

Year 12 & 13— Model United Nations

On the 23rd of November, a couple of students from Woodford were able to go to the London Oratory MUN conference, also known as LOSMUN. This was the first conference I had ever been to. I was given the country Slovenia and had topics which were 'The Question of Government Sponsored Extremism' & 'The Question of Political Corruption in South America.' There is this common misconception that at a MUN conference, you **MUST** talk. However, whilst it is preferable that you speak up, you don't have to and sometimes it's better to watch more experienced students. As someone who is usually good at public speaking, I found it difficult to speak up and whilst I did end up speaking, it was much more intriguing, as a less-experienced delegate, to watch other delegates interact to share and convince others about their ideas.

Another misunderstanding is that conferences are unbearably formal and intimidating. In fact, it is quite the opposite! Everyone is really sweet, including the chairs, and a lot of the delegates are humorous. At the end of our session, we went through what was known as a 'gossip box' where delegates could write what they thought about other delegates or 'ship' delegates. I put in a fair few in myself, for example: shipping the delegate of North Korea with New Zealand.



Overall, the conference was a great learning experience, I had lots of fun meeting and talking to other students, who were also un- experienced and experience. I know many agree with me when I say that I can't wait for the next conference!

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