



Joint statement between Fusion candidate for Aston and Aleph Melbourne Wednesday, 29 March 2023 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fusion Party candidate Owen Miller and Aleph Melbourne support Elimination of Discrimination

The Fusion Party candidate for Aston, Owen Miller, today issued the following statement:

"I'm proud to support the Victorian Jewish community. Jews have consistently been at the forefront of a number of important causes including humane treatment of asylum seekers, equal rights for LGBTIQA+ people, climate action and constitutional recognition of First Nations peoples."

Mr Miller continued:

"Together we've won some of those causes, but there is more work to do. I hope I can continue working alongside the Victorian Jewish community to do it, particularly in progressing equal rights for my own LGBTIQA+ community."

If elected to parliament, Owen will advocate for:

- A 10-year transition to negative emissions
- Establishing a First Nations Voice and Treaty
- Measures to reduce discrimination using rehabilitative justice
- Age-appropriate education on sex, gender and healthy relationships
- Ending all remaining discrimination related to domestic partnerships on the basis of gender or sexual identity
- Separation of church and state for the protection of all religions, as well as protection from religion

Jewish LGBTIQA+ advocacy body Aleph Melbourne has called on Victorians to support a number of these measures. Aleph co-convenor Michael Barnett OAM had the following to say:

"Aleph Melbourne supports the elimination of all discrimination impacting LGBTIQA+ people.

We believe more education is required to address misconceptions about gender identity, sexual orientation and related topics. Sadly many people in society form harmful views around these issues which ultimately impact the self-esteem and mental health of young people.

Whilst Aleph Melbourne opposes discrimination on the basis of religion we are opposed to religious values discriminating against people on the grounds of innate characteristics.

Aleph Melbourne supports all candidates who stand up for the rights of LGBTIQA+ people. We stand behind Owen Miller, as a candidate with a Queer identity, who upholds the same values we stand for."

Press kit: <u>https://www.fusionparty.org.au/press_kit</u> Fusion Party website: <u>https://fusionparty.org.au</u> Aleph Melbourne website: <u>https://aleph.org.au</u>

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