
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1987 No. 463

The Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987

PART III

STIRRING UP HATRED OR AROUSING FEAR

Acts intended or likely to stir up hatred or arouse fear

Meaning of “fear” and “hatred” [F1 etc.]

8.—[F2(1)] In this Part—

“fear” means fear of a group of persons^{F3}. . . defined by reference to religious belief,[F4 sexual orientation, disability] colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origins;

“hatred” means hatred against a group of persons^{F3}. . . defined by reference to religious belief,[F4 sexual orientation, disability] colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origins.

[F5(2) For the purposes of this Part, any discussion or criticism of marriage which concerns the sex of the parties to marriage is not to be taken of itself to be—

- (a) threatening, abusive or insulting, or
- (b) intended to stir up hatred or arouse fear.]

F1 Word in art. 8 heading inserted (13.1.2020) by [The Marriage \(Same-sex Couples\) and Civil Partnership \(Opposite-sex Couples\) \(Northern Ireland\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1514\)](#), regs. 1(2), **142(c)** (with regs. 6-9)

F2 Art. 8(1): art.8 renumbered as art. 8(1) (13.1.2020) by [The Marriage \(Same-sex Couples\) and Civil Partnership \(Opposite-sex Couples\) \(Northern Ireland\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1514\)](#), regs. 1(2), **142(a)** (with regs. 6-9)

F3 2001 c. 24

F4 2004 NI 15

F5 Art. 8(2) inserted (13.1.2020) by [The Marriage \(Same-sex Couples\) and Civil Partnership \(Opposite-sex Couples\) \(Northern Ireland\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1514\)](#), regs. 1(2), **142(b)** (with regs. 6-9)

Changes to legislation:

The Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987, Section 8 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Instrument amended by [1998 c. 2 s.18\(1\)Sch.3 para.3](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- art.2(3)(b) amended by [1996 c. 26 s. 2\(3\)\(4\)](#)
- art.2(3)(b) amended by [1996 c. 26 s. 2\(3\)\(4\)](#)
- arts.5(2)66A7(1) revoked by [1998 c. 2 s.18\(2\)Sch.4](#)