

Justice Committee**Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Bill****Written submission from Margaret Ramsay**

While I agree that something should be done about the continuing football hooliganism of a small minority which is a stain on our society, as a Christian I am very concerned with the wider scope of this bill which could affect my freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Having been a Christian for 45 years I've had many conversations with people where I've had the opportunity at some point in the conversation to share my faith and sometimes offer them a little leaflet with more information if they're interested in what I've said or want to know more.

As the basis of what I want to share with people is that God loves them and sent His Son to die for them, I share it in a way which is in line with what I'm saying ie. politely and in a non threatening manner. But if, because of the faith or viewpoint they hold, what I say threatens them, does that mean I could now be arrested if this bill passes? The term "and threatening communications" needs to be dropped altogether or included after "offensive behaviour".

Margaret Ramsay
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