Stop and Search – A Tool For Alienation?

Koulla Yiasouma
NI Commissioner for Children and Young People
“(3) But all such persons and bodies must also—
(a) have the best interests of children as a primary consideration; and
(b) have regard to the welfare of children affected by the exercise of their functions (and to the general principle that any delay in dealing with children is likely to prejudice their welfare)…………..”

(Art 98, Justice Act, 2015)
Stop and Search – Arrests All Powers

Stop and Search Statistics, 2015/16, PSNI, May 2016
38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Prohibit the use of non-statutory stop-and-search checks against children;

(b) Ensure that the statutory use of the stop-and-search checks is proportionate, taking into consideration the age and maturity of the child, and non-discriminatory;

(c) Regularly collect, analyse and publish data relating to the use of stop-and-search checks on children, disaggregated by age, sex, disability, geographic location, ethnic origin and socioeconomic background.”
Working with our Young People

Young people are our future and it is important that they are actively involved in all aspects of community life.

Youth Independent Advisory Group
A Youth Independent Advisory Group is a community-led group of young people aged from 13 to 18 years old who provide independent advice to the Police Service.

Youth Strategy
The Police have to make sure that the Human Rights of children and young people are upheld when they deal with you as a victim, witness or if you get into trouble.

Police Involvement with Young People
The Police Service will work in partnership with other key agencies, the business sector and the community, through the use of restorative interventions, to help a child or young person to understand the consequences of their behaviour, the impact on others, and to encourage them to take responsibility for their actions.

Engagement with Young People
The PSNI engage with young people via a number of different channels.
Strategic Outcomes and **Draft** Measures for 2017-18

Keeping People Safe through Policing with the Community

**Theme 1 - Communication and Engagement**

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| 1.1 Increasing trust and confidence in policing | 1.1.1 Increase the level of public confidence in the police’s ability to provide an ordinary day to day service. ([NI Crime Survey data](#))

1.1.2 Increase the level of overall confidence in the local police. ([NI Crime Survey data](#))

1.1.3 To identify why victim satisfaction is lower in certain aspects of contact with the PSNI and implement measures to address this.

1.1.4 To improve confidence in policing in areas where it was identified as being lower and report to the Board on the results of initiatives carried out in collaboration with PCSPs and relevant others within the community.

1.1.5 To improve young person’s confidence in policing in areas where it was identified as being lower and report to the Board on the results of initiatives carried out in collaboration with PCSPs and relevant others within the community.

1.1.6 To implement Initiatives to reduce allegations and complaints against the PSNI as set out in the complaints reduction strategy.

1.1.7 To demonstrate improvement in under-representation in respect of gender and community background across all branches of the PSNI.