dates for your diary

Michaelmas 2008

October
Breast Cancer Awareness Month
12 - Newnham Feminist Shebang: A fortnightly gender discussion group @ Newnham College 2-4pm, all genders, political persuasions and colleges welcome (see facebook group for more details)
15 - Women’s Campaign Squash 8pm
19 - WUrKshop launch: Women’s Union workshops on gender-related issues @ The Cafe Project 22 Jesus Lane 2-4pm (see WU website for more details)
21 - Women’s Council 7pm in Keynes Hall, King’s College
23 - Catharine MacKinnon speaks at the Centre for Gender Studies
26 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
30 - Women’s No Pay Day

November
Cambridge African Film Festival, every weekend, including films focussing on women and female directors
2 - WUrKshop @ Cafe Project
4 - Women’s Council 7pm
9 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
16 - WUrKshop @ Cafe Project
18 - Women’s Council 7pm

December
20 - Transgender Remembrance Day
23 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
25 - International Day to Stop Violence Against Women - Cambridge SVAW Week
30 - WUrKshop @ Cafe Project
**Lent 2009**

Women’s Union Speaker Series

**January**
18 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
25 - WUrkshop @ Cafe Project
27 - Women’s Council 7pm

**February**
1 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
8 - WUrkshop @ Cafe Project
10 - Women’s Council 7pm
14 - V-Day: sexual health awareness and prevention of violence against women and girls
15 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
22 - WUrkshop @ Cafe Project
22-28: Eating Disorders Week
24 - Women’s Council 7pm

**March**
Women’s History Month
1 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
8 - International Women’s Day
   WUrkshop @ Cafe Project
10 - Women’s Council 7pm

**Easter 2009**

**April**
26 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
28 - Women’s Council 7pm

**May**
3 - WUrkshop @ Cafe Project
   Reclaim the Night March
6 - No Diet Day
10 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
12 - Women’s Council 7pm
17 - WUrkshop @ Cafe Project
24 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
26 - Women’s Council 7pm
31 - WUrkshop @ Cafe Project

**June**
7 - Newnham Feminist Shebang
Without Elly, last year’s Women’s Sabb, and her dedication to the Women’s Union, this handbook would not have been possible. She is an invaluable addition to the legacy of Women’s Sabbs, all of whom have taken the vision of the Women’s Union further each year.

We are also deeply indebted to college Women’s Officers, and their tireless efforts throughout their time at Cambridge. Without their work, the Women’s Union and this handbook would not exist, nor would the Women’s Union have achieved all that it has.

Many thanks to Andrea Walko, Adam Colligan, Simon Burdus and Graham King for their hard work towards this publication. We must also say thanks for the enduring support of previous Business Teams. Finally, we say thanks to CUSU, for its belief in the Women’s Union and all its autonomous campaigns.

We are very grateful to Alona Ferber for the concept design of this handbook.

The vast majority of photographs are also credited to Jess Blackstone, Jimmy Appleton, Hannah Nakano Stewart or Jordan Savage.

Additional layout by Elly Shepherd and Natalie Szarek.
The history of women in Cambridge University is rather spectacular; in 1897 anti-woman rioters trashed Market Square, and in 1921 male undergrads battered down the gates of Newnham. Yet vigorous opposition was met with persistent struggle; pioneers in women’s education like Henry Sidgwick, one of the founders of Newnham College, and Philippa Fawcett, who in 1890 scored the highest mark in Mathematics (but was denied a degree), would be thrilled to see how far women have progressed. Cambridge women plunge into university life, making invaluable contributions to the student community in academics, arts, activism, sport and everything in between.

There are still instances of gender inequality in Cambridge, as is the case nationwide, but Cambridge is undeniably an exciting place to live and study, and this handbook will hopefully provide you with the information you need to get involved and be supported throughout your time here.

If you are interested in gender issues, Cambridge is a good place to be. The Women’s Union is excited to launch WUrkshops@the Café Project this year, fortnightly workshops geared towards education about gender issues. Pop into the Newnham Feminist Shebang, a widely attended fortnightly gender discussion group run by students for students. The Cambridge University Centre for Gender Research holds weekly seminars, as well as lectures featuring high profile speakers. This year, the Women’s Union will also aim to include men more, with Stop Violence Against Women, a movement started by men and geared towards them, to address their role in fighting violence against women.

Get in touch with any questions, comments or ideas, and check out the website for information on events and support. Remember - the Women’s Union runs on the energy and ideas of its members - so get involved!

Natalie Szarek
CUSU Women’s Officer
womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk
Why we need a Women’s Union

Despite huge progress in gender equality, women still face inequalities, some of which are specific to Cambridge and some of which are reflective of wider society.

Unfortunately, Cambridge makes it difficult for women to achieve to their full academic potential. There is a startling disparity between women’s and men’s exam results— in many subjects men receive more firsts than women, although this is not the case in most other universities or at A-levels.

Outside of academics, female students encounter challenges. Cambridge’s amazing women’s sports teams often get less funding, recognition and support than men’s sports teams. College unions are often dominated by male students, drinking society culture can be harmful to women and student parents face inadequate funding and support.

In Britain, women still face lower pay than men, with women on average making 18% less than men, and most of the highest paying jobs in the country going to men. Tragically, sexual harassment, rape and domestic violence affect women across society.

Despite these challenges, Cambridge women continue to be powerhouses of innovation and achievement, and the Women’s Union is active in encouraging and helping Cambridge students to confront and eliminate these inequalities.
What the Women’s Union does

To address these issues, and many others, the Women’s Union runs events, campaigns and provides support for students who self-define as women. The WU has held No Diet Day picnics, International Women’s Day events, Stop Violence Against Women vigils and petition drives and much more to raise awareness and encourage action on behalf of women. The WU works in conjunction with other societies and initiatives, such as Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre, Amnesty International and Springboard to work on behalf of women.

The WU emphasises the diverse needs of women in Cambridge: our aim is to support women, including all ethnic, religious and class backgrounds, trans, queer and lesbian women, and students’ parents. If you have any concerns or ideas, get in touch and get involved!
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Girton College founded by Emily Davies and Barbara Leigh Smith

Newnham College founded by Anna Clough

Phillipa Fawcett came top in Part I Mathematics but was not recognised by the University
1893

Alice Cooke became the first woman to be appointed to a University teaching post

1919

First woman MP, Nancy Astor, takes her seat in the UK. The previous year another woman was elected but refused to take her seat in protest.

1920

Oxford University grants women full University membership

1928

All women over 21 received the vote in the uk

1939

Dorothy Garrod became the first female Professor
1948

The University grants women degrees, with a quota of 10% women

1951

Rosalind Franklin produces x-ray photo crucial to the discovery of DNA structure, for which she wasn’t credited.

1958

First women peers admitted to the House of Lords

1963

Newnham is the first Cambridge team to win University Challenge

1965

Wolfson College founded; the first mixed college in Cambridge

1967

Abortion Act introduced in the UK

1970

Equal Pay Act introduced in the UK

1972

Clare, Churchill and King’s colleges become mixed
1975

Dame Alice Murray becomes Cambridge’s first female Vice Chancellor

Sex Discrimination Act introduced in the UK

1979

Margaret Thatcher becomes UK’s the first woman Prime Minister

1986

Women’s Officers established throughout the colleges.

1987

Julie Grant became the first NUS Sabbatical Women’s Officer

1988

The last all-male college became mixed. Male students at Magdalene College wore black armbands and paraded coffins through the college.

1993

Mel Barlow (NH) became the first CUSU Sabbatical Women’s Officer

1997

Election of highest ever number of women MPs in the UK
1998
50th anniversary of women receiving Cambridge degrees

2002
The JCAP IAP Report reveals that the Cambridge Tripos system disadvantages many women, resulting in unequal exam results

2003
Alison Richard is appointed as the first full time female Vice Chancellor

Mel Barlow, first CUSU Women's Sabb

2006
The National Gender Duty states that public authorities have a responsibility to fight inequality and discrimination within their organisation

2008
New research shows that male and female teenagers perform equally well on mathematical skills tests
contact womens-magazine@cusu.cam.ac.uk with anything you can put into two dimensions with paper, scissors, (rock), anger, art, glue, adventure.

keep an eye (click) on www.womens.cusu.cam.ac.uk to hear about zine-making workshops and to download digital copies of gender agenda.
Life
caught up in the Cambridge whirlwind? Here’s what you need to know about women in the university and how to navigate academic life in the colleges and faculties.
Cambridge has excluded women from most of its history, from 1284 until (finally) granting degrees to women in 1948. Despite the challenges faced by Cambridge women from the establishment of the women's colleges at the end of the 19th century – from a maximum 10% quota to occasional riots at the gates of Newnham - Cambridge history is full of amazing women and men who have worked to smash the anti-equality status quo.

This University provides a very different experience for women now than a century ago, 50 years ago, or even a decade ago, and hopefully it will continue to change dramatically in the future. Cambridge is an extraordinary place to study and to live, and many of the opportunities open here cannot be found elsewhere. This means that we do our best to fight against problems such as sexism and harassment alongside living our lives at Uni.

The Women's Union seeks to combine fighting issues which affect women negatively with celebrating achievement and rebellion. We hope to provide forums for education, discussion and support, and keep a strong communication of representation and feedback between the Women's Union leadership and its members.

The only way to change Cambridge is by being here and by living our lives to the fullest extent; awareness of gender inequalities does not mean complacency. Whether you get involved
with sport or with societies, working in your college union, or with the CUSU campaigns, you will join the ranks of women who contribute hugely to the Cambridge community in extraordinarily diverse ways.

Where there are problems, we need to know about them, and that’s why CUSU, the Women’s Union and the Women’s Sabbatical Officer exist.

The University has long held the view that it is tradition that keeps Cambridge alive - but we see things differently. We believe that it is the creativity, drive and commitment of the students, and not tradition, that make the Uni a dynamic centre of education and activity.

To that end, we are working with the administration to implement and enforce pro-equality policy, as well as organising in the student body to raise awareness about vital issues. We hope to bring about changes in attitude and action, and look to you to give us feedback about what we need to focus on.

Whilst we will not succeed in completely eliminating unfair practices and outcomes during your time in Cambridge, the harder we work, and the more of us that there are, we can keep making things better for you, and lay the groundwork so that future generations of Cambridge students will find things quite different.
If you have problems with academic staff or experience discrimination within your educational environment during your time at Cambridge there are a number of simple steps that you can take.

In every college, each undergraduate has their DoS, Tutor and Senior Tutor working on their behalf. This 3-pronged system is designed to ensure that you can always receive the support you need.

Further details about harassment and discrimination are available from the Women’s Union and the CUSU website, and you can always request information if you have a complaint to make.

Changing your Supervision partner

If your Supervision partner(s) are domineering, patronising, or offensive it’s not worth sitting in silence. If you are treated without respect by your supervision partners you can’t learn effectively.

You can approach your supervisor and arrange to join another supervision group or to be supervised on your own.

Make sure your DoS is aware of what’s happening so that they’re kept in the loop and can make any necessary financial arrangements.
**Changing your Supervisor**

If you feel uncomfortable with your Supervisor you will not be able to get the education you deserve.

Constant criticism, being ignored, or receiving unwanted attention is not acceptable and can easily be taken care of. It is perfectly reasonable to ask your faculty or DoS for you to be moved to another supervision group, and there is no reason why this should affect module or topic choices.

Discuss the possible options with your DoS. If you are a postgraduate student finding a new supervisor may be tricky, but this does not mean that you should tolerate inappropriate behaviour from a supervisor.

**Changing your DoS**

If you have personal or official complaints regarding your DoS you can approach your Tutor or Senior Tutor. The college will then make alternative arrangements as appropriate.

There is no reason why you should stay with a DoS who makes you uncomfortable or who is not doing their job. You have every right to make a complaint.
Cambridge faculties often experience a gender bias; for example, Mathematics has more male students and English has more female students. We believe that subject choices are often influenced by social pressures (from a very early age) which can lead women and men to pursue different interests. Although we encourage women to explore a wide variety of interests, we also support female students in the choices they make, and address inequalities in all subjects, whether they manifest as underrepresentation or disparity in exam results.

Whatever problems your department has (and all of them have some, whether the snack machines are rubbish or the librarians are dragons), you have people on your side working to improve the situation. Most importantly, remember to be assertive and ask for what you want: whether it’s requesting a certain supervisor, supervising topics, ordering a book in the library or asking questions after lectures. You won’t always get what you ask for, but it’s important to actively seek the best education you can get.

Faculty reps, along with other staff and university committees all work to make sure that your Faculty is as accommodating as possible, be-
cause it’s in their interest that you do well. Faculty reps are annually elected students who sit on the faculty board to represent your views and problems. Their details should be available from your faculty or the CUSU website if you need to get in touch with them.

Similarly, problems related to gender bias, whether in student numbers, staff numbers, tripos results, or all of the above, can be improved. All of the faculties are committed to extending diversity to welcome all students on the basis of merit alone.

The Women’s Union will continue to work towards progress for women throughout the Faculties during your time in Cambridge, and if you do encounter problems, you can count on our support.

If your Faculty or Department has a particular problem with gender bias, you may find that they have an appointed ‘Women’s Officer’ on the staff, and may organise events specifically for women students. Many faculties are aware of gender issues in the department, and are working to address the problems. As always, your feedback is appreciated so that they know whether they’re having a positive impact.

Through communicating with your Faculty rep, and with us at the Women’s Union, we can keep an eye on the situation and make sure that problems are being worked on. If you feel that you have been treated differently on account of your gender by your Faculty, or by an individual member of the Faculty, there are a number of simple steps available to you to make sure that it doesn’t continue to have a negative impact on your time at Cambridge, and that it won’t affect anybody else. Overt sex discrimination is the exception and not the norm, but when it does occur, it should always be tackled.

If you would like further information about making a complaint or contacting your faculty representatives on any matter, you can read more on the CUSU and Women’s Union websites. Also contact the CUSU Education Officer, Ant Bagshaw at education@cusu.cam.ac.uk
During your time at Cambridge your college can be whatever you want: it may be little more than a B&B to you, or it may be the basis for your waking life. All of the colleges have their little quirks, and you’ll get used to them pretty quickly.

On the whole, the majority of colleges are somewhere between 40 – 50 % women. Colleges with less than 40% women may have a scientific bias (like Churchill), or may have been slow to attract women, but either way you can be sure that it’s something they’re working on, and doesn’t necessarily reflect the college’s position on gender relations.

In terms of teaching staff and fellowship, colleges vary a great deal, and you will most likely find the fellows of your College to be male-dominated. Although this is partly due to the only recent large-scale inclusion of women and ethnic minorities, we challenge the University to maintain an active pursuit of diversity both in staff appointments and in admissions, so that future generations of Cambridge fellowships are more representative of the diversity found in the academic community.
The number of women at senior levels within colleges is a very important issue, both for the advancement of individual women, and to serve as role models for students. Furthermore, decisions made at the senior levels of college administration affect female students, so it is imperative that the staff take into account gender concerns.

Many colleges have a women’s group, some have a fellow appointed as ‘Women’s Tutor’ and nearly all have a Women’s Officer on their JCR and MCR. If your college doesn’t provide these services, you can lobby your JCR to get them to implement similar schemes. These individuals and networks are tremendously useful and you should take full advantage of them, and of the support they offer.

If you ever have a problem with your college, you can go to your College Women’s Officer who can offer you support and information, and refer you on to the person best suited to help you further. If you don’t want to contact your college Women’s Officer, you can always contact the CUSU Women’s Sabb directly at womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk.
if you ever need any support or information, it’s never far from reach. In fact, that’s the main reason the women’s union exists! Here’s how we work, and who we are.
The Women’s Welfare Officer exists to address the welfare issues that disproportionately affect women in Cambridge. Because individual casework and support are mostly taken on at the college level, the Women’s Welfare Officer can focus more on campaigning to raise awareness of or strengthen provision for welfare needs.

Cambridge has a shockingly high rate of eating disorders and mental health problems, which present particular problems for female students. The Women’s Union has a strong commitment to fighting for the mental and physical wellbeing of female students, and works to support policy which is beneficial to female students. We believe that in order to fight unhealthy patterns and situations in Cambridge, we need to raise awareness so that there are no taboo topics; we want those who are suffering to feel able to speak out and seek help.

The Women’s Welfare Officer coordinates with the CUSU Welfare and Graduates Officer and attends Welfare Team meetings to ensure that women’s welfare is addressed. In the past, the Welfare Officer has pushed for better Tutor training and helped revitalise Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre.

If you would like information, or would like to get involved in campaigning for women’s welfare, contact the Women’s Welfare Officer at womens-welfare@cusu.cam.ac.uk, and check out the WU website for more information.
Women have progressed significantly from the days when a woman playing sport was seen as inconceivable—now women’s sports are gradually gaining in media attention, viewership and funding.

Cambridge has many immensely talented sportswomen, yet women’s sports often face less funding, fewer facilities and less recognition than men’s sportssocieties. The inequalities experienced by women’s sports teams are among the most blatant, and are entirely unacceptable. The newly created position of Women in Sport Officer aims to highlight and challenge these inequalities.

In the past, the Women’s Union has gathered data on the unequal provision for men’s and women’s sports teams and found startlingly high disparities in funding and facilities. We hope to continue to collect data in order to comprehensively evaluate University sport, and challenge the University and colleges to aim for equality.

Unequal recognition is also a major problem— we hope to work with the Cambridge papers to ensure that women’s sport is covered to the extent that it ought to be.

Interested? Contact womeninsport@cusu.cam.ac.uk

The Women’s Union encourages its members to take initiative, so the two Open Portfolio positions allows a student to focus on an issue and create a unique campaign profile.

In the past, Open Portfolio positions have been dedicated to Women’s Academic Achievement, Gender Matters, and Women’s Rights Worldwide. If you have an idea about a campaign you might like to run, please contact the Women’s Sabb at womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk.
The LBGT Women’s Officer represents all self-defining lbgtq members of the Women’s Union by contributing to Women’s Union policy and sitting on the Executive Committee.

She provides support for lbgtq women through her work with individual students and raises awareness of lbgtq issues both within the Women’s Union and in the wider university community.

The LBGT Women’s Officer ensures that our work is relevant to all women regardless of sexuality, and works on projects specific to lbgtq women, working in consultation with lbgtq members of the Women’s Union about the issues affecting them. The WU recognises that trans-women have not always been represented by the women’s movement, and seeks to address this omission. We aim to support all students who experience gender-related discrimination, and have passed policy affirming that transgender women are full members of the WU and that we stand by trans rights as part of the fight against sexism.

LGBT projects over the recent years have focussed on sexual health, domestic abuse, and body image. We also put on events for the female LBGT community in Cambridge - most recently a ‘Sheer Queer’ music night aimed towards lbgtq women. Look out for more events, and check the website.

The LBGT Women’s Officer also liaises with the CUSU LBGT Campaign in her work with the wider community in Cambridge. Feel free to get in touch at lbgt-womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk if you have a question, problem, or if you want to get involved. Like all of us at the Women’s Union, she’ll be happy to hear from you.
The Graduate Women’s Officer works with the Women’s Union to ensure the inclusion of graduate women’s issues in the WU agenda. Graduates in Cambridge are represented by various bodies within CUSU and the Graduate Union (GU), but with less than ideal provisions for women’s representation.

Problems experienced by graduate women such as harassment and academic sexism are exacerbated by wider quality-control problems affecting the graduate community as a whole.

The Graduate Women’s Officer works towards wider inclusion of graduate women within the Women’s Union and lobbies for action on issues affecting graduate women within the GU and in the wider University.

The Graduate Women’s Officer is involved with a broad range of issues, working from the experiences of graduate women, to ensure that they are included in events and campaigns throughout the Women’s Union and CUSU.

The biggest responsibility of the Graduate Women’s Officer is coordinating with the Graduate Women’s Network, a series of events throughout the year to bring Graduate Women together and make useful links within the community and with other academics and business representatives outside the university.

To get involved, check out the website, or contact the Graduate Women’s Officer at womens-graduate@cusu.cam.ac.uk.
The Black and Asian Women’s Officer works to accommodate and support the growing numbers of ethnic minority women within the University through the Women’s Union, and provides representation for black and Asian women through campaigns and individual support. She works on the Women’s Executive Committee and with women’s officers throughout the colleges to support black and Asian women dealing with the effects of sexism and racism.

Recent enquiries by the University have highlighted the problems for Black students in Cambridge, focusing primarily on admissions and academic performance. Combined with the findings of the 2002 JCAP report on women’s academic performance, this has given the university a glimpse of the problems facing black and Asian women in Cambridge.

However, the university and the union are making real progress and working towards a better future.

The Women’s Union is one of the organisations working to improve representation of ethnic minorities in Cambridge and also works within itself to serve and maintain our diverse and multicultural membership. We recognise that racism and sexism interact to create new types of disadvantages, and we are committed to fighting these inequalities in every way possible.

For more details about support and representation for ethnic minority women, you can see our website and also the CUSU Black Students Campaign webpage. Also feel free to contact the Black and Asian Women’s Officer at blackandasiandomens@cusu.cam.ac.uk.
Like most of the officers on the exec, the International Women’s Officer performs both a representational and a supportive role for international women in Cambridge. She is involved with various events throughout Freshers’ week and beyond, helping international students to settle down in their new home and organising events of interest to international women throughout the year.

We fundamentally believe that the international student community should be represented on the Women’s Union. The International Women’s Officer works to overcome difficulties facing International women and ensures that the Women’s Union is aware of problems facing international women as students in Cambridge and as visitors to the UK.

Government policies have recently created yet more financial difficulties for International students, which have had a particularly negative impact on women and have affected the number of applications from women internationally.

The International Women’s Officer works on these problems with NUS and unions from around the country, as well as representing International women generally in policy and campaign. Get in touch at international-womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk.

A vital role in the Women’s Union is taken on by the Secretary—she takes minutes of Women’s Council and Women’s Executive Committee meetings. She is involved in

Women’s Union work, so her work is by no means limited to secretarial duties. You can contact her at womens-secretary@cusu.cam.ac.uk.
Your college JCR or MCR women’s officer is available to you throughout your day-to-day college life and works on your behalf as a representative and force for change within the college students’ union and various college committees. A total of 57 undergrad and graduate women work throughout the colleges, lobbying for academic equality, freedom from sexual and sexism-based discrimination, and various issues for women.

The main things you need to know from your college women’s officer is what she’s up to and how she’s available to support you. You can find out about campaigns and events by checking her webpage on your college student union website, or the women’s information board, and you can contact her directly by e-mail.

The work undertaken by a college women’s officer is specific to the college and its environment. If
your college has a poor record on female admissions, or if academic performance varies according to gender, your college women’s officer will be working with the college to discover the origins of such problems and working towards solutions. Similarly, events run by your college women’s officer will vary – some colleges hold gender discussion groups, others organise social events for women, some have self-defence or fitness programmes run for women students. Whatever events your women’s officer organises, you can always join in, help organise events or link up with other colleges.

You can communicate anonymously or directly with her, whether you want to find out more information, make a suggestion, or discuss a problem. If you see that there is a problem in your college (anything from lack of sanitary facilities, offensive ents or posters in the bar, to inappropriate behaviour from staff) don’t feel powerless- let your women’s officer know and she’ll get on the case. Women’s officers have successfully effected changes within colleges countless times. Change can only happen if we know what’s going wrong (and right) in our colleges, so if anything comes up, speak up!

Many women never get in touch with their women’s officers while others are heavily involved with the Women’s Union. Your Women’s Officer will always be working for you regardless of your level of involvement.
The Women’s Union is the representative body of all female students in Cambridge and the Women’s Council is made up of all the college Women’s Officers, plus the Women’s Executive Committee. The Exec have positions as heads of specific campaigns (pp 30-35), and meet weekly with the Women’s Sabb to organise events and discuss issues that arise.

The Women’s Council meets fortnightly on Tuesday evening in Keynes Hall, King’s College, the day before CUSU council. Council discusses a range of motions; some relate to the WU and make WU policy. Others are CUSU motions, and the way that Women’s Council votes on CUSU motions dictates the way that Natalie, the Women’s Sabb, must vote on the motion at CUSU Council. Women’s Council is also a venue for discussion on issues that matter to you, and any female student can attend and speak, although only Women’s Officers and the exec can vote.

Women’s Officers

Most colleges now have a Women’s Officer on their college student unions and graduate executives. The remit of a college Women’s Officer differs between the colleges. Most are elected by the women of the college, but some are still co-opted by union presidents, and this is something that we hope to change. College Women’s Officers are your elected...
representatives and external officers. They should keep you informed of how they vote, and of Women's Union events and campaigns.

The Women's Sabb

For the last fifteen years CUSU has had a full time Women's Sabbatical Officer, or Sabb. The Women's Sabb is the Chair of Women's Council, facilitates university-wide campaigns, organises university wide events and supports individual college Women's Officers. The Women's Sabb also sits on University committees, to make sure that women's voices are heard at the highest levels. She is also a member of CUSU's Individual Student Support Service, with particular focus on representational issues, including harassment and discrimination. She is also someone who can provide a listening ear. Do get in touch, her guaranteed office hours are 10am-4pm.

Our autonomy

CUSU supports the autonomy of its liberation campaigns. This means that the Women's Union can make its own policy on which CUSU can place no constraints. If Women's Union policy conflicts with CUSU policy, the Women's Sabb will follow the Women's Union.
CUSU is your union; all students at Cambridge are automatically members. It is a federal body made up of all the college student unions and a union executive committee. At CUSU, we work to represent you to the University, campaigning on your behalf on issues such as fees, and plagiarism and also representing you on University committees and University Council.

Within CUSU, college representatives and the executive committee are also working towards improving the representation provided by the union. Our job is to make things better for you, and to make the student voice heard by the university so that all students can have a say in policy-making.

The Women’s Union works slightly differently. We are completely independent from CUSU and are responsible for our own policy. We also work with CUSU to achieve our aims. The Women’s Union and college women’s officers work to ensure that the perspective of women students is considered by college unions and CUSU during policymaking and campaigning, and that the progress of women within the University continues. We also look out for the
welfare of our students, providing information and support where and when it is needed.

For many years now there has been a dramatic increase in women from the colleges becoming involved in CUSU; there are now more and more women being elected president of their college SU, and onto the CUSU executive committee, which leads to more women’s voices being heard both in the colleges and in CUSU. This must continue, and that is up to you.

As Women’s Sabb, I will work within CUSU, as well and in the Women’s Union to provide representation, and work to promote change. Many women begin their CUSU careers in the Women’s Union, which is often regarded as a progressive and constructive environment. By retaining this close involvement with the Women’s Union, female CUSU Officers overwhelmingly support the presence and work of an autonomous Women’s Union. On behalf of the entire CUSU Sabbatical team I would like to encourage you to get involved with your union and make it a force for equality and change.
activism is central to the women’s union—we’re committed to fighting for equality by changing university policy, raising awareness, and making our voices heard.
Making the most of Cambridge?

Looking for direction?

Want to boost your confidence?

Fulfilling your potential?

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE

...with the Springboard Undergraduate Women's Development Programme

Springboard

The Springboard Programme is FREE to you as an undergraduate
For more information, please visit
www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/equality/springboard
What is Springboard?

Springboard is an award-winning Personal Development Programme for women that enables each woman to set her own agenda for both her career and her personal life.

What does Springboard involve?

The Springboard Programme consists of four one-day workshops. A second, key component of the programme is the Springboard Workbook—you will be given a free copy of this specially written book to work through in your own time.

What will I gain from Springboard?

You will learn how to:

- Value what you’ve got going for you and build on your strengths
- Develop the self confidence to make things happen
- Be assertive in different areas of your life and communicate effectively
- Set and achieve your own goals
- Plan for your future career

How do I apply?

To join this year’s Programme, just complete the online application form at: www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/equality/springboard

Workshop 1

We will look at what you want to achieve, as well as your skills and experience. This workshop will help you to identify your individual learning style and how to make the most of this. Essential time management skills will also be introduced.

Workshop 2

Takes a positive look at your strengths and weaknesses. You will also be asked: what are your values? How will these affect your priorities and goals? What are your ambitions and how will you achieve them?

Workshop 3

Offers practical help with the goal setting and action planning needed to achieve your ambitions. You will also practice assertive behaviour, positive communication and active listening.

Workshop 4

Focuses on networking and the presentation skills needed to promote a positive image. We then review the entire programme and discuss how to continue beyond the workshops, into your future.

Sponsored by

Citi Foundation
The campaign on Women’s Academic Performance continues the Women’s Union’s work with CUSU Academic Affairs to pressure the University to take action concerning the gender inequalities in education at Cambridge.

The release of the JCAP ‘Indicators of Academic Performance’ Report in 2002 confirmed that teaching in the University is often biased towards men, but despite widespread press attention and calls for action within the University, comparatively little has been done to implement the report’s proposals. Whilst action has been taken with some departments to solve problems outlined in the report, response has been insufficient on the whole.

The CUSU Exec lobby the University to act on equality issues, and the Women’s Union is essential in highlighting where change is most needed. Pushing for more coursework, as well as insisting on more feedback from exams, are steps the Women’s Union will take this year in the fight for academic equality.

The 2004 CUSU Quality of Supervisions survey gave further evidence of the need for supervisor training, and of the difference in educational experience reported by male and female students. The Women’s Sabb is working closely with the Academic Affairs Officer to ensure sufficient provision for lecture and supervision feedback, strong supervisor training and respect for different learning styles.

With the introduction of the National Gender Duty in April 2006, the University now has a legal obligation not only to not discriminate, but to take positive steps put an end to discrimination and to show that they are promoting gender equality, changing the way degrees are taught at Cambridge.

Through these tangible changes, the Women’s campaign hopes to improve women’s academic performance throughout the University.
Feminists for free education
After the passing of the HE Bill at its third reading in 2004, students at Cambridge have been paying ‘top-up’ fees of £3000. While the fees aren’t charged up-front, the fear of debt and the massive amount of money involved means that access to education for women and poorer students has been and will continue to be directly affected.

If the ‘cap’ on this £3000 is removed in 2010, variable fees will place further pressure on students to settle for cheaper courses and institutions, thus preventing students from reaching their full potential and dramatically increasing the burden of debt upon graduating students. For women, this may lead to an exacerbation of workplace inequalities, which are already prevalent - and will do nothing to bridge the current 18% pay gap.

The Women’s Union aims to raise awareness of the way in which women are affected by financial hardship and the prospect of long-range debt upon graduation, which has a greater impact on women due to the significantly lower projected earnings over a women’s lifetime.

Factors such as the gender pay gap, and career breaks which remain a necessity for the majority of women make student debt a huge barrier for women who wish to pursue higher education. Fewer women than men continue to higher degrees at Cambridge after completing a BA, and increased debt may make this problem worse. As a Women’s Union, we need to remember that the problems of HE funding have not gone away. We’ll be working in conjunction with CUSU Access to ensure that women are not dissuaded from applying to Cambridge and that the information women need about fees and bursaries is widely available.

We also need to encourage both CUSU and the NUS to keep HE funding high up the agenda, as well as working extensively with CUSU Exec. Fees affect students. We need to make our voices heard and continue widening access to Higher Education.
The Women in Sport campaign has developed in response to the continued lack of funding, publicity and credibility given to Women’s sport’s teams in Cambridge. The campaign seeks to change the image of sport as an exclusive boys club, and to encourage women to participate in sport at all levels.

Women play a huge part in sport at Cambridge, with many successful University women’s teams and dozens of college women’s sports teams. Despite the invaluable involvement of women in sport, many women’s clubs in Cambridge are denied sufficient funding by the colleges and university bodies. In many cases, women’s clubs are relegated to a lower status as a direct result of their gender and not their ability.

Coverage of women’s sports events is notoriously non-existent in the Cambridge media, and reporting of national events like Women’s Varsity Rowing is rarely covered. In many cases the reasoning behind this has been ‘no-one is interested.’ This argument simply doesn’t hold any weight.

The Women in Sport campaign works to raise the profile of women’s sport in Cambridge, support university sportswomen and lobby for equal recognition of men’s and women’s sporting clubs throughout the colleges.

This year we’ll also be launching the ‘Women in Sport’ website, which will provide information about collegiate and university wide women’s sport teams, give details of fixtures and list the facilities and funding available in Cambridge.

If you’d like to find out more about the Women in Sport campaign, see the Women’s Union website. There is also now a new position on the Women’s Exec for a Women in Sport Officer to spearhead these initiatives and begin many more.
Falling under the umbrella term ‘Violence Against Women’ is a broad range of aggressive behaviour ranging from sexual assault and physical violence to harassment and intimidation.

Whilst women continue to make remarkable gains within the wider world, the fact remains that two women are killed in the UK each week by violent partners or ex-partners. Statistics suggest that a third of women suffer from sexual assault at some time in their lives and harassment is still a common occurrence for many women, in both the home and in the workplace.

The Women’s Union works in coalition with Amnesty International and Womankind Worldwide to raise awareness of violence against women and bring about change. Since its beginnings, the Women’s Union has retained a policy of zero tolerance towards sexual harassment and intimidation and has campaigned against the lack of action by authorities and the University to clamp down on those who commit or threaten acts of violence against women.

The University’s harassment policy requires that there is a trained harassment advisor in every faculty, and there will also be someone appointed to deal with harassment in your college. It can be difficult to find out who your advisor is, but you can enquire at your faculty office for details.

The Women’s Union has also been instrumental in a successful campaign to improve the harassment
policy of this university, the resulting policy ‘dignity at study’ will significantly improve the way the University should deal with issues of harassment among students.

Throughout Michaelmas term we will be running our ‘Stop! Violence Against Women’ campaign and selling white ribbons to raise awareness in the university. The White Ribbon Campaign is particularly important because it was started by men, and focuses on the role of men in stopping violence against women. This year the WU will launch an initiative to involve men in fighting sexism, and we encourage male students to get involved in Cambridge Stop Violence Against Women week 23-29th November 2008. If you are interested in getting involved, please email womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk.
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Workshops

2-4pm @ the cafe project

22 Jesus Lane

19 October Launch 8, 22 February
2, 16, 30 November 8 March
25 January 3, 17, 31 May

The Women’s Union is thrilled to be hosting a year-long series of workshops to meet the demand for a stimulating, interactive and cutting-edge forum for gender issues, taking the form of seminars, skill-sharing or creative projects.
Domino’s Classic Pizzas

- OK for Vegetarians
- Pizzas a little on the spicy HOT side

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Original Cheese & Tomato •
Topped with 100% Mozzarella Cheese & Domino's own Tomato Sauce.

Pepperoni Passion
Extra Pepperoni, Double Mozzarella Cheese

Vegetarian Supreme •
Onions, Green Peppers, Sweetcorn, Mushrooms, Tomatoes

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Onions, Green Peppers, Ground Beef, Jalapeno Peppers

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Domino’s Texas BBQ®
BBQ Sauce, Roast Chicken, Smoky Bacon, Onions, Green Peppers

Meatzza Pizza
Pepperoni, Ham, Sausage, Ground Beef

Vegi Volcano • •
Onions, Green Peppers, Tomatoes, Jalapeno Peppers, Extra Cheese

Domino’s Mighty Meaty®
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Domino’s Tandoori Hot® •
Tandoori Chicken, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Jalapeno Peppers

Domino’s Full House®
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Create Your Own

*Delight Mozzarella cheese can replace regular Mozzarella cheese at no charge.
By adding any of the following toppings to our Original Cheese & Tomato Pizza or any Pizza on our menu:
Sausage, Ground Beef, Pepperoni, Black Olives, Ham, Green Peppers, Pineapple, Sweetcorn, Onions, Tomatoes, Anchovies, Smoky Bacon, Jalapeno Peppers, Mushrooms, Extra Cheese, Tandoori Chicken, Roast Chicken, Tuna, Herbs, Meatballis, BBQ Sauce, Sundried Tomato & Garlic Sauce.

75p 1.00 1.10 1.20

Starters

Garlic Pizza Bread •
Topped with 100% Mozzarella Cheese & Domino’s own Tomato Sauce

Chicken Strippers®
7 tender chicken goujons made from pure chicken breast, coated in crispy breadcrumbs and served with 2 dips: BBQ and Honey & Mustard

Chicken Kickers™
7 succulent pieces of white chicken breast in a mildly spicy, crispy coating. Available with 2 dips: BBQ and Garlic & Herb

Chicken Combo®
A portion of Chicken Strippers® and Potato Wedges. Served with 3 Dips: Sweet Chilli, BBQ and Honey & Mustard

Potato Wedges •
A portion of seasoned potato wedges, oven baked to perfection. Served with 2 Dips: Sweet Chilli and BBQ

Coleslaw •
200g Tub 1.49 39p

Dips •
A range of delicious dips for dunkin’ those crusts. Available in BBQ, Garlic & Herb, Honey & Mustard and Sweet Chilli

Desserts

Chocolate Waffles
2 baked Belgian waffles with a sprinkling of sugar.
Served with 2 dips: Chocolate and Sweet Icing

Chocolate Brownie Squares™
4 real chocolate chip brownies, crisp baked outside with a gooey chocolate chip centre. Served with 2 dips: Chocolate and Sweet Icing

Drinks

Coke/Diet Coke/ Coke Zero/Fanta
1.25ltr bottles 1.79

Coupon Conditions:
- Second pizza must be of equal or lesser value than the first.
- From the menu or “Create Your Own” up to 5 toppings.
- Valid with medium or large pizzas only.
- Offer excludes personal or small pizzas.
- Valid at Domino’s Cambridge store only.
- Not valid with any other offer.

Offers Expire: 30/04/09
- Please mention offer when ordering.
- Only one coupon per order.
- Please present coupon with payment on delivery or collection.
- This coupon has no cash value.
- Coupons cannot be combined or used in multiple orders.

Starters, desserts and drinks are only delivered with pizzas. Prices are subject to change without notice. No substitutions to set menu. Our products may contain nut derivatives. Although great care has been taken to remove all bones from chicken and ham, some may remain. All products are subject to availability. Meal Deals currently not available via the online or interactive TV services. ‘Coca-Cola’, ‘Coke’, the Dynamic Ribbon device and the ‘Coca-Cola’ Red Disc logo are registered trade marks of The Coca-Cola Company. Unless you request otherwise the address details that you provide to the store on making an order will be retained on the store system for use in conjunction with future orders made by you. Copyright 2008, Domino’s Pizza Group Limited. All trade marks are registered in the names of Domino’s Pizza Group Limited and/or Domino’s PMC Inc. Used under licence by DPEL. All rights reserved.

We are happy to accept the following cards. Please show card to delivery driver. Cardholder must be present. Sorry, we do not accept cheques.

Minimum Delivery
students
In order for equality of opportunity to be a reality in Cambridge, quality affordable childcare is a necessity. Although improving, access to childcare for student parents remains insufficient, and support for student families is inadequate.

The Women’s Union works with the CU Family Society and the University Childcare Advisers to improve facilities and resources for student families, a labour that bore fruit finally in 2003 with the Cambridge University Nursery on the West Cambridge site.

In addition to working for childcare provision, we also work to improve access to Cambridge for women with caring responsibilities. Working with CUSU Welfare, we campaign to raise the profile of funds that student families are eligible to receive and lobby the University to provide creche facilities at events.

CUSU continues to work with the University for better childcare provision for its students, and at the Women’s Union we supplement this process by campaigning throughout the colleges and University for reasonable adjustments to improve the current situation for student families.

The Union continues to work on improving applications from student parents and increasing the visibility of women with caring responsibilities within the Women’s Union, CUSU, and around the University. Application forms for student parents for the Access to Learning Fund and Childcare for Students Fund are available through the Welfare Officer, Andrea Walko, at welfare@cusu.cam.ac.uk.

The Cambridge Guide for Student Parents is available online, and the Cambridge Family Society provides a lot of information on their website. Cassie Marks, the childcare adviser, is available for any advice and information on childcare, including on those grants that are available. The Childcare office is at 21 Trumpington street and can be reached on the phone: 01223 (3)32249 or by email: childcare@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Check out the Women’s Union website for details of monthly student parent get-togethers, featuring activities for children and a relaxed environment ideal for getting to know other student parents.
The Black Students’ Campaign (BSC) exists to voice the concerns, address the issues, cater to the needs of, and improve the educational and social environment for ethnic minority Students in Cambridge at both undergraduate and graduate level.

‘Black’ is an all-embracing term used to refer to all students of ethnic minority origin who by virtue of being non-white are likely to have a different experience from their counterparts.

Racism, even in this enlightened age, still exists and the Black Students’ Campaign works hard to level the playing field. There are still a lot of areas that need much work and we see it as one of our main aims to convey the diversity and variety of ‘Black’ culture to all Cambridge students. It is through educating that we hope to eradicate the damaging stereotypes that have come to be associated with ethnic minorities.

The Campaign realises that the experiences of ‘Black’ women at Cambridge may be different to others, and in some cases negative. It is our job to ensure that your Cambridge experience is a positive one.

If as an Ethnic minority student you feel you have been treated unfairly on racial grounds, The BSC should be one of your first ports of call and will take up your case if genuine. We also provide information on issues specific to ethnic minorities, so if you have a question email us at blackstudents@cusu.cam.ac.uk. More information on our activities is available on the CUSU website or in our annual Freshers’ Guide, The Little Black Book.

Soban Khawaja
Chair
Black Students’ Campaign
www.cusu.cam.ac.uk/campaigns/blackstudents
During their time in Cambridge, most women start to think about their plans for the future. Many of us will find work experience, or apply for summer internships before the great job hunt of the third year finally begins. Over recent years, many graduate recruiters have recognised that a diverse workforce is a strong one, and hence promote themselves actively with female graduates – as you can see from the adverts in this guide.

Yet although the vast majority of men and women now expect a woman with the same qualifications to have the same earning potential, research suggests that women can still expect to earn 15% less than a man with the same degree within three years of graduation and that two thirds of women in work would have chosen a different career path, had they known of the pay differences between jobs generally occupied by men, and the sectors often dominated by women. As a Women’s Union, we need to campaign to end the pay gap and also provide women with practical career’s support and advice. By organising seminars with companies from different employment sectors and taking full advantage of contacts with national businesses, campaigning bodies and trade unions – it is hoped that the Women’s Union will be a great practical aid to Women as they think about career’s paths throughout their time in Cambridge, and look to life beyond.

There is also the Springboard campaign for female students to take advantage of (see page 45-6 for further details), and the Careers Service which offers free advice to all students, even after graduation.

Volunteering is also widely considered personally profitable, as well as altruistic. By developing a database of volunteering opportunities with Women’s organisations in Cambridge, the Women in the Workplace campaign aims to benefit women in Cambridge even further.
beyond
These pages give you details about some of the outside groups we work with, who campaign to improve the lives of women nationally, in universities, the home and in the workplace.
The Equal Opportunities Commission is the leading government agency working to eliminate sex discrimination in 21st Century Britain. Through its work, the EOC challenges the misconception that women and men today get an equal deal, and work towards a society in which women and men have equal chances in life.

The EOC’s work is currently focused on equal pay campaigns, raising awareness of the gender gap and working towards a fairer system. A study carried out for the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) found that awareness of the gap between women’s and men’s pay was low among students. Most expect to be earning the same in five and ten years as members of the opposite sex. In reality, a woman who graduated in 2006 can expect to be earning 15% less by 2009 than a man who graduated at the same time.

The EOC estimate that the pay gap currently stands at 18% across all sectors. Research suggests a gap exists even when women and men have studied the same subject, achieved the same class of degree or work in the same occupations or industries.

Employers don’t often set out to cheat women, but millions of women fall into the gender pay gap every day. The causes of sex bias in pay arrangements are not always obvious, which is why the work of the EOC with employees and employers is vital. Thirty years since the Equal Pay Act gave women in Britain the right to equal pay, we are still far from achieving equality.

The Women’s Union works with the EOC to raise awareness of employment based discrimination, campaign against the pay gap and to provide women with the information they need as they enter the workplace. If you would like to find out more about the work of the EOC or equal pay campaigns, you can see www.eoc.org.uk or read more on the Women’s Union website.
Fawcett is the UK’s leading organisation campaigning for equality between women and men. Working for a society in which women and men are equal partners in the home, at work, and in public life, Fawcett campaigns for changes which will lead to improvements in women’s lives.

Fawcett has its roots in the suffrage campaigns of the 19th century and was originally the National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies.

It was founded by the leading suffragist Millicent Garrett Fawcett and was renamed in her honour in 1953.

By examining laws and policy proposals for their impact on women and publicising the results to politicians, the media, women’s organisations and individual women Fawcett identify the barriers to equality and offer solutions.

The Women’s Union has been affiliated to Fawcett since 1997, and currently has a former Women’s Sabb on the Fawcett National Executive Committee. The organisation’s work is directed by its AGM, at which policy is discussed and the Executive Committee is elected. As an affiliate, the Women’s Union send a delegate to the Fawcett AGM to represent the views and priorities of Women’s Union members.

Fawcett also runs a number of events across the country during the year, from fringe meetings at party conferences, to voting workshops focused on involving more women in the electoral process.

Whilst Fawcett campaigns are not typically targeted at student women specifically, they are relevant to all women. Current campaigns include women’s pay, pensions and poverty, women and politics, women at home, women and employment, and women and society.

If you would like to learn more about the Fawcett Society and their work, or to become a member, you can see their website at www.fawcettsociety.org.uk or follow the link from the Women’s Union website.
£4,000 discount!
from 30th October
Valid: Every bloody year

Fawcett
closing the inequality gap
women
The NUS Women’s Campaign

The NUS Women’s Campaign is an autonomous campaign working within the NUS to support the work of Women’s Unions in individual student unions across the country, and ensures that NUS makes the concerns of its women members a priority.

This year the National Women’s Officer is Kat Stark, who works with the NUS Women’s Committee to run campaigns across the UK and to support and represent women students from every University in the country.

NUS Womens forms a link to Women’s Officers across the country and is a good point of contact for networking or media coverage.

Whilst Cambridge University is unique, and the status of the Women’s Union here is unrivalled by most other universities, the problems that we face are not unique, and therefore NUS Womens provides an excellent network for Women’s Officers to share their experiences and organise nationwide campaigns.

The NUS Women’s Campaign is organised in two parts: there is the Women’s Committee (including the National Women’s Officer), and the ordinary members (affiliated Women’s Unions).

The Women’s Committee is elected at the annual Women’s Conference which takes place in April, and is attended by our delegate (the CUSU Women’s Sabb) and the Women’s Officer Elect, who attends as observer and writes the report.

The conference is attended by Women’s Officers from all over the UK, as well as female members of the NEC (National Executive Committee). It is where policy is made and the event provides a unique opportunity for interaction between Women’s Unions.

For more information about NUS campaigns and the Women’s Committee see www.nusonline.co.uk/women or follow the link from the Women’s Union website.
Abortion Rights was formed by the merger of the National Abortion Campaign (NAC) and the Abortion Law Reform Association (ALRA). It is a pro-choice organisation working to preserve the woman’s right to choose and campaigns for the provision of easily accessible, woman friendly, NHS funded abortion services.

CUSU and the Women’s Union have been working with Abortion Rights to promote access to safe reproductive services throughout our history, and the Women’s Union affiliates to Abortion Rights on an annual basis (CUSU does not).

A quarter of women having abortions in England and Wales have to pay for them, and there are no public funds available specifically to help poorer women in these circumstances. Women students often have to rely on parental support or use their student loan to fund terminations, at the expense of their education and general welfare.

Abortion laws in the UK are more restrictive than in almost every other European country, where abortion on request is generally legal in the first three months of pregnancy.

Access to abortions in the UK remains a ‘postcode lottery’. A woman’s right to an abortion lies in the hands of her GP, whilst it should legally be made available to her regardless of personal circumstances.

The CUSU Women’s Union believes that all women have the right to free and accessible abortion. The decision to have an abortion is never an easy one and the abortion process is often made more traumatic by unnecessary delays or obstructive medical staff. Although a third of British women now have an abortion within their lifetimes, the taboo surrounding the operation remains enormous. Many women are also faced with this difficult decision during their time as students, and are in need of the support and information provided by CUSU Women’s and Welfare.

To find out more about Abortion Rights, see www.abortionrights.org.uk or follow the link from the Women’s Union website.
It’s OK to talk about abortion

Two thirds of people in Britain support a woman’s right to make her own decision on abortion. Many people who would not choose abortion themselves agree that women should be allowed to make their own decision.

Only a small fraction of people oppose all abortion and demanding its criminalisation. However, these few have disproportionate influence upon media and discussion about abortion.

Approximately 1 in 3 women will have an abortion in their lifetime. This will include students at this university, student’s mums, aunts, sisters and friends.

People from all backgrounds have abortions – young women, mothers, older women, Catholic women, Muslim women, Jewish women, women with no faith.

There is no 100% effective contraception, so unplanned and intolerable pregnancies will happen. Women need to be able to decide whether or not to become a mother.

Abortion Rights

supported by:
This section contains listings of groups and charities working for women across the country which may be useful to you, either during your time here or later on.
Abortion Rights
18 Ashwin Street
London E8 3DL
020 7923 9792
www.abortionrights.org.uk
Campaigning for abortion on request in law and practice throughout the UK

AWiSE
St. Johns Innovation Centre
Cowley Road, Cambridge
CB4 0WS
01223 247827
info@camawise.org.uk
Association for Women in Science and Engineering (also open to women in mathematics)

B-eat
helpline: 08456341414
help@b-eat.co.uk
www.b-eat.co.uk
Provides support, information and resources for people affected by disordered eating

BPAS
helpline: 0845 730 4030
www.bpas.org
The UK’s leading provider of abortion and sexual health services

Breakthrough Breast Cancer
246 High Holborn
London
WC1V 7EX
020 7025 2400
http://www.breakthrough.org.uk
info@breakthrough.org.uk
Charity committed to fighting breast cancer through research and awareness.

Baby Milk Action
23 St Andrew’s Street
Cambridge CB2 3AX
01223 464420
info@babymilkaction.org
Campaign against commercial promotion of bottle feeding, to protect and promote good infant nutrition
I write for those women who do not speak, for those who do not have a voice because they were so terrified, because we are taught to respect fear more than ourselves. We’ve been taught that silence would save us, but it won’t.

-Audre Lorde
British Federation of Women Graduates

4 Mandeville Courtyard
142 Battersea Park Road
London SW1 4NB

020 7498 8037
www.bfwg.org.uk
hq@bfwg.org.uk

Promotes interests of women graduates; affiliated to the International Federation of University Women

Brook Advisory Centres

421 Highgate Studios
53-79 Highgate Road
London NW5 1TL

020 7284 6050
helpline: 0800 0185 023
infoline: 020 7950 7700
www.brook.org.uk

Free and confidential sexual health advice and services for under 25s

Cambridge University Counselling Service

2-3 Bene’t Place
Lensfield Road
Cambridge CB2 1EL

01223 332865
reception@counselling.cam.ac.uk

www.counselling.cam.ac.uk

Counselling for staff and students with professionally trained counselors

Cambridge Women’s Aid

PO Box 302
Cambridge CB1 1EA

01223 460947

Refuge for women and families escaping domestic abuse

Cambridge Women’s Resources Centre

Hooper Street
Cambridge CB1 2NZ

01223 321148
camwrc@cwoom.net

Training, education and support centre (disabled access and free creche)

CamFed

22 Millers Yard
Mill Lane
Cambridge CB2 1RQ

01223 362648
info@camfed.org

Campaign for Female Education; works with rural African communities to enable girls to benefit from education

Childcare Link

http://childcarelink.gov.uk/
childcarelink@opp-links.org.uk

National and local childcare provision and family support information

Citizens Advice Bureau

72-74 Newmarket Road
Cambridge CB5 8DZ
0870 126 4010
www.adviceguide.org.uk

Provides free confidential help and information

CUSU Welfare

welfare phone: 9am to 7pm:
07999869940
office phone: 01223 761 690
www.cusu.cam.ac.uk/welfare
welfare@cusu.cam.ac.uk

A very thorough collection of welfare information pertinent to you as a student

d

Daycare Trust

21 St George’s Road
London SE1 6ES
helpline: 020 7840 3350
www.daycaretrust.org.uk
info@daycaretrust.org.uk

National childcare charity, campaigning for quality affordable childcare.

Engender

1a Haddington Place
Edinburgh EH7 4AE
0131 558 9596
www.engender.org.uk
info@engender.org.uk

Information, research and networking organisation for women in Scotland

Enterprising Women

St. Faiths House
Mountergate
Norwich NR1 1PY
0800 012 1365
www.enterprising-women.org
nicole@enterprising-women.org

Network for entrepreneurial women providing support and information.

Equal Opportunities Commission

Arndale House
Arndale Centre
Manchester M4 3EQ

0161 829 8100
helpline: 0845 604 6610
www.eoc.org.uk
info@equalityhumanrights.com

Leading government agency working to eliminate sex discrimination

FEM

www.femconferences.org.uk

Annual feminist conference aiming to provide a central forum for the national movement

F-Word

www.thefword.org.uk

Online magazine dedicated to talking about and sharing ideas on contemporary UK feminism

Fawcett

1-3 Berry Street
London EC1V 0AA

020 7253 2598
www.fawcettsociety.org.uk

UK’s leading organisation campaigning for equality between women and men

FPA

50 Featherstone Street
London EC1Y 8QU

020 7608 5240
helpline: 0845 122 8690
www.fpa.org.uk

Family Planning Association- charity working to improve the sexual health and reproductive rights of all people throughout the UK

Graduate Women’s Network

welfare@gradunion.com

Termly meetings for graduate women with speakers focussed on academia and industry.
If we help an educated man’s daughter to go to Cambridge are we not forcing her to think not about education but about war? - not how she can learn, but how she can fight in order that she might win the same advantages as her brothers?

– Virginia Woolf
League of Jewish Women

6 Bloomsbury Square
London WC1A 2LP

020 7242 8300
office@theljw.org

Uniting Jewish women, encouraging volunteering, the formation of local groups and co-operation with other organisations

Lesbian Information Service

12 PO Box 8
Todmorden
Lancashire OL14 5TZ

01706 817235
www.lesbianinformationservice.org

Support for lesbians of all ages and backgrounds throughout Britain

Linkline

01223 367575 (BT)
01223 744444 (NTL)
www.linkline.org.uk/

Cambridge listening and support service, 7pm to 7am

Marie Stopes International

153-157 Cleveland Street
London W1T 6QW

020 7636 6200
helpline: 0845 300 8090
www.mariestopes.org.uk
services@mariestopes.org.uk

Provides sexual and reproductive health information and services

Mind

Barrere House
100 Chesterton Road
Cambridge CB4 1ER

infoline: 0845 766 0163
012 2331 1320
www.mind.org.uk
www.cam-mind.org.uk
contact@mind.org.uk

Crisis helplines, drop-in centres, counselling, advocacy, employment, and training schemes available locally

National Alliance of Women’s Organisations
Suite 405, Davina House
137-149 Goswell Road
London EC1V 7ET

020 7490 4100
info@nawo.org.uk

Umbrella body providing information and representation for the women’s voluntary sector

National Council for Civil Liberties

21 Tabard Street
London SE1 4LA

020 7403 3888
www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk

Campaigns for improvements to religion, race and sex-discrimination laws, helps women combat harassment in the workplace

National Council for One-Parent Families (Gingerbread)

255 Kentish Town Road
London NW5 2LX

helpline: 0800 018 5026
www.oneparentfamilies.org.uk
info@oneparentfamilies.org.uk

Campaigns for lone parents and runs training courses for professionals. Free written information service

Rape Crisis England and Wales

www.rapecrisis.co.uk
info@rapecrisis.org.uk

National voice for female survivors of sexual violence and abuse

Rape Crisis Centre- Cambridge
Box R, 12 Mills Road
Cambridge, CB1 2AD

helpline: 01223 245888
Wednesdays 6:30pm-9:30pm
www.cambridgerapecrisis.co.uk

Cambridge’s phone service for women survivors, active Wednesdays: 6.30pm - 9.30pm

Rights of Women

52-54 Featherstone Street
London EC1Y 8RT

020 7251 6576
advice line: 020 7251 6577
www.rightsofwomen.org.uk/
info@row.org.uk

Research, info and advice on the law and the way it affects women
Suzy Lamplugh Trust
Hampton House
20 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7TJ
020 7091 0014
www.suzylamplugh.org
info@suzylamplugh.org
Charity working to minimise the damage caused to individuals and society by physical violence

Toxic Shock Syndrome Information Service
PO Box 450
Godalming
Surrey GU7 1GR
www.toxicshock.com
tssis@gmx.net
Provides accurate and balanced information about TSS

White Ribbon Campaign
Knott Hall
Charlestown
Hebden Bridge
West Yorkshire HX7 6PE
07941 597584
www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk
info@whiteribboncampaign.co.uk
Worldwide effort of men to end men’s violence against women focussing on education and reflection.

WinVisible
(Women with Visible and Invisible Disabilities)
Crossroads Women’s Centre
230A Kentish Town Road
London NW5 2AB
020 7482 2496
www.allwomencount.net
winvisible@allwomencount.net
Network of women with disabilities.

WiSETI
(The University of Cambridge Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Initiative)
www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/equality/wiseti
“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world.

Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

-Margaret Mead
Group insisting on equal representation of women in the maths and sciences. They hold lectures and seminars focussed on women

**Women Against Rape**

**Crossroads Women’s Centre**
020 7482 2496
www.womenagainstrape.net
war@womenagainstrape.net

Presses for social recognition and official condemnation of all forms of rape

**Women’s Health Concern**

4-6 Eton Place
Marlow SL7 2QA
01628 478 473
helpline: 0845 123 2319
www.womens-health-concern.org

Provides health information on gynaecological health issues

**Women’s Aid**

PO Box 391
Bristol BS99 7WS
0117 944 4411
helpline: 0808 2000 247
www.womensaid.org.uk
info@womensaid.org.uk
helpline@womensaid.org.uk

National charity working to end domestic violence against women and children

**The Women’s Library**

London Metropolitan University
25 Old Castle Street
London E1 7NT
020 7320 2222
http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/thewomenslibrary
moreinfo@thewomenslibrary.ac.uk

Britain’s main library on women’s studies and history

**Women and Equality Unit, Department of Trade & Industry**

5th Floor Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU
020 7944 0601
www.equalities.gov.uk
enquiries@geo.gsi.gov.uk

Work across government to bring about measurable improvements in the position of women

**Women’s Resource Centre**

020 7324 3030
www.wrc.org.uk

Charity which provides women’s organisations with support, resources, information and training. Lobbies on behalf of women’s not-for-profit sector.
Drive the growth of multinational companies. Keep worldwide commerce on the move. Advise global business leaders. At Lehman Brothers, it's all in a day's work.

With over 50 principal offices in 28 countries, Lehman Brothers serves the financial needs of corporations, governments, private equity firms, hedge funds and high net worth individuals globally. By serving them, our reach extends far beyond numbers.

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