

# Football Offences (Amendment) Bill

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TO

Amend section 3 of the Football Offences Act 1991.

**B**E IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

**1 Amendments to section 3 of the Football Offences Act 1991**

- (1) Section 3 of the Football Offences Act 1991 (indecent or racist chanting) is amended as follows.
- (2) The heading before the section is amended to “Indecent or racist chanting or gesturing”. 5
- (3) In subsection (1)—
  - (a) after “chanting” insert “or gesturing”;
  - (b) for “racialist” substitute “racist”; and
  - (c) after “nature” insert “or in relation to a person’s sexual orientation, in relation to a person’s gender reassignment, or in relation to any other of the protected characteristics listed in section 4 of the Equality Act 2010”. 10
- (4) At the end of subsection (2)(a)—
  - (a) omit “and”, and
  - (b) insert— 15
    - “(aa) “gesturing” means the movement of part of the body to express an idea or meaning (whether alone or in concert with one or more others);
    - (ab) “indecent” means consisting of or including matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting to a person; and” 20
- (5) In subsection (2)(b)—
  - (a) for “racialist” substitute “racist”, and
  - (b) for “his” substitute “that person’s”.

- (6) At the end of subsection (2)(b) insert –
- “(ba) “in relation to a person’s sexual orientation” means consisting of or including matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting to a person by reason of their sexual orientation as defined by the Equality Act 2010;
  - (bb) “in relation to a person’s gender reassignment” means consisting of or including matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting to a person by reason of their gender reassignment as defined by the Equality Act 2010.”

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## **2 Extent, commencement and short title**

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- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Football Offences (Amendment) Act 2018.

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## B I L L

To amend section 3 of the Football Offences Act 1991.

*Presented by Damian Collins,  
supported by Julie Elliot,  
Paul Farrelly, Simon Hart,  
Julian Knight, Ian C. Lucas,  
Brendan O'Hara, Rebecca Pow,  
Jo Stevens and Giles Watling.*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons,  
to be Printed, 25 June 2018.*

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