

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM IAN JONES

Hello.

I strictly oppose the new Hate Crime and Order Bill. I feel this could lead to damage of expression, opinion and intellectual debate. Not having the capacity to oppose ideas, religion and non scientific based facts will damage reputations and credibilities. It will hamper open dialogue with different groups of people.

I worry for the arts, expression and opinion is so important even if it goes against my moral sensitives. I should be challenged as a person. Art and artistic performances should evoke with provocative statements and views that challenge the status quo. Without artistic expression, whether it's through plays, drama, comedy etc, I feel an orwellion state will ensue with a catastrophic effect.

I whole heartedly oppose this bill.

Ian Jones
20 July 2020