

## **JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

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

#### **SUBMISSION FROM JAMIE GLOVER**

Hello please find my objections to the new Hate Crime Bill below and attached.

Hate is completely subjective – what one person may find hateful another may find funny or inoffensive and vice versa. This bill is vague and does little to evaluate context. Will comedians be prosecuted for telling jokes for example? Will films and art be liable?

Criticism and evaluation is critical in evaluating society's problems. In creating protected classes, you expel them from this criticism and evaluation. This makes society less understanding of their problems and also creates tension, as non-protected classes can see that there is not an equal playing field.

Freedom of speech is a cornerstone of a free society. Freedom of speech should always trump the ability to not be offended. I do not think we should remove the freedom of Scotland because a minute portion of the country may or may not get offended.

The bill itself has been shown to be completely un-inclusive also. For example, misogyny is covered but misandry is not. The law is basically at the behest of the 'victims' perception also. If someone perceives a hate crime has been committed against them then the bill follows that it has. Again, this is entirely subjective and also creates the ability for alleged victims to lie and gives little defence to the alleged victimiser.

This bill does not serve in the countries best interest. It has not been demanded or supported by the public but by far left lobbying groups who represent a tiny portion of our country. This is also in breach of article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

#### **ARTICLE 10**

Freedom of expression

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.

Please do not throw away the freedom that has such significant historical importance to Scotland so a tiny portion of society do not get offended.

Thank you, Jamie Glover

Jamie Glover

7 July 2020