

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM ROSS MCGORAN

For the first time in my 51 years I am contacting my MSP to express, in the strongest possible terms, my opposition to the proposed new Crime and Public Order Bill.

Firstly - "Hate Crime". What is that? Is there a crime motivated by love? Are not all offences predicated on a negative?

Secondly - Special Interest Groups. If you provide specific legislation they will bend it to their advantage; that is human nature.

Thirdly - The law of unintended consequences will encourage those that feel that they are not receiving due attention from the Police and Criminal Justice System to falsely claim that they are a member of said groups and that they have been a victim of a "hate Crime". Thus ensuring a better standard of service, it is as inevitable as rain in Oban!

Fourthly - Redundancy. There is already existing, and sufficient, legislation to deal with these problems.

So...

This piece of poorly constructed, biased, sexist, anti-male, quasi-Marxist reactionary nonsense should have a stake driven through its heart afore it EVER sees the light of day.

It is nothing more than a blatant affront to our collective, hard won freedoms of speech and thought that borders on the Orwellian. Indeed, I am sure Orwell would easily recognise this current "thought" crime proposition and smile wryly.

It will provide those vexatious complainants with a cast iron ability to suppress legitimate debate and hobble those that do not bow to the received wisdom.

It will allow those with a vested interest to point and shout, "J'ACCUSE"! Their only desire to promote their own agenda and to suppress opposition to it.

This will require the Police to investigate, harass and persecute otherwise lawful citizens for the expression of personal views, opinions or even thoughts. It will affect our press, broadcast media, legitimate debate, freedom of expression and educational standards.

It codifies into legislation the very worse of ultra left-wing "woke" thinking that is currently, and thankfully, confined to our university campuses; it cannot be allowed out into the wider World.

Should you and your party allow this bill to come to fruition you will be releasing an

indiscriminate monster on our society to the detriment of the entire nation.

More importantly it will damage, perhaps irrevocably, our well earned reputation as a nation of free thinkers that base their thinking and their laws on balanced justice and sound moral, political and philosophical judgement.

And finally, as a supporter of an independent Scotland I cannot sit back and allow it to become law. It is nothing short of a throwback to darker times; an abomination.

I would resist it and in the process you would lose my vote.

I trust this will give you pause for thought.

Ross McGoran
25 June 2020