



Australian Federation  
of Islamic Councils

# AFIC calls for fair application of Australian laws, stands with Mrs Rana Elasmr

Media Statement

2 October 2020

Yesterday's sentencing of Stipe Lozina, for the cowardly bashing of a pregnant Muslim woman peacefully enjoying time with her friends at a Parramatta Café has highlighted serious flaws in the our beleaguered legal "system".

Justice by its nature is not meant to discriminate, however, for more than 20 years, we've seen imbalance in the implementation of our laws.

This statement is not meant in any way to criticise Judge Chris Craigie SC, it is an indictment of a system that failed to provide proper psychological care, proper protection and adequate prosecution for a hate crime that endangered the life of an Australian Muslim woman and her unborn child.

Mental health is a problem that is presently exacerbated by COVID lockdowns, we call on state and federal governments to improve health funding including especially mental health.

AFIC calls on attorneys general at state and federal levels to ensure that the same standard is applied to all Australians regardless of their faith. We call on the authorities to provide adequate and equal protection to all citizens.

Mr. Lozina should be made to serve his full sentence and must be psychologically assessed prior to release into the community. Australian society will hold the system accountable if, God forbid, Mr. Lozina reoffends after his release.

AFIC lauds Mrs. Rana Elasmr and her friends for their courage and stands with her and her family.

**Authorised by:**

Dr Rateb Jneid, *AFIC President*

**Endorsements:**

Islamic Council of Victoria, Islamic Council of QLD, Islamic Council of WA, United Muslims of NSW, Islamic Council of Christmas Island, Islamic Council of Tasmania, Islamic Council of the Northern Territory, Islamic Council of the ACT and Islamic Council of SA