

WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH YOU?

10 reasons why you should fill in those
funny box things at the end of forms

1 QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS...

Wherever you go, people want to know your business. Your age, gender, sexuality, race, religion, whether you're disabled ... Where does all this information go?

It goes to help make things better, that's where it goes.

It tells local authorities where to direct their services; it shows organisations if certain people aren't making the most of them; and it makes sure that you get the right slice of what you're paying for.

They can't change things without your help.

2 BIG BROTHER IS NOT WATCHING YOU. FUNNY AS THAT MAY SEEM.

We're all told to watch who we give our personal information to, what with identity theft and everything.

But when you give information about your age, race, religion, disability, sexuality or whatever to, say, your local authority, you can be sure that it will only be used to make things better. In fact, they usually won't even know it's you!

3 IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU. REALLY. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

Yes, occasionally you may fill in a form with your name and address. But the section with information about age, race, sexuality etc is almost always dealt with separately.

Your personal information is about you – hello! – the rest is statistics. And if they occasionally keep it on your file, it will only ever be to make sure that you as a white/black older/young married/single straight/gay man/woman are being properly catered for.

4 COME THE REVOLUTION!

Some people worry about giving information in case it should fall into the wrong hands.

But when a public body gets your form, they don't just file it away in the basement. There are very strict laws to make sure they protect those details and deal with them responsibly.

And if you don't trust them for whatever reason – or you don't feel comfortable – then don't give the information. No one can make you.



**GO AHEAD.
ASK.**

So, what information do they want out of you?

They'll want to know whether you're a man or a woman. They may want to know your ethnicity. And they'll want to know what age category you fit into.

These days, they may also want to know your sexuality: are you gay/lesbian, heterosexual (they might say straight) or bisexual?

They're not after dinner and a movie. They just need to know to be able to do their job properly. Same with disability. Data like this helps authorities get services right.



**GET SERVICES
RIGHT?
THAT'LL BE
THE DAY.**

Well, we can't moan about authorities wasting money if we're not prepared to help.

Take a couple of examples. If there are lots of older people in an area, maybe more Dial-a-Ride services are needed. People from certain groups have particular health needs: there are higher rates of breast cancer among lesbians, for instance, so provision has to be made. Maybe your first language is not English and you'd prefer library books in your own language.

You can see why they need to know.

7 RACE, SEX, RELIGION, SEXUALITY? IS THAT IT?

Well, who's asking? Depending on whose form you're filling in, you can usually see why they need the information.

They might want to know if you're homeless. Or have a particular condition. Or are transgender. They might also need to know your salary or how much you receive in benefits.

They're not being nosy – the information helps make services better by targeting them at the right people. And, as always, it won't come back to you personally.

8 EMPLOYERS NEED TO KNOW TOO.

It's easy to see why your local council might need to know this stuff, but what about when you're asked to fill in a form like this by a private company? When you're applying for a job, for instance?

The reasons are similar: to make sure they're being fair and that people from all backgrounds are represented. And of course the details you give are protected by those same strict laws.

9 YOU WANT TO KNOW MY *WHAT!!!?*

It can seem nosier when someone is asking the questions face to face rather than getting you to fill in a form. But it's the same. They're really not interested in you personally, not in that way. They do it with everyone.

And if you'd rather fill the form in yourself, just tell them.

10 STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

It's quite natural to feel protective of your personal information. It's not only natural, it's sensible.

But if local authorities and hospitals and police forces and employers don't know who's out there, they can't be expected to get it right.

If you don't fill in the form and then find that no one's thought about YOUR needs, well, you can hardly complain, can you?

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BETH YW'R PWYNT?

*10 rheswm dros lenwi'r blychau bach
rhyfedd ar ddiwedd ffurflenni*



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**AR DY
DRAED!**

Mae'n naturiol teimlo'n amddiffynnol dros wybodaeth bersonol. Yn fwy na naturiol, mae'n synhwyrol.

Ond os nad yw awdurdodau lleol ac ysbytai a heddluoedd a chyflogwyr yn gwybod pwy sydd yna, does dim disgwyl iddynt gael yr atebion iawn.

Os na fyddi'n llenwi'r ffurflen, ac yna y byddi'n gweld fod neb wedi ystyried dy anghenion DI, wel, fedri di ddim cwyno.

9

**RYDYCH CHI
AM WYBOD
BETH!!?**

Gall ymddangos yn fusneslyd pan fo rhywun yn gofyn cwestiynau wyneb yn wyneb yn hytrach na llenwi ffurflen. Ond mae'r un fath. Nid oes ganddynt ddiddordeb personol, yn y ffordd honno. Maent yn gwneud yr un fath gyda phawb. Ac os fyddai'n well gen ti llenwi'r ffurflen dy hun, gelli ddweud hynny.

8 MAE ANGEN I GYFLOGWYR WYBOD HEFYD.

Mae'n hawdd gweld pam fyddai angen i'r cyngor lleol wybod y ffeithiau hyn, ond beth am achos lle mae cwmni preifat yn gofyn am lenwi ffurflen fel hyn? Wrth ymgeisio am swydd er enghraifft?

Mae'r rhesymau yn debyg: sicrhau eu bod yn deg, a bod pobl o bob cefndir yn cael eu cynrychioli. Ac wrth gwrs mae'r manylion yn cael eu hamddiffyn gan yr un cyfreithiau caeth.

7 HIL, RHYW, CREFYDD, RHYWIOLDEB? DYNA'R CWBL?

Wel, pwy sy'n gofyn? Yn dibynnu pwy sy'n gofyn am y ffurflen, mae modd gweld fel rheol pam fod angen y wybodaeth.

Efallai eu bod am wybod os wyt ti'n ddigartref. Neu os oes gen ti gyflwr arbennig. Neu wyt ti'n drawsrywiol. Efallai bod angen gwybod am dy gyflog neu fudd-daliadau.

Nid busnesa yw hyn – mae'r wybodaeth yn helpu i wella gwasanaethau drwy dargedu'r bobl iawn. Ac, wrth gwrs, ni fydd yn cyfeirio yn ôl atat ti'n bersonol.

GAEL EU GWASANAETHAU'N IAWN? FE GAWN NI WELD.

Wel, fedrwn ni ddim cwyno bod awdurdodau yn gwastraffu arian os nad ydym yn barod i helpu.

Beth am rai enghreifftiau. Os oes llawer o bobl hŷn mewn ardal, efallai bod angen mwy o wasanaethau Galw'r Gyrrwr. Mae anghenion iechyd arbennig gan grwpiau penodol: mae cyfraddau uwch o ganser y fron ymysg lesbiaid, er enghraifft, felly rhaid darparu ar eu cyfer. Efallai nad Saesneg yw eich iaith gyntaf, ac y byddai'n well gennyh lyfrau llyfrgell yn eich iaith eich hun.

Gallwch ddeall fod angen iddynt wybod.

FELLY. GOFYN.

Pa wybodaeth maen nhw'n gofyn amdano?

Byddant eisiau gwybod os wyt ti'n ddyn neu fenyw. Efallai byddant eisiau gwybod am dy gefndir ethnig. Ac fe fyddant eisiau gwybod i ba categori oed wyt ti'n perthyn.

Y dyddiau yma, mae'n bosib y byddant hefyd am wybod am dy rywioldeb: wyt ti'n hoyw/lesbiaid, heterorywiol (strêt) neu ddeurywiol?

Nid er mwyn cael pryd bach o fwyd a noson yn y sinema. Maent am wybod er mwyn gwneud eu gwaith yn iawn. Mae'r un peth yn wir am anabledd. Mae data fel hyn yn helpu'r awdurdodau i gael eu gwasanaethau'n iawn.

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DYDDIAU CHWYLDRO!

Mae rhai pobl yn ofni rhoi gwybodaeth rhag ofn y bydd yn syrthio i'r dwylo anghywir.

Onid pan fydd corff cyhoeddus yn derbyn dy ffurflen, dydyn nhw ddim yn ei ffeilio yn y seler. Mae cyfreithiau caeth iawn i sicrhau eu bod yn amddiffyn y manylion ac yn delio gyda hwy mewn ffordd gyfrifol.

Ac os nad oes gen ti hyder ynddynt am unrhyw reswm – neu os nad wyt yn teimlo'n gysurus – paid rhoi'r wybodaeth iddynt. All neb dy orfodi.

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NID TI SY'N BWYSIG. WIR. YN ANFFODUS.

Wyt, weithiau rwyt yn llenwi ffurflen gyda'th enw a'th gyfeiriad. Ond mae'r adran am oed, hil, rhywioldeb ayyb bron bob tro yn cael ei thrin ar wahân.

Mae dy wybodaeth bersonol yn ymwneud â ti -helo! - a'r gweddill yn ystadegau. Ac os ydyn nhw weithiau yn ei gadw ar dy ffeil, bydd hynny er mwyn sicrhau dy fod ti fel dyn/menyw gwyn/du, hŷn/iau, priod/sengl, strêth/hoyw yn derbyn y gwasanaeth cywir.

2 DYDY'R BRAWD MAWR DDIM YN DY WYLIO DI. ER BOD HYNNY'N ANODD EI GREDU.

Mae pobl yn dweud wrthym am fod yn ofalus wrth rannu gwybodaeth bersonol, rhag ofn bydd pobl yn dwyn ein hunaniaeth.

Ond pan fyddi'n rhoi gwybodaeth am dy oed, hil, crefydd, anabledd, rhywioldeb neu beth bynnag, efallai i dy awdurdod lleol, gelli fod yn dawel dy feddwl y bydd y wybodaeth yn cael ei ddefnyddio i wella pethau. Mewn gwirionedd, fel rheol bydd neb yn gwybod mai ti atebodd!

1 CWESTIYNAU, CWESTIYNAU...

Ble bynnag y byddi'n mynd, mae pobl am wybod dy fusnes. Dy oed, rhyw, rhywioldeb, hil, crefydd, anabledd... Ble mae'r holl wybodaeth yn mynd?

Mae'n cael ei ddefnyddio i wella pethau.

Mae'n dweud wrth awdurdodau lleol ble i gyfeirio'u gwasanaethau; mae'n arwydd i fudiadau os nad yw pobl benodol yn eu defnyddio; ac mae'n sicrhau dy fod yn cael dy ran o'r hyn rwyt ti'n ei dalu amdano.

Does dim modd newid pethau heb dy gymorth di.

BETH YW'R PWYNT?

10 rheswm dros lenwi'r blychau bach
rhyfedd ar ddiwedd ffurflenni