Firstly, I do not agree that the Act should be repealed.

I say this because there is still too much sectarian abuse about and I think anything which reduces it is a good thing. I am aware people say that other laws cover these parts but I think specific laws are required for football matches as that is where a majority of issues can occur - especially between Rangers and Celtic matches. I should point out that I am not a football supporter or interested in football/ attend matches. I am a 50+ current housewife and a previous IT manager/employee of a Bank.

I am however appalled at sectarianism and believe there is no place in a forward looking liberal society for this behaviour and therefore the laws have to be rigorous and rigorously applied.

I would like legislation to go further and Orange marches tackled, as these again are divisive and I cannot believe the police watch while an effigy of a person in a Celtic top are burned on top of fires or sectarian songs played or sung.

For this reason if the Act were to be repealed it would send a message that sectarian behaviour is ok and it would increase again at football matches. We need specific football legislation to focus on this area and to make VERY clear what behaviour is not acceptable at these games as to find one individual in a crowd of many committing such acts will be difficult for the police to find and round up perpetrators In addition it is not so much an issue of ‘is other legislation sufficient’ but more the message it would give if repealed.

Also, if other legislation is sufficient, then why are Orange marches allowed behaviour like it was recently and why was that not stopped?

If the Act is repealed then I do not believe that convictions should be stopped. If current other legislation is deemed sufficient then these people should be tried against that law instead. Again, stopping convictions gives the wrong message.

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