

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HATE CRIME AND PUBLIC ORDER (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM IAIN CATHRO

Dear Sirs,

I write in regard to the above.

I'm strongly opposed to this legislation for the following reasons

1. Prevents freedom of speech. Increasingly to disagree with someone is seized upon as a hate crime. Mhari Black complained that parents unhappy at dragster Flowjob having access to their primary school age kids were "homophobic." Under this bill, these parents could be jailed
2. A woman is born a woman. A man is born a man. These are biological scientific facts. To say otherwise abuses science, and is nothing to do with hate.
3. We have seen the black lives matter movement declare failing to "bow the knee" is a hate crime. Further – people who have said all lives matter have been disciplined, and lost their jobs. Bizarre. Under this Act, they could also be jailed.
4. We have seen Christian preachers preaching the gospel – which means declaring glad tidings of great joy – labelled bigots. Is the next step to jail them, aslo?
5. It is a ridiculous concept to say a particular word, or speech is *likely* to stir up hatred. It can only be for a definite act where it is obvious and evident that was what was intended.
6. There is a risk of totalitarian political regimens emerging. I did not care for Derek MacKay as he had a complete and utter failure to understand basic Economics, such as the concept of the Laffer curve. This Act would mean if I criticised him, that could constitute a Hate Crime.
7. A healthy society requires health debate. We have the radical LGBT movement effectively stifling that as it is : any disagreement is homophobic; that will now become hate. Where does it end? Does it mean if I'm pro Independence but against the EU I cannot argue that point without offending someone, and potentially being accused of hate crime. Is it the only speech allowed is "PC" speech – which is narrowing what one is allowed to say more and more on a daily basis. Very, very dangerous.

To conclude this dreadful piece of legislation needs confined to the dustbin. Do I risk jail in future for saying this?

Iain Cathro

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17 July 2020