

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM GRAEME GOLDIE

This Bill should not be going forward, free speech is a critical part of a free, democratic nation.

While hate speech is something abhorrent, it should not be within the government's power to control. Controlling speech of any kind is a slippery slope towards a fascist state.

This Bill will simply be used to target individuals who certain lobby groups don't agree with. How can we begin to fix any problems if people are too scared to talk about anything for fear of being branded racist, transphobic, homophobic etc and being criminally convicted simply for having an opinion?

Graeme Goldie
[08 July 2020]