

Rally in Wellington, Christchurch for transgender rights

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NOW PLAYING • Focus: Anti-trans activist aborts Auckland rally amid counter-protesters

Thousands of counter-protesters see British anti-trans activist Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull abort her central Auckland rally. Video / NZ Herald ...

Thousands of people are demonstrating in Wellington and Christchurch today in support of transgender rights.

Wellington's Civic Centre is packed with people demonstrating for trans rights. At least a thousand people are in the square, listening to activists speak to the crowd.

More people are still pouring in to the protest from the surrounding streets, lining up on the bridge which leads to Wellington's waterfront.

Today's demonstration comes a day after controversial anti-trans campaigner Posie Parker had to be escorted away before she could speak at her Auckland event, as more than 2000 protesters outnumbered her supporters.

5th

Parker's name was brought up in a speech in Wellington there was an eruption of boos from the

"I know the global rise of hatred seems inevitable but it is not. We are not powerless," said one of the Wellington speakers as the crowd cheered.

A lone protester tried to interrupt the speeches and was met with chants of "love, not hate."

Overwhelming boos and cries of "go home" are coming from the crowd.

The protester has turned back and appears to be exiting Civic Square.

Several hundred demonstrators in Christchurch - many holding placards and rainbow flags - gathered near the Bridge of Remembrance late this morning.

A group of counter-protestors from the Destiny Church group 'Man Up' were at the scene, with police and rally organisers keeping both groups separated.

A speaker from Man Up was shouted down when he attempted to speak in Christchurch.

- with RNZ

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