**This House has no confidence in the NHS.**

**Rebuttal:**

* **Countering the argument that the NHS does not provide for enough individual patient care:**
* Increase in front line staff, previously spending more on managerial staff but the decline of patient care and experience has led to the govt. wanting to increase number of front line staff in nurses and assistants.
  + Holistic view of the individual not just treating the illness they are presenting with but their mental health as well.
* Closing down smaller hospitals in favour of centres of excellence in order to reduce costs but also improve patient outcomes.

**Overarching statement of my argument**

* Who is health care for? The patient. Any health care system should work for the patient and its focus should be on providing the best services possible to its patients.
* How do we achieve that? Through a public health care system, like our NHS- not a privatised health care system like in the States.

**Why we should have confidence in the NHS?**

* **1. NHS as a public health care system offers greater involvement of patients and external experts in overseeing quality and efficiency of services, and provides for greater democratic control and accountability.**
* Democratic nature of NHS
  + Involvement of patients and external lay people being bought into to help improve services. E.g. RCPCH YAP and Children Commissioners Amplify group and parent and carer groups.
* Potential POI: Incidents like Mid-staffs show that democratic control has failed to prevent horrendous patient conditions in the past
* example of how and where democratic control had an active positive impact on improving outcomes for patients and incorporate Mid-staffs argument and turn it around- make it a positive example of that only a public health care system allows for this kind of whistle blowing, media inquiry and then public reports which improve patient care in the long run
* **Concrete Example:**
* **Link back to framework: this improves services for patients as they are the focus of the system.**
* **Counter example: In a privatised system, focus lies on profits, not on patients.**
* The mid Staffordshire crisis has bought to light whistle blowing- (Explain why whistle blowing and the reports and inquiries following that are a feature of a public health care system, not a privatised one; and why it can be seen as a chance for improvement)
  + Positive because it highlights areas which needs sorting out
  + Reasons for integration of services

1. **Excellent services provided already by the NHS - Patient centred in all aspects of care**

* NHS specialist hospitals usually have excellent intensive care (ITU) facilities, Although there are some larger specialist private hospitals in London, even these often lack 24x7 ITU. It's a little known fact that if you become critically unwell in many private hospitals, you are likely to be transferred back to the NHS for emergency care. The NHS has many specialist hospitals that are world leaders in areas such as cancer, cardiac and paediatric care. People fly in from all over the world to be treated at these centres of excellence, yet they are often overlooked by the UK private parent.  Your small local private hospital may not always be the best place to be.

1. **Inclusiveness of public health care system (NHS) vs. exclusiveness of privatised systems**

* NHS will be able to take care of the aging population
  1. If privatised not everyone would be able to pay for it – *Why is this bad?* (Social cohesion, social stability- state is for everybody, not just the rich)
  2. Or it would result in higher tax rates for everyone (This could prove really controversial- in a situation of economic instability, increase of tax rates will not be very popular- I would focus on the social benefits of point a) )
* Link back to goal of focus on patients: focus on all patients, not just the small percentage of rich ones- universal health care instead of exclusive health care.