

Melbourne University union officials pass motion to celebrate the death of Margaret Thatcher

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THE University of Melbourne Student Union has passed a motion to celebrate the death of former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher, a move which has angered some students.

The motion described the former PM's legacy as "horrific" and said her "neoliberal policies that destroyed the lives of millions".

To "celebrate" her death, the council will also screen the *Ken Loach film Which side are you on?*

The move has outraged some students who described the move as "disgusting".

Students' Council Representative Charlie Cartney said regardless of politics, the former Prime Minister was democratically elected.

"There was discussion about taking the word 'celebration' out or rephrasing it but it was passed in its original form," Mr Cartney said.

"It's completely inappropriate that the union which represents the students would take this stance," he said.

"I understand that depending on your politics you are entitled to think what she did was right or wrong but she was a democratically elected leader, it's disgusting," he said.

Mr Cartney said the union justified the motion as it was being celebrated around the world.

In a statement, UMSU President, Kara Hadgraft said the motion was not passed unanimously.

"Councillors in the room voted according to a variety of views held on the life and death of Margaret Thatcher."

As a matter of due process, the minutes for the Students' Council meeting held today will be made publicly available online and/or in hard copy form when they have been confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by the next quorate meeting of Students' Council."

The motion was also criticised on the union's facebook site.

"UMSU, you disgust me. How dare you celebrate the death of a deceased person. You don't represent me, Shame on you!" one woman wrote.

"What a poor example of student representation and general courtesy towards someone who is deceased. Who elected you again?," another man wrote.

Originally published as ['We celebrate Thatcher's death'](#)