



CHAPTER 3 CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

STATE OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN SCOTLAND 2019



WHAT'S THIS CHAPTER ABOUT?

There's a group of human rights that are sometimes called 'civil rights and freedoms'. These rights include the right to protest, gather together in public places, join groups, say what you think, access information, believe in what you want and the right to keep some things private. These rights are about making sure the government doesn't unfairly restrict how you want to live your life.

This chapter looks at lots of examples of where children's civil rights and freedoms aren't respected. One example looks at the use of 'mosquito devices' which can affect children's right to meet up in groups in public places.

A mosquito device is a type of machine that makes an uncomfortable sound only children and young people can hear. They are used to prevent groups of children and young people from gathering in an area. They have been found outside shops, in train stations and on some houses.



WHAT DID THE COMMITTEE SAY?

The Committee said that mosquito devices should be banned. It also said that children have the right to meet with others, as long as this does not harm other people.



WHAT HAS SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT DONE?

Scottish Government has said it doesn't think it can ban the sale of mosquito devices, as this is something that only the UK government can do.

WHAT DO CHILDREN THINK?

Children and young people think that mosquito devices should be banned. Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament campaigned for this and asked the Scottish Parliament to do this.

WHAT DOES TOGETHER THINK?

Mosquito devices are against children's human rights and Scottish Government should make rules to control their use.

WHAT NEXT?

Children and young people are not giving up!

They have asked Scottish Government to think about whether it can control the use of mosquito devices in some other way.



WHAT ELSE IS TALKED ABOUT IN THIS CHAPTER?

- ★ Having to do religious things as part of the school day - like praying
- ★ Children's right to keep some things private
- ★ Children taking part in the school climate strikes
- ★ Children being stopped and searched by the police

If you want to see the full chapter, you can find this [here](#).