

Wilson J (Jim)

From:
Sent: 28 September 2008 23:17
To: Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill
Subject: New Legislation

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Dear Sirs,

I write to protest at the inclusion of the "Extreme pornography" measures in the recently announced CJ and Licensing Bill. I have been deeply concerned at the erosion of civil liberties, not just in Scotland but across the UK, under the masses of legislation introduced by the recent Labour governments.

I am appalled that any government in a Western democracy should be considering these kinds of measures; a view shared by many (around 50% of Scottish consultation respondents were opposed to the proposals and around 2/3rds of those responding to the England/Wales process). This is a proposed crime with no proven victims and no independently verified proof of harm; rather, distaste seems to be major driving force behind it. The government has absolutely no business in the nation's bedrooms; indeed, the measures are very likely to contravene EU human-rights laws, which protect free-speech and privacy.

I welcomed the arrival of the SNP administration in Holyrood as the potential end of many years of authoritarian Labour rule in at least one part of the UK, but I am very disappointed that they have chosen not to consign such illiberal and narrow-minded policy-making and legislation to the dustbin.

Yours,

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