

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM MR W WINNING

Dear committee

The new Bill on hate speech in itself I support but I feel that some of the proposed definitions of the crime appear to be undemocratic and would completely stop lawful free speech and expression of personal thought and views. I would ask that before passing the bill could open and detailed examination be made of the wording of the proposed law. My deep concern is that the liberty we as a nation enjoy through the sacrifice of many men and women throughout our history will be taken from us and the Scottish culture and expression within our land will make us a much less welcoming people and will rob us of our standing in the rest of the UK and world.

I am a 65 year old Scot who upholds the laws of the land, who always uses my democratic vote at elections and is a practicing member of my local church. I am a retired primary school teacher who has committed himself to the care and welfare of those students under my care. I have never expressed myself so openly before on political matters but I felt compelled to do so today.

Thank you

Yours

Mr W Winning

Mr W Winning
21 July 2020