

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

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

**SUBMISSION FROM DEAN WILLIAMS**

I do not agree with the wording of this Bill, feeling that it is in many places too vague and could lead to any form of discussion or critique being labelled as hate speech. Freedom to discuss ideas and beliefs is paramount to the evolution of society and I fear that this bill, although well intentioned I'm sure, is a misguided step towards less tolerance, not more.

Thank you for consulting the public on this issue, I hope you reach a more enlightened solution than this, not quite draconian, but certainly draconic adjacent, bill.

Dean Williams  
[09 July 2020]