



## PRESS RELEASE

Friday 07 June 2024

### **Melbourne Woman's Driveway Graffitied with "Get out Muslim C\*\*\*" and "Death to Palestine" alongside a number of swastikas"**

Last night, a Melbourne woman found the words "Get out Muslim C\*\*\*" and "Death to Palestine" alongside a number of swastikas graffitied on her driveway outside her Melbourne home in Victoria.

The incident reported to the Islamophobia Register Australia (The Register), comes amidst an unprecedented surge in Islamophobic incidents since October 7th 2023.

The victim, a non-Muslim woman named Rita Mannesis believes she was targeted as she's shown open support for the Palestinian cause.

The Register previously reported on 23 October 2023 that reports of Islamophobia had increased ten-fold, followed by a thirteen-fold increase a month later.

In our [latest press release](#), we document a disturbing 39-fold increase in reported incidents just on university campuses alone (in the same time period post-October 7).

In other reported incidents in the last few months (outside of university campuses) a woman had her hijab ripped off her head in Brisbane. In another, a young Queensland man was physically assaulted, defending his mother and younger sibling who were attacked and called "You \*\*\*\*\* Muslims. You \*\*\*\*\* black Muslim refugees". In another incident 2 young women were physically attacked in Sydney and one of them had her hijab pulled off her head. No where in Australia is immune to the scourge of Islamophobia.

Rita Mannesis is keen to speak to media. Please contact [executivedirector@islamophobia.com.au](mailto:executivedirector@islamophobia.com.au) for details.

Executive Director

Dr Nora Amath

**-ENDS-**



## **About the Islamophobia Register Australia**

The Register is a not-for-profit organisation that has been leading the tracking and tackling of Islamophobia across Australia since its launch in 2014. It provides a secure and reliable online reporting platform that captures nation-wide data and offers first-hand support to victims of Islamophobia. The Register has published four academic reports on Islamophobia in Australia and more recently a media report examining post October 7 2023 media coverage of Israel-Gaza. In addition to its reporting platform, victim support services and academic research, the Register also provides education and training on Islamophobia and engages in policy and law reform. Having expanded its board and appointed an inaugural Executive Director in December 2022, the Register has since grown its operations to take its work and influence to the next level.

Its operating model has been commended and replicated by multiple other marginalised groups who have approached the Register to support them in the establishment of their own reporting models. This includes the First Nations Racism Register, 'Call it Out' founded by the National Justice Project and the Jumbunna Institute. The Register was also invited to provide evidence at the Disability Royal Commission who are looking to make formal recommendations to create a similar organisation to track and tackle disability hate.

### **Media Enquiries**

For media enquiries please contact:  
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