



Doughty Street Chambers – 2020/21 Essay writing competition

Full Name:

DOB* *All applicants must be aged between 16-18 years old at of the time of the essay-writing window (October 1st 2020 - January 8th 2021)*

School/College/Other

Race/Ethnicity

The DSC essay competition is a key DSC outreach initiative to directly connect with young people from underrepresented and disadvantaged groups at the Bar. As such, please complete the questionnaire below. Our full [Privacy Statement](#) can be accessed on our website.

Asian/Asian British

Bangladeshi	
Chinese	
Indian	
Pakistani	
Other (optional write in):	

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British

African	
Caribbean	
Other (optional write in):	

Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background

White and Asian	
White and Black African	
White and Black Caribbean	
White and Chinese	
Other (optional write in):	

White

British/English/Welsh/Northern Irish/Scottish	
Irish	
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	
Roma	
Other (optional write in):	

Other:

Arab	
Other (optional write in):	

Do you wish to tell us anything else about yourself? (Optional)

Please type your essay in the box below in no more than 1500 words to the following question:

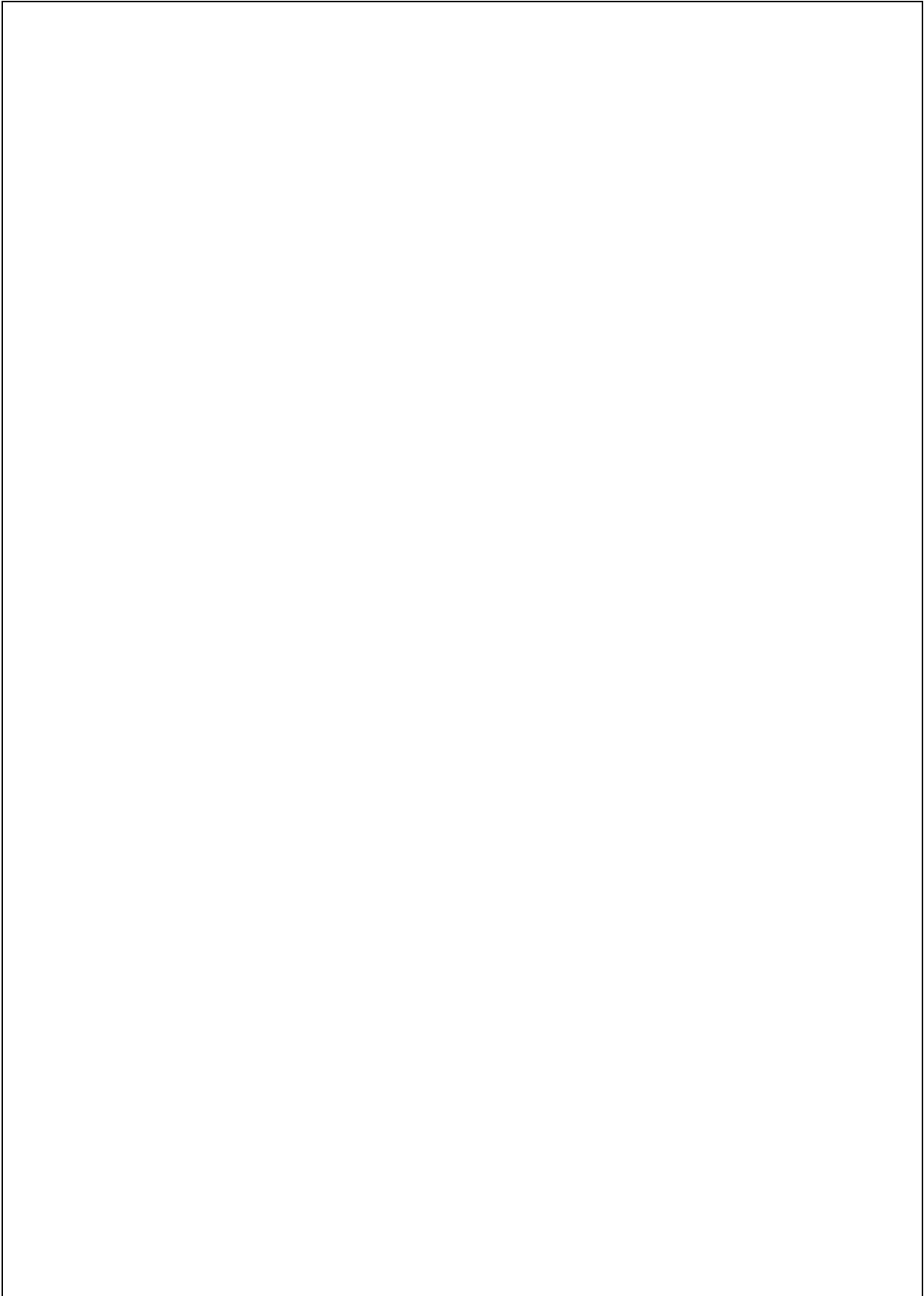
Please prepare up to 1,500 words on the following question:

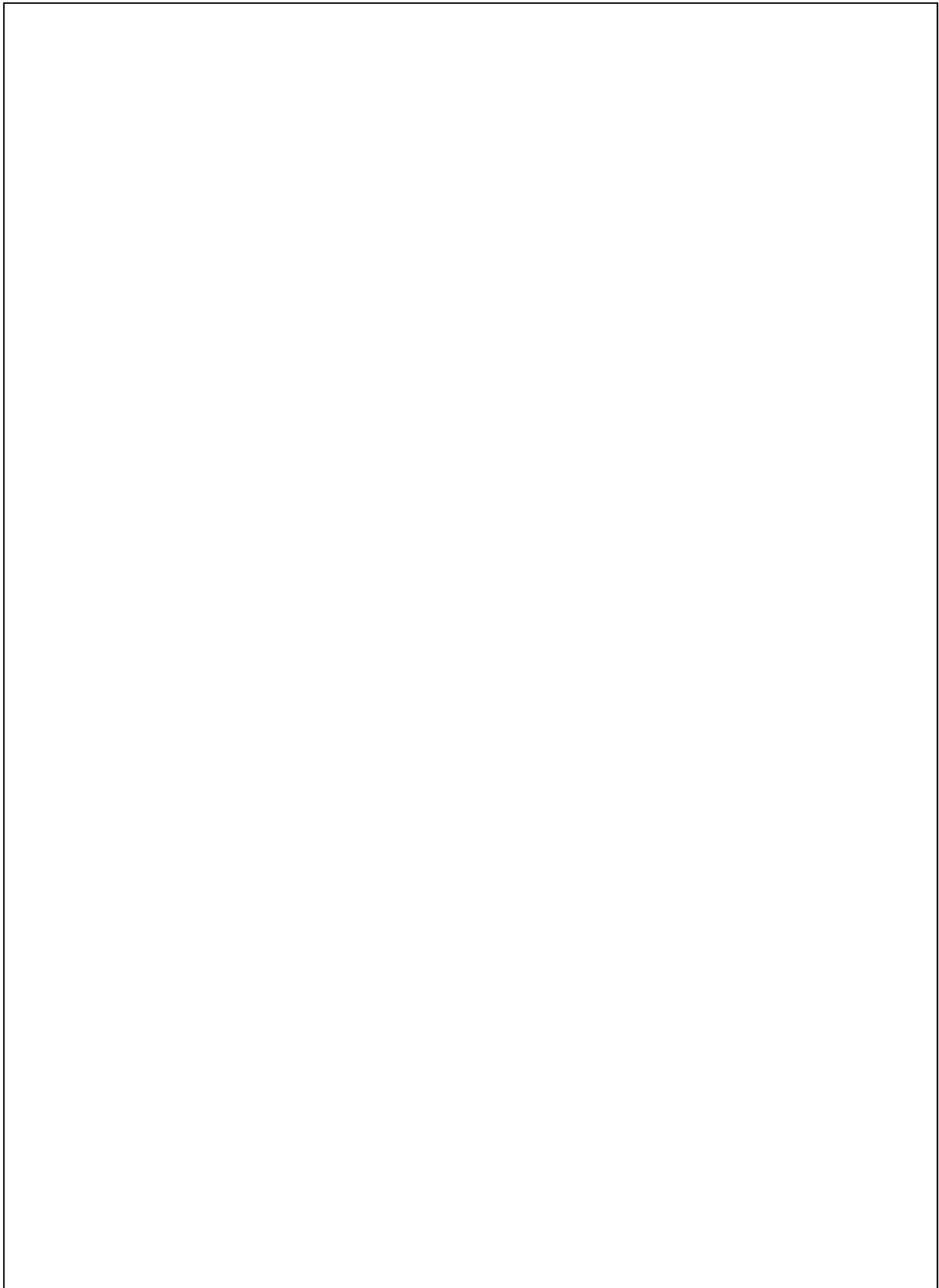
How do people's experiences of authority differ, depending on their identity or their socio-economic or racial background? Should the law, institutions or people in positions of authority or power, change in order to address these differences and, if so, how?

In answering the question, you may wish to:

- Focus on a particular area or aspect of authority; for example, the police, teachers, government decision-making bodies (national or local), or other public service.
- Refer to your own lived experiences or examples of lived experiences.
- Think about legal or policy solutions to the experiences you identify, or ways in which people in positions of power or authority could change their behaviour to address identified issues.

Whilst persuasive analysis and well-structured argument are important, we are particularly interested in creative, thoughtful and original ideas. The content of your essay is most important, and that it closely engages with the essay question.







*Please send your completed version form to
i.Onwukwe-Anyadike@doughtystreet.co.uk*

We aim to acknowledge all submissions within two days of receipt.

Essay assessment criteria

1. Content, and creative, thoughtful, or original ideas (**50%**):

The essay should engage closely with the question.

Creative, thoughtful or original ideas are to be rewarded. This includes essays demonstrating insight or sophisticated engagement with the subject-matter. Consideration of the subject-matter in light of lived experiences, or examples of lived experiences, may be particularly valuable.

Students should not be penalised in assessment of this criteria for shortcomings addressed in other criteria.

2. Analysis (**35%**):

This criterion should be measured against the student's ability to (i) conduct research (e.g. demonstrated through any evidence of wide(r) reading); (ii) persuasively use evidence to support their position(s); and (iii) proactively consider and address potential counterarguments to that position. Evidence of critical thinking is to be rewarded.

Students should not be penalised in assessment of this criteria for shortcomings addressed in other criteria.

3. Structure and presentation (**15%**):

Essays should be coherent, logical, well-structured, and to contain appropriate spelling and grammar.

Essays should have an appropriate introduction (outlining the argument of the essay and its proposed structure), and conclusion (drawing together the argument(s) made).



*Deadline for all submissions is the **31st January 2021** . All shortlisted submissions will be selected by the end of February 2021, and an announcement of winners made in March 2021 at a ceremony at Doughty Street Chambers.*