

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

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

**SUBMISSION FROM IAIN BOWLES**

Sir/Madam,

I am in favour of this Bill as it embraces the changes in society as we move forward as a Nation. I am particularly in favour of abolishing the Blasphemy laws as they are outdated and not reflective of our secular society in Scotland today. Whilst I have “no truck” with anyone practicing their faith it should have no effect on me or anyone who does not accept that particular “imaginary friend”.

I would also ask that, despite The Blasphemy law not being prosecuted for 175 years, those convicted under that legislation be pardoned.

Your sincerely

Iain Bowles