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Media Statement

Board of Imams condemns violence against women and reaffirms its commitment to ending family violence

The Board of Imams Victoria Inc. (BOIV) unequivocally condemns media-reported comments about rape and violence against women and reaffirms that such conduct is incompatible with Islamic principles. The BOIV reiterates that the comments were wrong when made 23 years ago and remain wrong today. The person responsible has apologised publicly and that apology was necessary.

The BOIV President Shk Abdirahman MAGAN said 'Violence against women has never been acceptable. Rape is a serious crime, and nothing in Islam excuses, permits or minimizes it'.

Our faith requires us to uphold the safety, dignity and rights of women. It calls on individuals, families and institutions to reject abuse, challenge harmful attitudes, and ensure that those experiencing violence are treated with compassion and respect.

BOIV Working to End Family Violence

The Board of Imams Victoria (BOIV) undertakes extensive work across the community to help stamp out family violence. This includes engaging with Imams, Community leaders, families, community organizations and service providers to promote prevention, encourage early intervention and reinforce that abuse has no place in our homes, places of worship or wider society.

We remain committed to using our leadership, education and community partnerships to challenge attitudes that enable violence against women and children, strengthen pathways to support and contribute to a safer Australia for everyone.

A Message to the Australian Community

Every woman has the right to feel safe at home, in her community, in places of worship and throughout public life.

To anyone experiencing family or sexual violence: you are not alone, the violence is not your fault, and support is available. We encourage you to seek assistance from trusted specialist services or, if you are in immediate danger, emergency services.

Ending family violence is a shared responsibility. The Board of Imams Victoria stands with victim-survivors and with all Australians working to build communities founded on safety, dignity and respect.

The end

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