



Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee

Inquiry: Inquiry into anti-LGBTIQA+ hate crimes in Victoria

Hearing date: 24 June 2026

Question taken on notice

Directed to: Daniel Powell

Received date: 28 July 2026

1. The CHAIR, page 43

Question Asked:

That is fair enough. You did touch on, and we have seen it happen a lot more, the post-and boast situation, which is some pretty disgusting stuff that happens. There have been some changes in the law around posting and boasting, but what more would you like to see around that?

Daniel POWELL: I could provide a better answer, a written response, after going and considering it, but I think just stronger sentencing to discourage people from posting and boasting would be a really good start – and making it easier to prove that somebody has posted and boasted.

Response:

How can post and boast laws be strengthened to prevent LGBTIQA+ Hate Crimes? (Crimes Amendment (Performance Crime) Act 2025

Current post and boast laws mean there is an additional 2 years in prison if offenders are found to post about a crime they have committed or a crime they are found to be encouraging and facilitating. I think posting to incite fear or further violence towards a particular community could be something that could be reviewed to further strengthen legal consequences to posting and boasting.

The legislation could be strengthened by cross-refencing/exploring the relationship with anti-vilification and social cohesion legislation.

I also wonder if online platforms should have a legal obligation to not only remove violent content but to also report how crimes being shared and interacted with online so that we can gain a better understanding of what these hate networks look like and how they behave so that we can respond to them appropriately.

Something that needs to be considered when thinking about strengthening post and boast laws is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people may be disproportionately impacted by the strengthening of these laws so there should be consultation with this community and a self-determined approach to responding to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people engaging in this behaviour.