



# Public Order Act 1986

## 1986 CHAPTER 64

### PART III

#### RACIAL HATRED

##### *Racially inflammatory material*

#### 24 Powers of entry and search.

- (1) If in England and Wales a justice of the peace is satisfied by information on oath laid by a constable that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that a person has possession of written material or a recording in contravention of section 23, the justice may issue a warrant under his hand authorising any constable to enter and search the premises where it is suspected the material or recording is situated.
- (2) If in Scotland a sheriff or justice of the peace is satisfied by evidence on oath that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that a person has possession of written material or a recording in contravention of section 23, the sheriff or justice may issue a warrant authorising any constable to enter and search the premises where it is suspected the material or recording is situated.
- (3) A constable entering or searching premises in pursuance of a warrant issued under this section may use reasonable force if necessary.
- (4) In this section “premises” means any place and, in particular, includes—
  - (a) any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or hovercraft,
  - (b) any offshore installation as defined in section 1(3) (b) of the <sup>M1</sup>Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971, and
  - (c) any tent or movable structure.

#### Marginal Citations

M1 1971 c. 61.

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 03/05/2007.

**Changes to legislation:**

Public Order Act 1986, Section 24 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 July 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.