

**Pyle, Fergus.** (1969). 'Hume to contest Foyle', extracts from a newspaper article based on a statement by John Hume, about seeking a mandate in the 1969 Stormont General Election, [PDF; KB]. *The Irish Times*, (7 February 1969): 9. ... [23703] - [Newspaper Article]

Statement by John Hume:

"Certain issues must be put before the people of this town in order that they may decide in what direction they must go. I stand, therefore, to seek a mandate from the people to do the following things:

1. To work for the formation of a new political movement based on social democratic principles with open membership and elected executives to allow complete involvement of the people in the procession of decision-making.
2. The movement must provide what has been seriously lacking in Stormont – a strong, energetic Opposition to conservatism proposing radical, social and economic policies.
3. The movement must be completely non-sectarian and committed to rooting out a fundamental evil in our society, sectarian division.
4. The movement would be committed to the idea that the future of Northern Ireland should be decided by its people and that there should be no change in its constitutional position without the consent of its people.

What I stand for fundamentally is a just society in Northern Ireland in which Catholic, Protestant and dissenter can work together to build a new community and base political action on political attitudes rather than use religion as a political weapon.

This is a question of issues and not of personalities and one which should be fought in open contest without bitterness or rancour. The people must decide."