

## Abode aborted

BRITAIN is doing a very good job of diverting our legislators' attention from the issue of the right of abode for all Hong Kong people.

Either because our legislators are politically immature or they think that standing up against Britain is not as popular as standing up against China, they have apparently decided to let this issue die a natural death.

What surprises me is that liberal legislators, who do not accept China's "no" on the changing of the Basic Law, readily accept Britain's "no" on the right of abode for Hong Kong people.

They now seem quite happy just to fight for the ethnic minorities and war widows. No doubt if Britain finally gives way on the ethnic minor-

ities issue, it will be hailed as a great victory by our legislators and Britain thanked for its "generosity".

It is clear that China and Britain will now go their separate ways on matters regarding Hong Kong. Come 1997, Britain will wash its hands of the territory, and Hong Kong people will be left to pick up the pieces. If Britain intends to maintain its present course of electoral reform, then it should offer UK passports to all Hong Kong people as an ultimate guarantee.

While I fully support the case of the ethnic minorities and war widows, I also feel the rest of Hong Kong deserves equal treatment.

H. K. CHAN  
Taikoo Shing