

i am totally against!

04/03/2005 12:12:00

mtait

are you against or for ID cards?

i think that ID cards are for as everyone should have an ID card as if they havn` t nothin to hide then why not? this s my veiw and i think that we should as people who may have disorders may not be able to get into places that they might want to go in and they are the right age so this is why it is a good idea for ID cards so everyone has an equal right

04/03/2005 12:12:00

Chocy

Crime related to ID cards

ID cards are a great idea in theory, but how do you expect to stop forging, and restriction of private iformation . . It is just an oppotunity for crime. How are we too know what is being done with our personal information?

04/03/2005 12:15:00

Neeha

ID Cards

I just wanna say dat ID cards r really useful since u need em whereva u go. For example my friend

Kelly went into the cinema and people laughed at her when she said dat she was 15 and she didn't have an ID. Now i no and now u no dat Kelly is only 14. Therefore ID cards stop people like Kelly getting into the cinema. I think people who are mature enough shouldn't be asked for an ID but in case of Kelly I have 2 say she is very mature (not). IDs protect people and can be use in lots of places so I give em a big thumbs up. Bye plz reply back a.s.a.p

04/03/2005 12:15:00

Chocy

Equal rights

Haveing ID cards wont change people's rights.. It wont make disabled people more able... Just because we will all have them does not mean that our rights have changed.

04/03/2005 12:19:00

ssheppard

Animal testing

i think animal testing is well cruel and so is real fur clothes.

04/03/2005 12:22:00

gdudek

no ID cards

You dont need ID cards as if you dont look your age you can always have a citizen card or a national insuance card which will prove your age without getting into detail about your private information. If people forget to take there citizen card with them then it is there own fault if they cant do the things that they want to or get the things they want

04/03/2005 12:22:00

ejohnson

ID Cards

im against id cards as i feel that you dont hav to prove your age to any 1 if you dont want to. people dont need to give out there age if they dont want to as they may find it a private question!!! its down to the individual if they feel they want to smoke,drink,go out clubbing etc . well thats how i feel about id cards !!!!

04/03/2005 12:23:00

Chocy

Cinemar

Yr reason 4 haveing ID cards is so that underage people can't get into the cinemar, how pathetic! There are far more important things in the owrld than people watching films that are maybe a little unsuitable!

04/03/2005 12:23:00

vicwalker

good idea

without these cards young people can offend the legl age of purchasing cigerettes and alcohol, which can then lead to a higher crime rate and more casualtiies.

04/03/2005 12:24:00

mtait

gambling

i tink this is exstreamly ok as everyone does this and i am totally for this as i most proberly would do it myself and so would gdudek

04/03/2005 12:53:00

axle

RE chocy

I agree i can't c how u r ment 2 stop forgery

04/03/2005 12:56:00

axle

re vicwalker

is it worth 6bn 4 dat plus we alreedy ave an I.D. card system 4 stoppin cigirettes n alcohol n dat

04/03/2005 13:34:00

mtait

#### ANIMAL TESTING

i tink that it isn` t a good idea as all animals are at risk of dieing so i tink that it should not be tested on animals but on the over hand the scientists would not have anything to practice on so then they would not know whether the make up has any chemicals in it that we are ellergic too.i am still against animal testing though but it must be done for a reson and they are tinkin of us but maybe they could exsperiment on sometink else as it is not fare on the animals.

overall thois is an important issue as the animals are dieing and maybe the parliment could deal with this issue as it isn` t much of a big deal.

04/03/2005 13:36:00

justice

#### Other issues

Just a quick note to say that this forum is all about ID cards.

But we are interested in hearing suggestions for forums in the future, especially because we are putting together a rough schedule for 2005/2006.

if you've got a suggestion for a forum that revolves around a political event, issue or policy, submit it through the <a href="http://www.headsup.org.uk/content/contactus.asp?page=s3\_6" target="\_blank">Contact Us</a> form.

thank you!

04/03/2005 13:38:00

mtait

RE: gdudek

ha you smelly rat! wot are you talking about you don` t knoe noutin and i tink they should have an ID card as it stops more youth offenders doing crime and so they know they are being treated as an equal.

04/03/2005 13:45:00

mtait

solomane pg 33

i totally disagree as not everyone wants the hospitalks to know their name E.G if you ere running away ands had an acident and was taken to the hospital isn` t it your right to choose whether they call your parents so that is why i don` t tink it is right.

04/03/2005 14:10:00

mtait

RE:axle

even though we have all these systems it doesn` t mean to say that they work and it is better to be safe than SORRY!

04/03/2005 14:13:00

mtait

vicwalker

i tink dat u r so right as many young peeps r in 2 so many trouble.

dis is a good system as if no young peeps have anyting to hide den dey would b alright.

keeps up the good work VIC`s

04/03/2005 14:14:00

justice

a word on respect

hi.

passions run high in politics and that's as true on HeadsUp as it is anywhere else.

but watch out on getting too personal. respect your fellow participants.

if you disagree with a point that is completely cool but try using facts and figures to sell your side of the story, rather than just saying their's is 'rubbish'.

nice one!

04/03/2005 14:15:00

mtait

RE: Jammy Dodger

i tink dat u r so right as i like me privacy too!  
privacy shouldn't be intruded as not ever 1 like dis!

04/03/2005 16:17:00

sanchez

re eranny70

im not sure if u knew that ure constantly contridicting urself. First u sed early on that ppl might want 2 hide their ethnicity but now ure tellin me not 2!!!!!!!!!!!! u mite wnt 2 decide which side ur on n stik 2 it with facts n figured nxt time

04/03/2005 17:04:00

littles

to all against cards

you're against cards right? and if you were to get lost somewhere in a foriegn country, or become unconcious needing to be taken into hospital you have no form of ID. And say for example that you are allergic to some medecines-how will the doctors know. And how will you find your way home? Just thin kabout it. These cards could provide answers to those problems  
And illegal immigrants and benefit fraud

04/03/2005 18:54:00

ellies

cinema

I have noticed that loads of people don't want ID cards because it would stop them getting into the cinema to see films they are too young to see. Although I agree that this is a petty reason to want ID cards, it is not the only reason that they are being considered.

ID cards are being considered for all sorts of reasons, to combat fraud (as they will be almost impossible to copy as they contain information unique to a person), to help find out the multiple identities used by terrorists to outwit the authorities and to make the use of public services more convenient for people. Also, they will help show up illegal workers - and this is not just bad for the illegal workers as many of them are exploited to work in dangerous conditions and underpaid jobs. So, there is more to ID cards than just stopping you getting into the cinema.

Also, ID cards are being considered for people to carry them from age 16 onwards, so when you are below 16, don't worry, you can still break the law without too much difficulty if this is what you want to do (as going to an overage film is an offense, as goosegirl said previously!)

However. I still think that there should be a limit of information available on cards - one piece of unique information and nothing that invades too far into our privacy. They should be fool proof but not prying.

04/03/2005 19:36:00

Neeha

woteva

I think that ID cards have their advantages and disadvantages. So I would make up my mind depending on the numbers on each side. Will someone plz give me some examples?

05/03/2005 12:57:00

eranny70

Replies

Sanchez: When did I contradict myself? I've said that people shouldn't hide their ethnicity. I never said that race or religion is something that needs to be kept private. If someone chooses to, it's their choice and no one is allowed to stop them, but I think it's shameful if people want to hide it.  
Littles: If you're in a different country, you would have a passport, which is made for identification if you're abroad. And we don't need a whole ID card system to solve medical problems. All we need to do is set up a database with people's medical files, and let hospitals have access to them. There is already a criminal record database, but for some reason the British government hasn't set up a medical one yet. Most other countries have them.

07/03/2005 18:20:00

sanchez

re eranny70

i see your point but my mind has remained undecided and will remain so until i choose to differ

08/03/2005 10:57:00

davsarah

I.D cards

I think that I.D cards are a great idea because they can help cut down on crime .But there are also down sides to the like people can still forge them .

Some people can be traced within a 2 meters square through there mobile phones. this shows how much people already know about tracing .It also shows that people will maybe be able to be traced through the people that trace the I.D cards as a punishment

08/03/2005 11:41:00

eranny70

davsarah

The point of these ID cards is that they will be near impossible to fake, and if you want a new identity (illegally), you would have to undergo some serious operations. They say that this will help cut down on the few billion pounds we lose each year from identity fraud, but there are other ways to cut down that amount. Instead of punishing the whole community by making them carry intrusive ID cards, they can educate the public about how to keep their details safe, and to shred/burn any private information (bank statements etc.) instead of just throwing them away. And that whole "terrorists are everywhere" rubbish, don't even bother with that. When was there any terrorist attack in Britain in the last 10 years (non-IRA, as they aren't even worried about them anymore)? It's amazing what you can get people to do if they're scared or confused enough.

11/03/2005 16:45:00

justice

ID Cards Forum Closed

There has been some quality debating in this forum so well done! The ID cards debate is still being discussed in Parliament and it will most definitely be an important election issue. Rest assured we will make sure your contributions are heard and acknowledged.

In the meantime look out for our next forum on the General Election. Check back with us for more details.

Grand Total 227