

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION FROM KLINEFELTER'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION UK**

Thank you for accepting our submission to the written evidence stage of the Hate Crime and Public (Order) Scotland Bill.

Klinefelter's Syndrome Association UK was founded in 1990 and was registered as a Charity (1058319) in 1996. It is based in England but has worldwide coverage and membership.

It was founded by a parent and an adult with our condition and so to this day it supports a broad spectrum of people from families with young children to senior citizens.

We are writing this follow up supplementary evidence having read the organisational responses.

We have noted that in the view of some organisations the subject at hand is a 'difference of sex development' as if this is a medical matter to be solely discussed with your doctor.

If the differences only related to genitalia we might leave it there, but our atypical chromosomes create bodies that are different from our peers in childhood and in adulthood. The differences perceived by other people drive bullying and worse, impacting on the quality of our lives.

As a Support Group we want our children and adults to have the life chances typical men and women have and that means seeking protections from bullying and harassment based on what we look like, when we unconsciously challenge the rooted perceptions of other people on what it means to look male or female.

The UK Equality Act 2010 does not explicitly cover people who are Intersex or who have Variations of Sex Characteristics (iVSC) , so there is no direct protection for our people and the quality of their lives, including access to properly tailored Government services; so inclusion in this bill would introduce protections for us which already exist for other minorities such as LGBT people.

Unlike some organisations we do not believe that inclusion in this legislation is stigmatising. Legislation such as this exists to protect minorities and we are, by any objective analysis, a minority deserving of protection.

We are willing to provide further evidence verbally if required.

Klinefelter's Syndrome Association UK  
20 October 2020