

Twitter Thread by [forwomen.scot](#)



[forwomen.scot](#)

[@ForwomenScot](#)



Back in the mists of time, we suggested that the proposed Scottish Hate Crime bill might be used as a stick to beat women who wanted to discuss the GRA, sex-based rights, & welfare of gender confused children.

We were told we were being silly: no one would do that.

Thread/

Today, we saw two proposed amendments to the hate crime bill with regard to #FreeSpeech in relation to transgender identity.

A general one from [@humzayousaf](#) & one from [@liamkerrmsp](#) which covers many of the topics women feared might result in prosecution - thank you!

Humza Yousaf

In section 12, page 8, line 9, leave out <sections 3(2) and 5(2)> and insert <section 3(2)>

Liam Kerr

In section 12, page 8, line 12, after <practices,> insert—

<() discussion or criticism of marriage which concerns the sex of the parties to marriage,>

After section 12

Humza Yousaf

After section 12, insert—

<Protection of freedom of expression: transgender identity

- (1) This section applies for the purposes of section 3(2).
- (2) Behaviour or material is not to be taken to be threatening or abusive solely on the basis that it involves or includes discussion or criticism of matters relating to transgender identity.
- (3) In this section, “transgender identity” means identity as—
 - (a) a female-to-male transgender person,
 - (b) a male-to-female transgender person,
 - (c) a non-binary person,

(d) a person who cross-dresses.>

Liam Kerr

After section 12, insert—

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- (1) This section applies for the purposes of sections 3(2) and 5(2).
- (2) Behaviour or material is not to be taken to be threatening or abusive solely on the basis that it involves or includes—
 - (a) discussion or criticism of transgender identity,
 - (b) urging of persons to modify their transgender identity,
 - (c) stating that sex is an immutable biological characteristic,
 - (d) stating that there are only two sexes, or
 - (e) refusing to use a person’s preferred name or pronoun.>

If anyone had doubts that the extremists of gender ideology did not intend to use this legislation as a means to silence and intimidate, the frothing indignation of anti-woman activists who might be prevented from filing hourly hate crime reports, surely laid this to rest.

Naturally, Scottish Green Party were quick to charge into the fray. Emz Cuthbertson, co-convener of SGP women & Rainbow Greens, was in no way hyperbolic in referring to it as a "transphobes charter", with Dr Kevin finding the idea of not being able to shut women up "terrifying".



The Last Airbender @Queer_Scot · 1h



No, we're not misunderstanding. It's pretty clear you don't view sexual orientation or trans status as equal to race or disability



Humza Yousaf  @HumzaYousaf · 1h

Thread:

Have seen a fair bit of misunderstanding about Hate Crime Bill this morning around Freedom of Expression provisions, for clarity:

- No characteristic is being singled out. Bill includes 4 FoE provisions - for Religion, Sexual Orientation, Age & Transgender Identity (TI)

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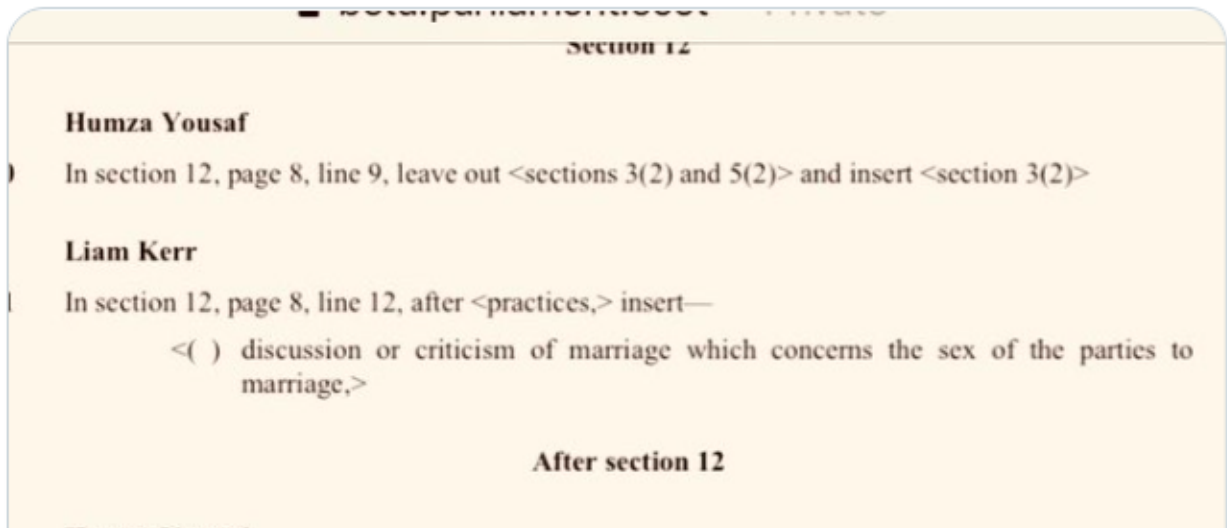
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The Last Airbender @Queer_Scot · 4h



Hello @scotgov @theSNP @HumzaYousaf also paging @ChristinaSNP.... Is this a transphobes charter instead of a Hate Crime Bill cos I'm confused right now



Also up were activist James (who once promoted a lurid fantasy about lesbians beating up a NB child at Edinburgh Pride) & serial party hopper, Tristan who was horrified that "misgendering" was not about to be a crime & thinks advocating child counselling is "conversion therapy".



Tristan Gray @tristangrayedi · 3h

...

"Behaviour or material is not taken to be threatening or abusive solely on the basis that it includes criticism of matters relating to...

- religious faith
- racial identity
- sexuality
- linguistic identity"

Can you imagine ruling these out of hate crime legislation?

Section 12

Humza Yousaf

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Tristan Gray @tristangrayedi · 3h

...

It gets even worse from the Scottish Tories, who have proposed an amendment that would explicitly rule out misgendering people and conversion therapy against trans people as hate crimes:

Here is Labour activist who is "floored" by the amendments, calling them "active bigotry".

She's also furious a Labour MSP has the temerity to suggest that advocating for women's rights should not carry penal sanction.

Thank you [@RhodaGrant](#) for this amendment



Cecily @cecilyleah · 5h

...

Really floored by the amendments going through the Scottish Parliament on specifically excluding transgender identity from new hate crime provisions. This Minister of Justice is advocating exclusion for a specific characteristic.

Section 12

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Lib Dem, Layla Moran supporter, and evolutionary biologist (really), James is not a fan of #FreeSpeech

And Tristan is really hitting his stride now...



Humza Yousaf  @HumzaYousaf · 37m

People have seemingly confused our amendment with Liam Kerr's amendment on Freedom of Expression clause in relation to Transgender Identity. For avoidance of doubt his amendment is not one Govt will be supporting

I believe our FoE clauses (all four of them) strike right balance

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James D. Burgon
@JamesBurgon

Replying to @HumzaYousaf

Why are Freedom of Expression clauses on specific protected characteristics needed in the first place? Is the rest of the bill that poorly defined and worded? Are you tiering hate crimes?

5:55 PM · Jan 27, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Still going...

No one suggested removing transphobia from hate crime, they are merely saying that it is not covered by women arguing that sex exists & we have rights, and that we shouldn't be punished for belief in science. Tristan clearly wanted to use this to persecute women.



Tristan Gray
@tristangrayedi



Not sure there's a more direct way for the SNP leadership to pin their colours to the mast than suggesting changes to the hate crime bill that openly suggest removing transphobia as a hate crime.

Imagine removing criticism of "homosexual identity" from hate crime legislation.

12:00 PM · Jan 27, 2021 · Twitter Web App

50 Retweets 4 Quote Tweets 145 Likes



Tristan Gray @tristangrayedi · 3h



Replying to @tristangrayedi

There's no difference here. Humza Yousaf is providing an escape hatch for transphobes to use to escape legislation that he is providing for no other hate group.

This is SNP leadership flagrantly pandering to transphobia in their ranks, declaring "it's alright to be a transphobe"

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Juan, who likes to write abusive articles about female MSPs is under the impression that the SNP swept to victory on a promise to create a third sex class.

He also thinks the amendments now legalise hate crime.

Not sure reading & comp are a strong suit!

 Jack Deeth Retweeted



Juan Mac
@no1guncle



The SNP really ran for office saying they'd introduce non binary recognition and then the form it takes is including them on a list of "people it is OK to do hate crimes against"

1:42 PM · Jan 27, 2021 · Twitter for Android

119 Retweets **4** Quote Tweets **450** Likes



Harry Giles is having a totally proportionate reaction.

Hate crime "doesn't protect" them. Well, it really doesn't protect women, but Engender's guest "feminist" thinker isn't really stopping to think about us...



But all this is on such shite terrain! Hate crime laws don't protect us, and they don't end oppression! They enable the state to signal a moral position and make no material changes, and the police use them against the oppressed. Fuck them.



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Dr Harry Josephine @HarryJosieGiles · 1h



Reading: againststequality.org/wp-content/upl...

Context: beta.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws...

Recent history:



Dr Harry Josephine @HarryJosieGiles · Oct 19, 2020

Here's a wee history of the emergence of transphobia in the SNP, with some thoughts about what it might mean for the struggle in Labour.

I'm less interested in "saving" Labour (I quit), & more in combatting the risk of transphobia's legitimisation & state power through parties.

[Show this thread](#)



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Dr Harry Josephine @HarryJosieGiles · 1h



People now QTing this to argue in favour of either hate crime law or "freedom of speech" are not doing the reading. It's all shite. The terrain is shite. The debate is shite. None of this is actually about improving oppressed people's lives.



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Iona Paton, who has a dubious track record of smearing [@joannaccherry](#), is still saying that talking about women's rights is "intolerance and bigotry"

She was also hoping to use the stirring up offence to prosecute Joanna.

<https://t.co/ksN2nll3V4>

🔄 Jack Deeth Retweeted



Iona @IonaPaton · 54m

Ok [@HumzaYousaf](#) so based on her tweet this morning declaring this a win for women's rights and therefore pitting women's rights against trans rights, Cherry could be seen to be "intending to stir up hatred" and would therefore be committing an offence under this bill? 🙄

Bravo [@HumzaYousaf](#). The [@scotgov](#) have introduced an amendment to [#HateCrimeBill](#) to protect [#FreedomOfExpression](#) in respect of discussion & criticism of matters relating to transgender identity. A huge victory for [#womensrights](#) & [#FreedomOfSpeech](#)



Humza Yousaf ✓ @HumzaYousaf · 1h

■ Nobody is given carte blanche. FoE provisions provide reassurances around (often contentious) issues of debate. However, regardless of an FoE clause if behaviour is threatening or abusive & intended to stir up hatred you will be committing one of the new offences Bill creates.

[Show this thread](#)



🔄 2

❤️ 10



This is Gregor. Gregor was suspended from the SNP for abusing women online. Gregor thinks protecting rape victims is wrong. Gregor thinks transphobia is now exempt from hate crime because Gregor can't use it to attack women.

Don't be like Gregor.



Rev Gregor/Fisher Murray @grogipher · 4h



In the past 12 months the SNP have:

- * Dropped all changes to the GRA
- * Put in a transphobic amendment to the Forensic Medical Services Bill
- * Done absolutely nothing to recognise or help NB people in any way at all
- * Refused to take action against transphobic MPs/MSPs

[cont]



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Rev Gregor/Fisher Murray @grogipher · 4h



- * Tabled amendments to the Hate Crime bill to allow transphobia to be exempt
- * Elected transphobes into positions such as equalities convenor
- * Allowed their MPs to bully individual trans people

The SNP is not a party that any trans person or ally should vote for in May, at all



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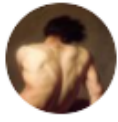
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Jordon, the former partner of Alyn Smith MP, who shared confidential messages on Twitter and who was prevented from standing after the Sun exposed his abusive behaviour, is also cross.

Saying women might be able to talk about rights = "bowing to terfs".

"Horrrifying"



Paris Stilton @montague90 · 4h

...

Replying to @montague90

Its the 'criticism of matters relating to tranagender identity' part mostly, which would pretty much cover the obviously horrifying proposals Liam Kerr has followed up with. Its so needlessly vague

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Paris Stilton @montague90 · 3h

...

Kind of curious about the point of putting forward hate crime legislation if we're planning on exempting certain hate?

Speaks volumes about ScotGov that we can't pass the GRA yet we bow down to terfs at the first opportunity. State of it

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Paris Stilton @montague90 · 3h

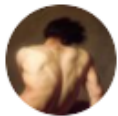
...

GRA reform i should say* yet to have covfefe

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Paris Stilton @montague90 · 3h

...

Can you imagine having an exemption of this kind that would allow for open criticism of religious identity? No, for good reason. So to allow it for someone's actual reality but not for someone's belief is...odd

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An actor writes that Scotland is about to allow "conversion therapy" (allowing discussion of watchful waiting rather than affirmation and drugs, the devastating results of which were exposed in Bell case).

Apparently this means "transphobia is permitted". It's pronouns (again).



David Paisley 
@DavidPaisley

...

This amendment by Tory MSP Liam Kerr to allow conversion therapy for trans people could easily be modified to create a definition of transphobia.

- Criticism of transgender identity.
- Urging a person to modify their transgender identity.
- Refusing to use a person's name/pronouns.



End Conversion Therapy Scotland @ECTScotland · 3h

If there's any doubt that conversion therapy remains a threat to people in Scotland let that be laid to rest by Liam Kerr MSP.

Liam Kerr's suggested amendment to the Hate Crime act expressly argues in favour of conversion therapy being legal in Scotland (2.b).

[Show this thread](#)

Liam Kerr

After section 12, insert—

<Protection of freedom of expression: transgender identity

- (1) This section applies for the purposes of sections 3(2) and 5(2).
- (2) Behaviour or material is not to be taken to be threatening or abusive solely that it involves or includes—
 - (a) discussion or criticism of transgender identity.

I realise the tone of this thread is flippant, but this is deadly serious. These individuals are furious that there might be any check on the legitimisation of their woman hatred.

This is the monster this bill has fed, and all MSPs should be very wary.

For more evidence, read the replies. People up in arms because [@HumzaYousaf](#) is not proposing to rip up #humanrights act & lock women up for misgendering or denying reality of 100 genders.

They want a new blasphemy law. At least the old one wasn't used!

<https://t.co/01sMQWaawH>

People have seemingly confused our amendment with Liam Kerr's amendment on Freedom of Expression clause in relation to Transgender Identity. For avoidance of doubt his amendment is not one Govt will be supporting

I believe our FoE clauses (all four of them) strike right balance

— Humza Yousaf (@HumzaYousaf) January 27, 2021