

Proposals against incitement of hatred and discrimination – NZCCSS Submission

Contact Name:	Nikki Hurst
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Organisation Name:	New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS)
Organisation description:	<p>The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on proposals to strengthen protections against incitement of hatred and discrimination. NZCCSS has six foundation members; the Anglican Care Network, Baptist Churches of New Zealand, Catholic Social Services, Presbyterian Support and the Methodist and Salvation Army Churches.</p> <p>NZCCSS represents over 250 member organisations providing a range of social support services across Aotearoa. We believe in working to achieve a just and compassionate society for all, through our commitment to our faith and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Further details on NZCCSS can be found on our website www.nzccss.org.nz</p>

Submission and Recommendations

We support the kaupapa to make Aotearoa New Zealand safer for everyone, by strengthening the provisions that protect groups from speech that incites hatred, and by improving protections against discrimination.

Our main points:

1. **Proposal One**

We agree with the increase in groups identified within proposal one.

Recommendation Proposal 1: We would suggest the groups identified include:

- Age
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Ethnicity / Race
- Religion / Spirituality
- Ability
- Economic status

2. **Proposal Two**

*We strongly support expanding the definition of communicating speech to including electronic means in proposal two

*We are concerned that amending prior language ("hostility", "ill-will", "contempt" and "ridicule") to "hate" removes the ability to act in situations other than the very extreme.

Recommendation Proposal 2: We suggest the retention of earlier language *and* the addition of "hate", and the broadening of the definition of communication and the spaces in which this occurs

3. **Proposal Three – Six**

We broadly support proposals 3-6