

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful



THE ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Attention: News editors. Social affair, Ethnic media, interfaith media, and community writers

Saturday 20 October 2014

### **ISLAMOPHOPIA HAS NO PLACE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

This early morning Muslim Australians were shocked to see an offensive graffiti sprayed over a mosque wall in Welshpool and deeply offensive vulgarism sprayed on a wall near a Muslim school in Thornlie. A day earlier a peaceful anti-Islamophobia rally in Perth, organised by Curtin student Guild's Miranda Wood and all fair-minded Australians from diverse communities has been confronted by counter-protesters, some wearing masks chanted "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie" and "this is Australia for Australians". We expected the Australian Defence League (ADL) and Q-Society far right extremist groups to be behind these acts.

While WA Police is investigating this latest hate crime against the Muslim community, we plea to the federal attorney general Hon George Brandis and justice minister Hon Michael Keenan to proscribe ADL and Q society without any further delay as the federal liberal government's lax attitude towards the Far-Right extremists will lead to further serious troubles in our community. Muslim Australian community will hold the Abbot government directly responsible for any crimes against our community committed by any far right group member or others who could be influenced by their ideology.

Islamic Council of Western Australia urges all in the Muslim community to remain calm and NOT be provoked by bigots and racist bogans that want to drive a wedge between Australians of diverse cultures and religions.

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Islamic Council of Western Australia Inc.

Islamic Council of Western Australia (ICWA) was established in 1976 and incorporated as a State Council for Islamic affairs in 1977. We promote unity and friendship amongst Muslims and other communities within and outside of Western Australia.  
<http://www.islamicouncilwa.com.au/>