

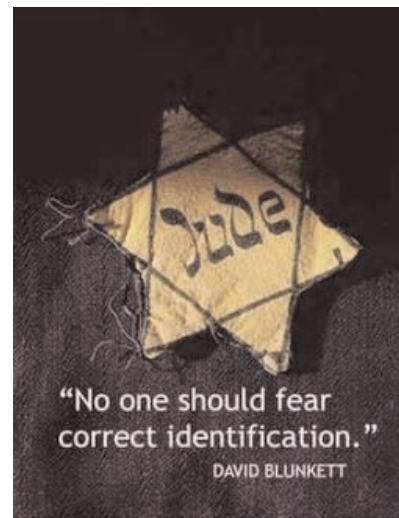
# ID CARDS ARE HERE

Today is the start of the implementation of ID cards. From today, non-EU citizens applying for, or renewing visas for study or marriage, have to attend a UK Border Agency centre for interrogation, and fingerprinting. The cards they will be issued with will hold their photograph, name, date of birth, nationality, immigration status and an electronic chip with biometric details, including fingerprints and digital facial image. All indefinitely held on the UK Identity Service database.



Soon other foreign nationals living in Britain will be issued with ID cards. From next year, once migrants have been used to test the scheme, airport workers will be required to have ID cards. In 2010, students will need ID cards to get a student loan and they will be available to the rest of us on a "voluntary" basis, with ID cards being paired with passports in 2011. Unsurprisingly the government hasn't yet named the date when the cards will be compulsory for everyone, though it has been repeatedly made plain that this is the intention.

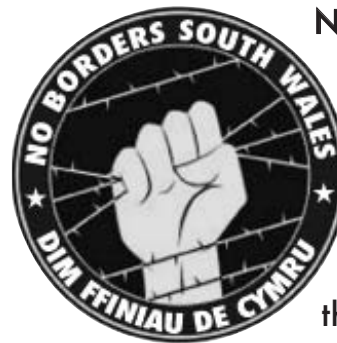
***First they forced ID cards on asylum seekers,  
and I didn't protest because I wasn't an asylum seeker.  
Now they're forcing ID cards on non-EU migrants,  
and I didn't protest because I wasn't a non-EU migrant.  
Next they're forcing ID cards on airport workers,  
and then they're going to force one on me...***



The government is upfront about its plans, and has repeatedly stressed they consider that "border control can no longer be a fixed line on a map". This first blow against everyone's liberty is part of a wider government plan to internalise borders within the UK so everyone can be numbered and monitored.



Immigration law already gives the Home Office powers it would like to exert over everybody. Under a cloud of anti-immigration hysteria the government is increasing its social control and attempting to usher in unprecedented powers of surveillance over the whole population.



**No Borders South Wales** is a collective of people who organise against migration controls and for the freedom of movement for all. We work on a non-hierarchical, anti-authoritarian basis, using consensus decision making. We meet every thursday at 7pm in The Wyndham Centre, Wyndham Street, Cardiff, all welcome though discrimination isn't. [noborderswales.org.uk](http://noborderswales.org.uk)

In targeting a largely voiceless group, with plenty to lose by not complying, the government is following a familiar path for repressive regimes throughout history. It is only through solidarity with the first people to be 'registered' that we can hope to oppose this scheme.

**By resisting the repression of migrants, we defend the freedom of everyone!**