

Interview Five – Barker from England

My involvement in this campaign started on a small scale and has escalated. I have become more and more interested in the campaign and these issues, it has become a passion now rather than just a hobby.

Hearing stories of my colleagues in other countries has made me angry.

Governments must give us a chance to speak. They must listen to young people and let them explain what is wrong. The government must also change the educational system for young people in prison, offering more opportunities for re-integration to avoid crimes being committed again.

Being given the opportunity to speak to the world was my main achievement. I spoke at the Human Rights Council and told everyone about our experiences, asking them to give us an opportunity for change.

It is important for us to be here as bring a more realistic perspective. By our group being here, there is less chance of the issues being shrouded in jargon. Our stories are real stories from the heart, there is nothing to misunderstand. I am really glad I had this opportunity to come to Geneva, it has been incredible.

When I return home, I will do all I can to influence people. I intend to carry on doing great things for young people across the world.