

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL**

**SUBMISSION FROM RICHARD CAMERON**

I am a Church of Scotland minister. I am very concerned about this new bill.

I fear that one of its unintended consequences will be to criminalise Christian preachers.

For instance: The Bible teaches that Christ is superior to all people in many ways. It says that only he can save. I worry that in an open debate that stating such Christian truths could be deemed as stirring up hatred by members of the Muslim faith.

Also: in open debate Christian preachers are bound to teach the biblical truth that marriage is a union of one man and one woman. But it is possible that those of an LGBT persuasion will accuse a Christian of saying such things as stirring up hatred.

I am of the opinion that this bill will have many unintended consequences, that it is not necessary and that current legislation already deals with racism and discrimination adequately.

Rev. Richard Cameron  
18 July 2020