



The Online Safety Bill: 262 pages, zero mention of women and girls.

Back in 2017, the Government published an Internet Safety Green Paper which later became the Online Safety Bill – a piece of legislation designed to make the UK the safest place online in the world. **There have been several public consultations on the proposals which have improved the Bill since its inception**, the one area where it hasn't, is when it comes to the safety of women and girls:

65% of women who report abuse to internet companies don't feel heard

77% of women change their behaviour after receiving online abuse

Women of colour are 34% more likely to be mentioned in abusive tweets than white women

The Bill is now 262 pages and does not mention women and girls - not once.

This is despite the excessive levels of online abuse women receive, as we highlighted during the Women's EUROS last year. Not only are footballers on the receiving end but the stark reality is that all women can experience the likes of unsolicited pictures, stalking and rape threats on a daily basis.

Whilst some of these behaviours will be caught by the new categories of illegal content, many will not, or not well enough. So we want the Bill to go further to make the internet safer for women and girls.

We're working with our partners [Glitch](#) to help #MakeItSafer by advocating to Parliamentarians, both MPs and Lords, to improve the Bill. We've written detailed briefings for Parliamentarians, brought in legal experts, held round tables, and held a reception at the House of Lords attended by Fara Williams and Rio Ferdinand to advocate for the changes we think would make the Bill stronger for women and girls.

Hope United squad members supported us too, with an [open letter](#) to government.

And you can help too by [tweeting the House of Lords](#); our tweet will help to encourage Peers to include women and girls in the Bill, helping to reduce the amount of sexist and misogynistic material circulating online, at a time when decisions on the Bill can still be influenced. Every tweet will be counted.

The Bill is a good start but without women and girls included in it, it **won't fulfill its promise to make the UK the safest place to be online. Together we can change that.**