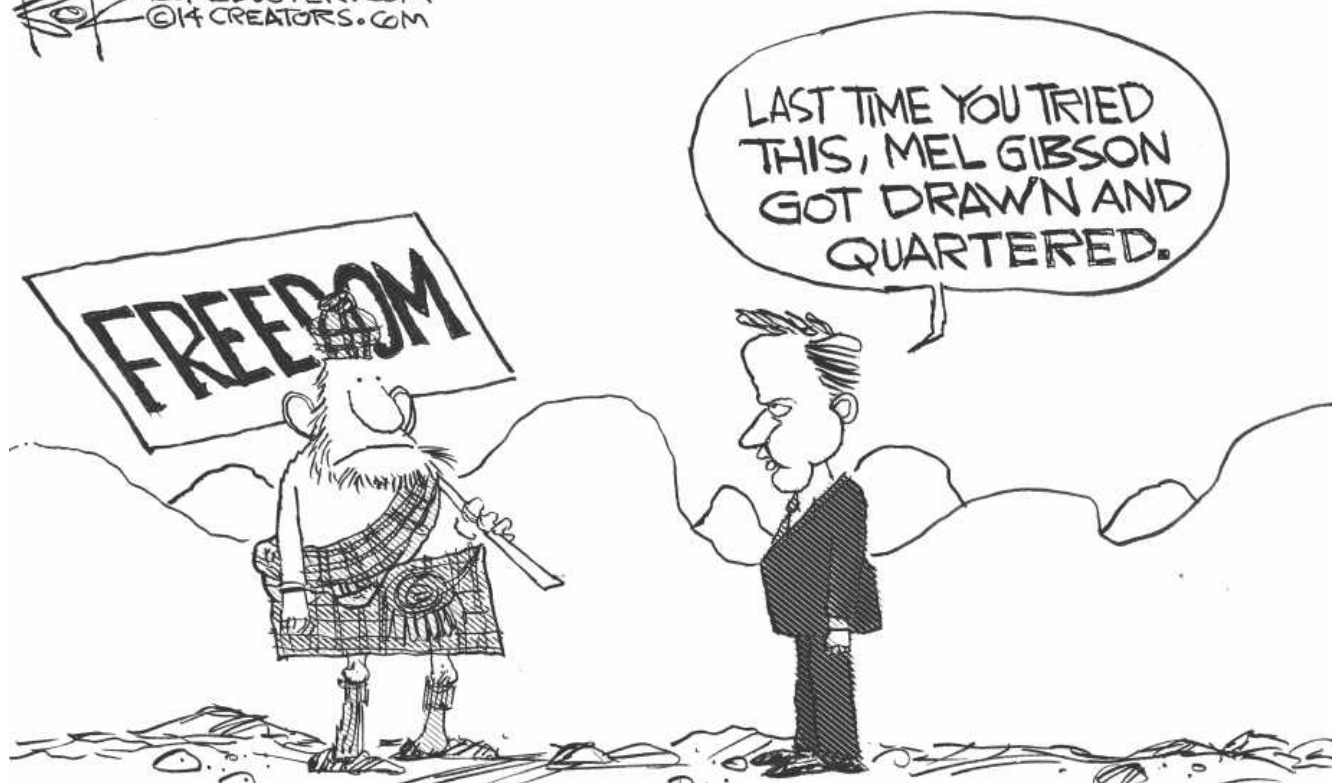


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## Scotland should remain in U.K.

The day we have long since feared has arrived! Today, Scotland's future will be determined!

Today, Sept. 18, the people of Scotland will vote in a national referendum, to whether or not they shall break away from the United Kingdom and become an independent country.

As one of the thousands of people who support the "NO" vote for independence, here are reasons why Scotland should not become an independent country:

First, if Scotland breaks away, this would mean that national stability in Britain could slip. Foreign enemies (such as ISIS or Al Qaeda) could see this as a weakness and this could become a prime target for terrorism. If they stayed, they would remain part of one of the top members of defense alliances in the world, such as NATO and the U.N.

Second, Scotland means a lot to the economic stability of the United Kingdom. By this I mean all the natural and

manmade resources found in Scotland.

Scotland's industry is built upon coal mining, ship building, and the whisky industry. The country is big in the petroleum industry with extraction of North Sea oil.

Third, all four of the countries (England, Wales, Northern

**READER** Ireland, and Scotland) have dedicated over 300 years to this glorious union and it would be horribly demeaning and cruel to end it now.

Yes, in the past 700 years there have been tensions, but through it all they have had Scotland's back in good and bad times.

Others will disagree, but most people believe that Scotland was meant to be a part of this union, and that goes for Wales and Northern Ireland as well.

The whole point is to show the people of British Isles have a deep sense of commu-

nal relations and feelings that cannot be broken up no matter what a few people think.

British Prime Minister David Cameron spoke at the recent NATO summit in Wales.

When asked about Scotland's future, he said, "I take a very clear, loud message from the rest of the United Kingdom, which is 'We want you to stay.' We care passionately about our family of nations. Of course Scotland can make a different choice, the Scottish people are sovereign in this matter. But, they shouldn't be in any doubt that the rest of the United Kingdom passionately wants them to remain a part of our successful family of nations."

He went on to speak about Scotland staying due to its importance to defense of the United Kingdom. He spoke about it being a "dangerous and insecure world," saying, "I would have thought one of the strongest arguments that those of us who want to see the United Kingdom stay together can make, is in that dangerous

and insecure world, with terrorist threats and other threats, isn't it better to be a part of a United Kingdom that has a top five defense budget, that has some of the best security and intelligence services anywhere in the world, that is part of every single alliance that really matters in the world in terms of NATO, the G8, the G20, the European Union, a permanent member of the Security Council of the UN? To have all of those networks and abilities to work with allies to keep us safe. Isn't it better to have those things, than to separate yourselves from them?"

The national campaign for keeping the United Kingdom together is called "Better Together." The website for this campaign is [www.bettertogether.net](http://www.bettertogether.net). All of these thoughts and ideas will be put to the voters today in Scotland.

For more information on the referendum, visit [www.scotreferendum.com](http://www.scotreferendum.com).

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