

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM CHRISTINE PARTRIDGE

I would like to reply to question 6 -Do you have views on the merits of Part 2 of the Bill and the plans to introduce a new offence of stirring up hatred?

My reply - Yes, I do.

Different people have different views or ideas about things.

People disagree and agree to disagree.

This must be allowed to continue, unless a person's expressed views are intended to stir up hatred.

Debate has always been part of our society. It is desirable and healthy and often opinions may change because of the debate.

Laws already exist to deal with threatening or abusive situations which some may find fearful or alarming.

Scotland does not need another law.

Yours sincerely

Christine Partridge

Christine Partridge

14 July 2020