**Should Scotland Be An Independent Country?**

**By Tom Reid**

“With all of our assets and talents, Scotland should be a thriving and driving force within Europe. Instead we face being forced to the margins - side-lined within a UK that is, itself, increasingly side-lined on the international stage. Independence, by contrast, would allow us to protect our place in Europe.”

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/17595363.five-best-quotes-nicola-sturgeons-indyref2-update/> - Nicola Sturgeon

The reason I chose this subject is because I feel Scotland should be independent. A referendum took place on Thursday 18th September 2014. The no side won with 55% of the vote with the yes side 44.7%.

“The Westminster system of government does not serve Scotland’s interests, and the devolution settlement, in its current form, is now seen to be utterly inadequate to the task of protecting those interests. In other words, the status quo is broken. Brexit has exposed a deep democratic deficit at the heart of how Scotland is governed."

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/17595363.five-best-quotes-nicola-sturgeons-indyref2-update/> Nicola Sturgeon.

**One Side Of The Argument**

My Mum, Dad and myself now feel Scotland would be best served being an independent country and having full control of all aspects of government. We believe that Scotland is best served controlling all aspects of how to manage our country both domestically and internationally. We also believe that Nicola Sturgeon has shown much stronger leadership and communication during the Covid pandemic and has very little confidence in leadership from Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

**The Opposing Argument**

Many people, including my Gran and Papa, feel that we should remain part of the UK. They do not want to see the breakup of the union and do not trust the Scottish Government to manage well. My Gran is unhappy about the poor levels of Education in Scotland, health care and the huge problems with alcohol and drug misuse. These are all areas that the Scottish government have full control of and their record in this area is poor according to them. My Papa says, “At the moment we should be part of the UK and Europe because economically Scotland couldn’t cope on its own during COVID-19 and all the countries in the UK should work together rather than them fighting.”

**The potential consequences if both sides strongly disagree.**

If both sides continue to disagree it will lead to further arguments and divisions within both countries.

It will also distract them from dealing with issues that matter to the people of both countries such as Education, health, jobs & welfare.

**How Could Both Sides Compromise?**

With a lot of difficulty. The UK government does not want to grant permission for a 2nd vote, but they may have to if the people of Scotland vote for the SNP next year at the Scottish elections.

"No one, absolutely no one, will do a better job of running Scotland than the people who live and work in Scotland."<https://www.hindustantimes.com/world/best-quotes-from-scottish-independence-referendum-campaign/story-O8S9P1lD92fzM8FDVHxFRJ.html>

**Do You Think Scotland Should Be Independent?**