

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 18 October 2014

ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA STANDS AGAINST ISLAMOPHOPIA

The following is a speech delivered by President of Islamic Council of WA at the national anti-Islamophobia rally in Perth on Saturday 18 October 2014.

When 800 police officers raid Australian family homes in Sydney and Queensland
When 15 Australian Muslims were detained and none of them were charged
When after a dozen or more homes were aggressively raided and no information was found
When Police say they were acting on information that a group was planning to carry out attacks but that they had no specific information
When our Prime Minister has nothing to say but that there was intent for harm
When we hear of our country going into high terrorist alert right before it joins forces for another war in Iraq, now don't you think that our Liberal Government is using very cheap tactics to justify this war?
Dear Mr. Abbot Do you really think that Australians are that dumb to believe to your Hollywood poorly directed movie about Australian Muslims intending to harm other fellow Australians?

Dear Miss Lambie.... Please get your facts straight! Equating shariah law with terrorism is just as stupid as blaming the car for a speeding accident.

Any rational person Miss Lambie would know that the actions of some elite extremists that are acting out a Hollywood movie and calling themselves Muslims, should not be used to classify an entire nation and deem its teachings as involving terrorism.

Today I stand before you as Australian; shocked and horrified at the measures my government has taken to class me as would-be-terrorist simply because I am a Muslim

But today I also stand before you here proud to be part of this Rally knowing that my fellow Australians are against the Liberal Governments stance which is doing nothing but fuelling hate towards Australian Muslims so that it can popularise its plan for another war in Iraq.

The media backed by our Liberal leaders is fuelling anti-Muslim sentiment across this peaceful Australian land and planting fearful seeds of Islamophobia to turn our fellow Australians against us. But the truth always prevails this Rally is beacon of light telling the government that we do not accept their vilification of Muslims,

This Rally represents All Australians that say we will not stand for racism

This Rally is a message to Tony Abbot to say, don't use the media to spread your vile intentions to break the peace in this nation.

Muslim women wear the scarf as an act of modesty, the exact same way Mother Mary did, and the exact same way all nuns do, it is a universal act of utter peace and humility to have Australian Muslim women harassed on the street for voicing this universal right is disgusting.

But what is more disgusting Mr Abbot is that you are inducing these actions! And further more to even hear speculations of proposals to ban the burqa is so demeaning to our society,

On behalf of all Australians that are my neighbours, my fellow colleagues and my fellow countrymen, women & children. I stand here joining you and asking you to join me peacefully to raise our voice and say

- **NO to Islamophobia**
- **NO to media biased divisions**
- **NO to racism**
- **No to violence And**
- **NO to another war that has nothing to do with Australia!**

God bless Australia

Dr Rateb Jneid
President of Islamic Council of WA

< end press release >

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/>