

INQUIRY INTO ANTI-LGBTIQA+ HATE CRIMES IN VICTORIA

Organisation: Aleph Melbourne

Date Received: 30 March 2026

Submission Text: Dear Committee,

Aleph Melbourne is a social, support and advocacy group for LGBTIQ+ people, families and allies in Melbourne's Jewish community. We were founded in 1995.

Living at the nexus of both the Jewish and LGBTIQ+ communities gives one an especially unique and harrowing perspective on hate crimes.

Through necessity the Jewish community in Victoria has developed a sophisticated reporting mechanism for antisemitic incidents, and produces a comprehensive annual report of antisemitic incidents.

At the national level the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) also collates data on antisemitic incidents and also produces a comprehensive report that is never less than chilling.

From time to time the ECAJ has advised me that the LGBTIQ+ community needs to develop a reporting mechanism for anti-LGBTIQ+ incidents. Whilst I concur with this advice, I appreciate there are differences in the nature and dynamics of the LGBTIQ+ and Jewish communities.

Nevertheless, I firmly believe the LGBTIQ+ community could benefit from a mobile reporting and alert mechanism like the Jewish Emergency App (JEAP) * and potentially even benefit from forming a community security group similar to CSG VIC **

In the current geopolitical climate both the Jewish and LGBTIQA+ communities are facing increasing levels of hate crimes, and we need to see governments provide adequate resources and legal protections to **both** these communities to combat and prevent hate crimes.

Sincerely,

Michael Barnett OAM

Co-Convenor

* <https://www.csgvic.com.au/jeap>

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