

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM JOSH BEATTIE

The first thing Hitler did when he came to power was suspend free speech.

This bill is not just a slippery slope, it's the first nose dive of the slope. If this bill is passed, good Scottish citizens will be scared of what "memes" they might have, or what mildly inappropriate words they might use. The bill could be used to determine someone saying "god I hate kids" could be sentenced to jail for hate speech. These laws are Draconian and EXTREMELY dangerous in the wrong hands.

I beg anyone who reads this, do everything you can to stop this bill, laws cannot stop hate, only good conversations, decent actions, and kindness can stop hate. This is a terrible course of action and a terrifying prospect for Scotland. Please think carefully.

Josh Beattie
20 July 2020