

## INQUIRY INTO ANTISEMITISM IN NEW SOUTH WALES

**Name:** Mrs Annalee Atia

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Partially  
Confidential

Sunday 6th April, 2025

Dear Distinguished Committee Members inquiring into Antisemitism in NSW.

## Introduction

My name is Annalee Atia, I am currently the President of the Northern Rivers Jewish Community Association. I am also the founder of nonprofit PBB Media and former National President of Maternity Choices Australia as well as its NSW State President.

As someone who has experienced doxxing firsthand, I'm writing to highlight the inadequacies of current laws and protections in Australia as well as address rising antisemitism in our local Northern Rivers communities.

## My Experience with Doxxing

In February 2024, I was doxxed by an organised group, along with hundreds of individuals, resulting in the widespread sharing of my personal information, including my full name, images, workplace, and where I live. The doxxing was accompanied by hateful, vexatious, and misleading content about me (I was on their top 30 list of "worst people"), which was then also shared by multiple other individuals and groups on the behest of the doxxers. This led to thousands of exposures of my personal details worldwide.

## Change in laws, accountability systems and consequences are needed

My personal story illustrates the severe impacts of doxxing on individuals and underscores the need for more effective measures to prevent and mitigate these effects. The online nature of the material makes it impossible to quantify the real negative impacts, and the effects are still unfolding today.

Some of the ways that the harms of doxxing can be mitigated:

- Strengthening laws and regulations to hold perpetrators accountable
- Setting clear boundaries and specifically, meaningful consequences for individuals that participate in doxxing as well as for organisations they belong to
- Improving online platform policies to prevent and mitigate doxxing
- Providing support services for victims of doxxing
- Embed accountability mechanisms throughout for any new system or program that aims to address doxxing. We have some great policies, even directives in Australia that sit on shelves due to lack of accountability mechanism
- Education in universities and the media about the far reaching impacts of doxxing

I am a strong and resilient individual, I spent years listening to thousands of stories from women who went through traumatic experiences, through my work as a maternity health consumer advocate. Now I support my local Jewish community and the past 18 months have been deeply traumatising for so many of us. I have spent a lifetime caring for the communities I lived in almost exclusively in a volunteer capacity. The doxxing has deeply affected me.

My story is a testament to the need for more effective measures to prevent and mitigate the effects of doxxing. The committee is tasked with understanding and addressing the various current manifestations of antisemitism. Please take your time in considering the recommendations outlined above and in other submissions, and work towards creating a safer online environment for all Australians.

## Request for partial privacy

Given I was doxxed and my name and personal information is still out there and still impacting my life, and that I have shared personal information in this submission, I would prefer **the above** personal segment in this submission remains confidential and not shared with the public.

## The impacts of Antisemitism in our Northern Rivers Jewish community

I live in northern NSW and as the President and current Community Engagement Officer at the NRJCA, I am hearing stories from community members on almost a daily basis regarding their experience of antisemitism. The Northern Rivers Jewish Community Association represents and cares for around 3,000 Jewish folk living in the Richmond region.

Below are just a few examples of our experiences locally:

- Boycott lists being shared around and local shops owned by Jewish people are directly affected

- Children and youth have been physically attacked, ridiculed and harassed at school and in other settings such as youth groups
- Individuals have been directly harassed on the street and in public areas
- Young people are going off to Uni and hiding their Jewish identities and Israeli heritage
- Young people are deferring University studies, some for the second year in a row, directly as a result of fearing antisemitism and anti-Zionist rhetoric, verbal abuse and targeting that is occurring on campuses across Australia
- Several individuals in the community have been doxxed and vilified
- Constant flow of graffiti, stickers with antisemitic, anti-Zionist and anti-Israel messaging
- Events are being held regularly by local groups promoting antisemitic ideas and normalising support for terrorism in our small communities
- Online social community groups are regularly experiencing hateful and divisive messaging and so much more.
- The overall wider community is being deeply impacted by divisive rhetoric, affecting the entire region and the integrity of its inclusive nature

When looking at materials pertaining to antisemitism and the increase of social dis cohesion in Australia, the committee should consider the following:

1. Hyper-focus on a particular issue, but hardly any mention of other issues (there are over 110 armed conflicts raging on the planet)
2. Co-option of various causes in order to obtain legitimacy and strength
3. Normalisation of hateful behaviour and thought amongst young adults, academics, media and in some corners of government, including in Health towards members of the Jewish community
4. Radicalisation of youth and adults into supporting terrorist thought/materials

If any or all the above are being observed/noticed, vigilance needs to be applied as to the root cause of the symptom. Is a person acting in good faith? And do their actions, then actual and potential impacts of their actions directly endanger:

1. Jewish people in Australia
2. Social cohesion in our country
3. Our Multicultural status, long-term integrity of our social fabric and collective identity
4. The integrity of our public institutions

I am willing to appear before the committee in a public setting to further discuss my experience of being doxxed and as a representative of the Jewish community in Northern NSW

Sincerely,

Annalee Atia

President, Community Engagement Officer  
**Shevet** | Northern Rivers Jewish Community Association