

The Independence Referendum is not about: Salmond, Sturgeon, Cameron or Clegg. It is not about political parties either; a Yes vote is not a vote for the SNP nor is it a vote to banish the Tories. It is much more important than that, in fact to say that the Referendum is about politicians or political parties devalues the true importance of it. The Referendum is about the Scottish People (and by that I mean anyone who lives and works in Scotland, be they our friends from the rest of the UK, or our international friends from afar) and the future that they wish to take. More of the same, the repeated failings of a Westminster government who is out of touch with the Scottish people or putting our trust in the Scottish Parliament who with a set of devolved powers has proven itself to be highly effective and in face of Westminster cuts has protected the most vulnerable. To me as a young person the answer to the question is simple, Yes, Scotland should be an independent country. I want to see this country prosper. I want to live in a country that protects the poor, not make them out to be scroungers. I want to stay in Scotland, contribute and help make our country better. I will be the first to tell you, Independence is not a magic wand, it will not eradicate poverty over night but it will give us the power to change things for the better. Change can be scary but it can also be for the better. Some will say that we are 'BetterTogether' but having lived in Clydebank for 16 years, seen the poverty when we should be the worlds 14<sup>th</sup> richest nation, I'm sorry but I can not believe it. The same people will tell you we can not keep the pound when even Alistair Darling has admitted that of course we can. They will try to convince you that we can not survive alone when even David Cameron has admitted that we could be a successful independent country. They promise us more powers yet they can't even agree on what they should be. Scottish people are not stupid, neither are young people for that matter. We can see through lies and I hope when September 18<sup>th</sup> comes, we as a nation realise we can make our country better, by voting YES.