Paul Milton – written evidence (CCE0156)

Please find attached my contribution to the enquiry into Citizenship and Civic engagement. I firstly think the terminology is wrong there’s being a citizen, becoming a citizen and gaining citizenship and being and becoming a well rounded individual the lines are a bit blurred with this subject.

I’ve covered the first topic before previously, the main aspect and crux of citizenship was the control in terms of immigration and border control. Citizenship the key is getting the balance right in terms of benefits to the (UK) economy and diversity and culture through the process of citizenship becoming a (UK) Citizen.

Citizenship Early Summary:-
The process isn’t perfect it has its flaws and imperfections similar to the GIG economy American terminology for (GIG’s), but can be beneficial for example the Erasmus program highly connected to Citizenship as well, Citizenship is also highly connected to the aspect of the labour market and also Brexit as well "The final terms and conditions".

“Citizenship as I say is very closely related to immigration and border control the access in and out of country. The key is getting the balance right weighing up the pro’s and con’s. The cases in the news recently with ISIS and Islamic extremists being extradited out of the UK sent back to their original countries is a good justification and example we need to be vigilant of our border’s and immigration.”

Citizenship Education Program: -
The program again at its heart is the flow or people educating and integrating new citizens into our society. It’s a double edged sword similar to teacher retention or army militia in other countries. We could teach and integrate these new citizens into our society but need to make sure once trained of integrated those people we’ve put time and effort into are retained in the (UK) and don’t just take that knowledge and experience to another country, “A previous problem they had with teacher training in the (UK)”.

Civic/Community Engagement: -
Civic engagement or community engagement means different things to many people depending on class ethnicity and background. We are still failing quite a few minorities in terms of integration into communities; the integration relies on several things even down to the most basic things such as kindness and respect.

Historical Divide: -
In addressing these issues and questions we need to take into account history and the divisions made by history and events in time you’re also looking at genetic traits and dispositions as well past on habits “Habitual or none intentional” in terms of people being able to change their opinion or view.

Hypothetical:-
Another hypothetical is do we wish to heal and close the divides in society? Would that community fair better if it was its own state or governance in being a separate body you could then treat it more easily similar to the grey pound, pink pound, and purple pound, their own economy.
**Cultural Engagement:**
Engagement the key to this is a working and fully functional system. Psychology also comes into it as well. It's playing with the person's perception depending on perspectives and from group or community influence from that input has anything changed a bit like a pressure group.

**What It Means to be Part Of Britain:**
At the heart of all these questions is integration, bonding, and unity, these questions really shouldn't be for the public to answer but for the government to answer and heal. A good example was Brexit but at the heart of Brexit was issues not addressed and looked at or people's voices not being heard or recognised.

**Realistic Goals and Agendas/Inclusion:**
It's also a case of setting boundaries and reasonable bracketing on what is possible and not possible as you can't help and save everyone.

**Summary:**
This subject and topic of citizenship and civic engagement is really quite complicated when it really shouldn’t be, the idea of the citizenship education program from what I’ve seen its aims are integration and more engagement in certain areas such as politics and engraining the basics such as morals and principles through the citizenship education program. It really shouldn’t be for the education system to have to engrain these morals and principles it should be a joint effort of good parenting and education system.

**Citizenship Education Flaws:**
The program is also flawed you can have these values instilled in these youngsters or try and open these routes more or engage them at a younger level but it’s no point if the subjects are controlled and contrived later on or further up the ladder in terms of career’s also taking into account disabilities and (SEN). Other factors for example electoral role problems in terms of political engagement of young people if these problems were fixed the engagement would be better. One main area of the electoral role system, which was failing, was it was unable to keep track of young people in college or moving.

Sincere kind regards
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