



## **Motion to Condemn Racist Language and Implications of SSMU Fall 2017 Referendum Question to raise General Assembly Quorum**

**Whereas**, the SSMU Fall 2017 Referendum question to raise General Assembly quorum to 350 passed,

**Whereas**, because the 100-person quorum was already difficult to attain, the quorum raise limits the effectiveness of the General Assembly the opportunity for direct democratic student participation,

**Whereas**, the language of the referendum lacked objectivity and encouraged students to vote YES: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tWa5Oj8LhrWaSIDpi55nxCT07ma-QRO0>,

**Whereas**, the language of the motion to raise the quorum evokes the rhetoric of a "loud minority" and "silent majority," promoting polarized discourse derived from historically racist rhetoric used during the Nixon campaign: "The current quorum limit enables small interest groups to push and dismiss policies that fit their personal agenda, influencing the broader McGill student body on what policies they can and cannot vote on,"

**Whereas**, the referendum question and quorum raise reinforce structural racism that students experience every day on McGill campus,

**Whereas**, it is the responsibility of every student to call out racism, racist language and policies,

**Be it resolved**, that the AUS condemn the racist language and implications of the referendum question,

**Be it further resolved**, that the AUS mandate the Arts Representatives to raise these issues at SSMU Legislative Council.

Moved by

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