

## THE YES ALLIANCE

## **Multicultural Australians for Marriage Equality**

Australia has an enviable record of fostering a diverse, open and welcoming society.

Together, we have built a place where people from every corner of the world can live and work side by side – a place where everyone can belong.

The YES Alliance is a group of Australians from faith and culturally diverse communities - that will be supporting a YES vote in the marriage equality postal survey.

Australians from migrant and faith backgrounds have often faced discrimination and harassment based on race, skin colour, language, religious beliefs or cultural heritage.

LGBTI people are also in our communities, they are our friends and family members, and they can face discrimination on multiple fronts.

It's never been more important for our communities to stand up for a more tolerant and open society. A society that has equal rights for everyone. The postal survey will be an opportunity to do that. That is why we must reaffirm our society's shared values of – freedom, fairness, equality before the law, respect for all and that discrimination is never acceptable – values that have shaped our success, and will underpin our future prosperity.

These are the values that unify us as a peaceful and prosperous society with a shared sense of belonging, respect, acceptance and contribution.

As the survey rolls out, we will engage with Australia's multicultural and multifaith communities and have difficult but important conversations about:

- ✓ why a YES vote is about equal rights
- ✓ why a YES vote is not a hindrance to religious freedoms or free speech
- ✓ why a YES vote will protect religious freedoms
- $\checkmark$  why a YES vote is about removing discrimination for all

We, the undersigned, pledge our support for marriage equality and to work with multicultural and multifaith people to achieve a society where everyone is equal before the law.

For more information visit <u>www.theyesalliance.com.au</u>



Acceptance Melbourne LGBT Catholics
Aleph Melbourne
Arab Council Australia
Asian Australian Alliance
Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council Inc
Australasian Union of Jewish Students
Board of Directors of the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria
Centre For Multicultural Youth
Chairperson of Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia
Chairperson of National Ethnic Disability Alliance
Christians for Marriage Equality
Colour Code
Democracy in Colour
Greek and Gay Support Network
Interfaith Centre of Melbourne
Jewish Lesbian Group of Victoria
LGBTI Latin and Hispanics in Australia
Multicultural Friends of Labor
Muslims for Marriage Equality
Muslims for Progressive Values – Australia
One World Family
Settlement Services International
Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council
Weave Network
Welcome to Australia