



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

AFIC is deeply troubled by today's dehumanising Daily Telegraph Cartoon

Media Statement

16 November 2022

"I am deeply troubled and dismayed by today's cartoon in the Daily Telegraph that seeks to score political points by associating the ALP with Niqab-wearing women. We see the cartoon as dehumanising and we aim to pursue this matter further." Said AFIC President Dr Rateb Jneid.

"Many Muslim women choose to wear the face covering Niqab, this is their prerogative, it enables them to wade through life with less risk of objectification, it provides comfort for them and the freedom to move about. It is not appropriate for any cartoonist in a major newspaper to make mockery of their choices." Said Dr Jneid.

"I do not advocate for or against the Niqab, I reiterate that this is a woman's prerogative and a woman's right. We should not attack this right through mockery or political point-scoring." Said Dr Jneid.

"To suggest that a Niqabi is an "ISIS" bride further dehumanises the Australian victims at the Syrian refugee camps and stereotypes them as willing participants in a terror group where the facts point that they were taken against their will. It is very sad and distressing to see a powerful newspaper further victimising the most vulnerable." Said Dr Jneid.

Authorised by:

Dr Rateb Jneid
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Australian Federation of Islamic Councils

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



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