

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM DAVID MCKENDRICK

Dear Sir or Madam,

As I understand this Bill, if I were to address someone as Mr, Mrs, Ms or Miss this could offend them and I could be prosecuted for a Hate crime. In fact using dear sir or dear madam would run the same risk. Surely being offended should not be something that could lead to criminal prosecution? Even using dear might be construed as condescending?

It seems to me that this Bill is akin to using a sledgehammer to crack a nut. there are already adequate laws on place to protect people of whatever gender and trans people are in such a small minority that they do not need these all encompassing laws to protect their sensibilities.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

David McKendrick

14 July 2020