

# THE NOWHEREISLAND CONSTITUTION

## ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SELECTED PROPOSITIONS

"Nowhereisland's constitution is cumulative and consensual, open to all citizens and subject to change during the nation's lifetime." The writing of Nowhereisland's constitution is 'open to all citizens'. It was the first online, on-going national constitution. This is a selection of 150 from over 2,600 propositions chosen by artist and writer Amy Spiers.

**Every idea will have a place on the island.**

Every Nowherian should have the right to an unlimited imagination.

**Courage is a national value.**

Nowherians take their time.

**Everyone will aim to maximise everyone's happiness and minimise anyone's suffering and will live accordingly, Now and Here.**

It will be a national concern of top priority if anyone should feel unhappy to find out together why that is so.

**Every Nowherian has the right and responsibility to give meaning to his own life for the greater good of humanity.**

When making tea, always make a pot.

**All citizens are encouraged to challenge themselves and their creativity in order to find solutions.**

Citizens will be allowed to make unwise decisions: within reason...

**Citizens of Nowhereisland shall concern themselves with Nothing.**

**Nowherians should remember that no person, or island, is an island complete unto itself.**

Every Nowherian is endowed with the highest forms of Freedom.

**The state shall not curb Freedom, but ensure it.**

The right to freedom shall only be limited by the duty to respect the well-being of others.

**Every Nowherian has the right to choose their own state of freedom.**

The constitution of Nowhereisland is continually open to change in accordance with the needs of its citizens.

**All citizens should be afforded equality. Wealth, class, race, gender, age - all these things will be irrelevant.**

Nowhereisland will strive to include, represent, and speak for populations that have less of a voice in our world.

**Religion and Spirituality is freely allowed but there must be a separation of Church and State.**

Religious organisations will enjoy the same legal standing as social clubs and darts teams.

**All marriage allowed. Period.**

All laws and lawgivers will be colour blind and sexuality deaf.

**There is no such thing as the 'normal' family unit.**

Legal gender identity shall not be considered necessary: every identity on the gender spectrum shall be valid.

**All the island shall be wheelchair accessible, and where not possible, the disabled shall be carried shoulders aloft.**

Gingers should be worshipped.

**Any bill of rights shall be matched by its inverse, a bill of the reciprocal responsibilities.**

It is the inalienable right of every man to wear his shirt outside his trousers and to go without a tie.

**Tall people should stand at the back of gatherings.**

Nowhereisland should set itself as a model for all other nations in the world to live by.

**Violence, in all forms and by any entities, is neither an effective nor a morally acceptable means for achieving change.**

Bullies will be hugged until all their aggression is resolved.

**We will make peace with ourselves.**

There shall be no armed forces whatsoever. Any attackers shall be repelled using sarcasm and humor.

**No one goes to jail for wrongdoings but is instead nurtured.**

Anyone showing disrespect to another citizen to be thrown off the island! (They should be allowed to swim back though.)

**Planned obsolescence will be illegal.**

NO TIMEWASTING

**All shades of grey banned.**

No alarm clocks on the island

**No forgetting**

There will be no forms to fill

**All fridge magnet philosophies should be shunned.**

**Usurious lending practices are prohibited.**

The use of all managerial words, phrases and such is to be strictly prohibited.

**Extremism shall be banned to the most extreme degree.**

Positions of power and responsibility should be made unpaid and open to people who care and understand the consequences.

**Every Nowherian shall be compelled to take a turn in Government.**

No large amounts of people demanding that some sort of action should be taken.

**Everyone shall have freedom to speak and be heard.**

Full on, proper, proportional representation.

**An independent judiciary should be set up with the nation's best thinkers and ethics experts to keep the government in line with the constitution.**

Decisions will be based in reason and compassion, not popularity and media response.

**No titles shall be granted.**

The words leader and follower will lose all meaning here.

**Authority will be called into question every single day by the nation's official newspaper, called News from Nowhere.**

A person's private life is no-one else's business, nor the media, nor the press.

**No peering over the fence.**

Corporations will not be given citizenship.

**Conspicuous consumption should be regarded as an illness.**

There will be no advertising signs allowed on Nowhereisland. All advertising must be word of mouth.

**Education shall be free and universal. It shall not be subject to economic ends, but develop excellence in each person.**

Education will focus the development of depth-thinking. It will not just be preparation for the market place.

**All education should strive to open minds and show possibility.**

**Independent and thoughtful citizens are what we seek.**

Everyone should recognise their role as an educator and share themselves and their ideas in society wherever possible.

**Children do not have to go to school if they do not wish to.**

Interdisciplinary approaches to research should always be favored.

**All research should be free to view and use as required.**

The apostrophe will be loved and used correctly on Nowhereisland.

**We shall not fear the unknown, but study it.**

Everyone has the right to be read to.

**Nowherians will encourage their children to change the world, not tow the line.**

Children should not be wrapped in cotton wool but encouraged to play in mud and climb trees.

**Abandoning kids under 12 for more than an hour is illegal.**

Every child will be read to each night and kissed goodnight.

**Adults shouldn't be strict.**

Children should show respect to their middle aged parents when they dance like when they were teenagers.

**No one should be able to be poor.**

The economy shall exist to serve society. As opposed to society existing to serve the economy.

**Everyone should give all that they can. No one shall take more than they need.**

People should be able to buy what they need with stories instead of money.

**The Island shall forever belong to no-one or no-where.**

All nations around the world join Nowhereisland in bowing to no flag. Break down boundaries. Free movement for all.

**Ratify the UN Statelessness Conventions to help the world's 'citizens of nowhere' get a citizenship.**

Nowhereisland citizenship is open to anyone who has a well-founded fear of persecution in the land of their birth.

NWI is not a refuge or hideout for deposed dictators.  
There should be no locks on doors.  
Wherever we may consider building a wall, fence or barrier we should instead place a table.  
Let's not be afraid to talk to strangers.  
Every citizen must make time for a cup of tea with any visitor.  
Every citizen is an immigrant.  
If you don't like it then leave.  
Every Nowherian will have a garden.  
No-one should be priced out of NWI; there should be no 'chic' quarters.  
Every citizen will have a clear view of the sky.  
Nowhereisland is to be built on new forms of common localised production and manufacture conducive to human flourishing.  
On Nowhereisland the only fuel needed should be our imaginations.  
Nowhereisland will try its hardest to be carbon neutral.  
All outdoor artificial lights turned off from dusk to dawn one night of the week to allow everyone to marvel at the stars.  
Nowherians will honour the foresight of the Governor of Svalbard and commit to protecting Nowhereisland's Arctic origins.  
No dog leads on Nowhereisland.  
Citizens shall not put out the cat at night.  
All pets should receive free veterinary care.  
Each lonely/depressed person to be given a donkey to care for.  
Nowhereisland will be a place where no-one is ever left to face old age alone and uncared for.  
Universal Free Healthcare  
First Aid/Emergency Medicine should be compulsory learning courses, so that people may aid each other when injured.  
Each citizen has the freedom to dispose of his own life.  
Parents shall introduce their children to wine at an early age in order to encourage a healthy lifestyle.  
Gluttons, Smokers and Drug Takers lose access to healthcare for illnesses related to those activities.  
All politicians to show they can survive on the minimum wage, and there shall be no homelessness on this island.  
There shall be no state welfare, and if you want money you go out and work for it.  
You can go to sleep in public without hassle.  
There will be a Library with paper books, without censorship or bias and free for everyone.  
All university and school students and the unemployed shall be given free laptops to ensure access to information.  
Let all food be Real, and let there be Joy in it.  
Everyone will eat beautifully made bread.  
Chocolate and ice-cream every day.  
Food shall be slow, not fast.  
Cafes and restaurants are required to have more than one vegetarian option, and must put some actual thought into it.  
Everyone contributes to supplying food, everyone shares the food, no-one goes hungry.  
Ideas and innovation are the lifeblood of Nowhereisland (with great flat whites as standard).  
We will eat together often.  
Spontaneous Dance Parties will occur frequently.  
Facts should never get in the way of a good story.  
No empty gestures at the expense of us all.  
Beauty itself can be the reason.  
We will reclaim all COLOURS for all people and discourage the brain-washing 'pinkification' of girls. Enjoy all colours!  
Preferential tax treatment for writers and artists; they contribute more to society than bankers.  
Art will have aesthetic not monetary value.  
Playing an instrument should be encouraged.  
We should have poetry taped to every lamp-post, tree, road sign, etc.  
Sport is not partisan, but played with pride and passion, whatever one's level or ability.  
No watching or discussion of any sport - only participation allowed!  
The national sport should be sheep herding.  
All buses shall run on time.  
We will see the world with our eyes - ears - by foot - train - not the internet.  
Lunch to be from 12.30 to 14.00 and not to be taken at one's desk.  
There will never be any set deadlines for anything. Things will get done when we feel like it.  
The end to our daily ritual of checking for wallet, phone and keys.

Each Nowherian will receive tools that aid exploration. These tools include notebooks, writing utensils, and cameras.  
We shall always have the weather we need.  
The official language is empathy.  
The national flag will always be created using 100% recycled materials.  
There should be a different National Anthem each day (or week) so that all sorts of musical tastes can be represented.  
All pirates are sacred  
No one Nowherian should take things too seriously.  
Hot tubs for all.  
Play nice.  
If in doubt – sing.

This selection of the Nowhereisland Constitution was selected and authored by Amy Spiers. Amy is an artist and writer from Melbourne who travelled to Bristol to work with Situations on Nowhereisland for two months this summer. To read, contribute to or rank the full online constitution (ongoing until midnight on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September) visit [www.nowhereisland.org/citizenship/](http://www.nowhereisland.org/citizenship/)

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