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**Press Release: 26 November 2015**

**This House Believes the LGBT+ Movement Should Split Up  
“Disunity makes our movement weaker”**

**Proposition: Jacob Diamond**

Diamond notes the “massive discrimination” compared to the privileges groups that certain groups within the movement receives. Other identities, including trans-identities, just becomes the ‘+’ sign. Gay white men, who are middle class, aren’t recognising, when important, to ‘stay back’ and give other people the limelight which they originally fought for. The LGBT movement was originally cohesive but that is not longer.

**Opposition: Emily Brothers**

“We need distinct voices of each strand as well as an alliance across those strands”. Different tactics and strategies, Brothers argues, is how to have the greatest impact for all different people. We can be ambitious for all women, whether straight, gay or bisexual and the LGBT movement can and should have debates predicated on tolerance. Brothers thinks that we need to take proactive steps to raise awareness and stop the abuse and violence against the LGBT movement.

**Proposition: Srishti Krishnamoorthy**

It’s important for civil rights movements to exist and likewise the LGBT movement, but different movements have different aims and objectives, argues Krishnamoorthy. It’s crucially important for transgender individuals’ rights not to be continually absorbed within a movement. Liberation movements are nothing if not intersectional. The only things that tie together this group of people is that they are “not straight”.

**Opposition: Peter Tatchell**

The proposition would to break up what has tied us together for five of six decades, Tatchell proclaims. He argues that transpeople have always been involved in the campaign – they have been “leaders and educators” of “our movement”. Admittedly, he accepts that within the LGBT spectrum, not all strands have always been given equal voices. We need distinct voices but this does not justify a breakup. “Disunity makes our movement weaker”. The right to be different is a fundamental human right. We need to stand together to stay this because together we are stronger. Some heterosexuals do not fit the same ‘straight’ definition either, he points out.

**Proposition: John McKee**

Many systematic rights are being prioritised. The changes often are not made by the grassroots, it is the “leadership who meet at the top”. It was not until very recently that StoneWall began to properly confront trans-issues. Now that gay men have equality, it is true that we should show solidarity but we should also be supportive of distinctiveness.

**Opposition: Liam Hackett**

People who are not straight are much more likely to be cyberbullied. He argues that we are all aiming to be equal. Telling young people not to say the word ‘gay’ massively stigmatises it. Hackett notes that there is a

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large movement from people away from labels and they want freedom of expression. He notes the great improvements over the past thirty years.

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For footage of the event go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/cambridgeunionsoc>