

David SOUTHWICK MP

MEMBER FOR CAULFIELD

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY



STATEMENT ON DISTURBING EVENTS ON THE STEPS OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE – 18 MARCH 2023

The past fortnight has been a difficult time for Victoria's LGBTQIA+ and Jewish communities.

The shocking events we've seen outside Parliament House, where neo-Nazis displayed open hate and vilification towards our Transgender community, do not reflect who we are as a State.

I want to reiterate my support and alliance with the entire LGBTQIA+ community. Throughout my parliamentary career, I have fostered deep connections with LGBTQIA+ community and have a genuine appreciation for all they do to make our state a better place. Together, we have campaigned to legalise same-sex marriage, ban gay conversion therapy, and stood shoulder to shoulder at pride events.

Victoria is a place where everyone should be free to be their authentic self, regardless religion, race, gender, sexual preference and identity.

My party will work with the government to ensure Victoria Police have the powers, resources and training to stamp out these shocking acts of hate.

As Deputy Opposition Leader and Member for Caulfield, I will continue to call out discrimination wherever I see it and work to make Victoria a more tolerant and inclusive place.