

Hello. I would like to add my comment on the new Bill. I know this is very much a minority view, especially nowadays, but I would like to see defamation abolished altogether. I believe in free speech and have been appalled by the many encroachments on this which have been enacted in the last few years. If “verbal injury” exists, I don’t think it should be compensated for. I accept that your draft Bill restricts defamation, and applaud this, but it’s not enough for me!

Everyone seems to say something like “I believe in free speech, but...” Saying things which annoy or hurt others is a vital part of public debate. Otherwise we are left with “unsayable” views which many people might hold, and often which were a majority view a few decades ago.

Regards,

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