

## JUSTICE COMMITTEE

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

#### SUBMISSION FROM TYLEAN TUIJL

My name is TyLean Tuijl, and I am an artist living in Lochcarron. I am grievously concerned about the potential for abuse under the proposed Hate Crime and Public Order Scotland Bill. I am in complete agreement with the submission that has already been presented to you by the Free Speech Union, and I will not repeat each point here, however, I would like to add some examples of how this could irreparably harm the arts in Scotland.

As an artist - and a rather controversial artist - I am deeply concerned that my right to free speech and create art that provokes questions can be deemed a "hate crime" simply because it upsets people. It is the natural reaction of upset people to seek punishments for those who have upset them.

My body of work is not intended to upset anyone. It is intended to question your deepest held beliefs and your complacency. It is the unintended consequence that this will invariably upset people. And it should upset thinking people, because I am creating art that brings light to subjects such as child torture and psychological manipulation.... things that can and do happen in this world, and we cannot help these people unless we acknowledge what they go through.

As a young adult, embarking on this strange career, I believed I was setting out to create empathy and heal people. 22 years later, I have learned that you will repulse more than you heal. One can only hope that those who are repulsed have been impregnated with a seed that may germinate in the future and blossoms in an increase in empathy between human beings. Given the way people are treating each other (Trump, Brexit, Coronavirus), I am clearly losing this battle.

I have very mixed feelings about Ayn Rand, but a line from the Fountainhead sums my experiences up perfectly:

**Ayn Rand — 'If a ray of light falls into a pigsty, it is the ray that shows us the muck and it is the ray that is offensive.'**

If a bill like this were to be made law, I would be ruined. Can I be prosecuted for past works? Must I emigrate to a new country in order to create without threat of fine or imprisonment?

Scotland has a proud history of art, music and literature. Do not condemn its future art, music and literature with this bill. Our children and their children deserve the same freedom we enjoyed.

Thank you for reading this,

TyLean Tuijl  
09 July 2020