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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **#AskBrad - Liberate launches online advice column**

Equality charity Liberate is launching its own online advice column #AskBrad. This column is the first of its kind within the Channel Islands.

Brad Cohen is a published writer who hails from Guernsey. He also happens to be gay. Brad understands what it's like to grow up on a small island feeling a little 'different'.

Working with Liberate, Brad will offer up advice he has gleaned through experiences of his own and point those in need of further support in the right direction.

As well as having readers being able to write in with a problem, #AskBrad will feature a lifestyle & discussion page 'Spilling T'. Discussing the latest news, trends and topics within the LGBTQI culture, Spilling T will feature a new article every week alongside an #AskBrad letter.

Brad Cohen said: *"I'm really excited to be working with some incredible people who are making a real difference in the Channel Islands. I hope that through giving advice based on my own experiences, along with the support from Liberate, that we can reach out to those who feel at a loss and need to voice their problems or just need someone to speak to. I also hope that this column and the discussions within it will be a cultural platform for which the LGBTQI community of the Channel Islands can build upon".*

Having survived bullying in school, family disputes over sexuality and domestic violence, Brad lends an understanding ear. Writing for Stonewall UK nominated 'Publication of the Year', So So Gay Magazine, Brad has used his experience to discuss all issues LGBTQ.

The charity which already has a free confidential support service which has helped many LGBTQ islanders, their families, carers and friends, is delighted that there will be now an online advice column tackling many of the common issues faced by the LGBTQ community. Martin Gavet, chair of Liberate said:

*“We are delighted to welcome Brad onto the team at Liberate. Brad brings with him a wealth of professional experience writing about issues facing the LGBTQ community. #AskBrad is another way in which people can contact Liberate confidentially for advice and support. The questions and answers will be published online to help others who may be experiencing similar issues, but the person will not be named in the articles”.*

The advice column goes live on **Thursday 19 March 2015**.

17 March 2015

**ENDS**

**Information for Editors**

To arrange interviews please contact:

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and

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