



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

Media Statement

23 November 2021

AFIC demands retraction of “Islamic fundamentalist” comparison and calls on Premier McGowan to apologise for the gratuitous Islamophobia

AFIC condemns the threats of violence against Premier McGowan and strongly encourages members of the public to take preventative vaccines. However, Premier McGowan has taken the Vaccine mandate and lockdowns beyond any other Australian state or territory and has caused hurt to ordinary law-abiding everyday Australians. The fact that Australians who are hurting from COVID restrictions have used threats to express their extreme frustration with the WA premier is no reason to compare frustrated threat-makers to “Islamic fundamentalists”. Said AFIC president Dr Rateb Jneid.

“Premier McGowan’s unfounded comparison undermines all our efforts to work together with the WA government. This gratuitous reference is also very hurtful to Muslims throughout the world. We have worked hard for decades to outline that terrorist violence is contrary to the fundamentals of Islam. The Premier’s comparison hurts us profoundly, McGowan must immediately retract these comments and offer an unequivocal apology to Muslims.” Said Dr Jneid.

Authorised by :

Dr Rateb Jneid

President, AFIC

Australian Federation of Islamic Councils

*The peak body for Australian Muslims representing
State and Territory Islamic Councils and Societies*



Sydney (Head Office): 932 Bourke Street, Zetland, NSW 2017

Melbourne: 66-68 Jeffcott Street, West Melbourne VIC 3003

Canberra: 21/41 Liardet Street, Weston ACT 2611

Perth: 17 Mercantile Way, Malaga WA 6090

W: afc.com.au **E:** admin@afc.com.au **PH:** (02) 9319 6733