

Law Making – Law Reform

In September you will commence your Law A level and will begin to learn about the law making process in the United Kingdom. Pressure groups can play a key role in the creation of new legislation.

Pressure groups are groups of people who have very particular interests and try to bring these matters to the attention of the general public and the government. Pressure group activity may make the government reconsider the law on certain areas. This was notable in 2000, when the age of consent for a homosexual act was reduced to 16 years of age. Sometimes pressure groups will also campaign *against* a proposed change in current law.

Task:

Over the summer please take the opportunity to look up websites of pressure groups such as Liberty (www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk) or Justice (www.justice.org.uk) or Greenpeace (www.greenpeace.org.uk). (These are only suggestions. You can find any other pressure groups if you wish).

Choose one pressure group and write a brief summary of any changes in the law that it is suggesting. Identify any success it has had in the past in bringing about a change in the law.

Bring this work along to the first lesson in September and be prepared to discuss your findings.