**ENOUGH IS ENOUGH: VIOLENT SPEECH HAS NO PLACE IN PUBLIC DEBATE**

Comments by supporters of Open Letter: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH: VIOLENT SPEECH HAS NO PLACE IN PUBLIC DEBATE

“Brilliant! I am most happy to support this letter and fully agree with the content. Words used in regard to Julia Gillard are directly aimed at gender and never heard in the opposite format for male politicians, i.e. Bitch / bastard.”

“Good letter to get out there”

“I fully support this letter”

“I am very happy to lend my support to this campaign.”

“It’s a great letter”

“Thank you for acting on this.”

“I am support of speaking out again language that reflects violence towards women as acceptable way of conducting political discussion. I would like to add my support of this letter and would happily be involved in other forms of support in ending violence against women and awareness raising activities”

“I fully support the contents of the attached Open Letter.”

“…this is an important initiative and I support the letter whole heartedly”

“Excellent”

“Thanks very much for your work on the letter. Women's Legal Services NSW supports speaking out on this issue.”

“Good letter. Thanks”

“Thanks for your efforts - definitely needs to be said.”

“Please record my absolute support for this letter!”

“Good on you for producing and circulating this.”

“Thank-you for writing this letter, which sums up how I have been feeling for some time. Absolutely I support it.”

“Brilliant letter, couldn't agree more.”

“I should like to support the letter and I support all the sentiments expressed.  I find it very upsetting and disturbing when I read comments, particularly in the letters pages of the papers that express personal and physical remarks about our politicians, media and ordinary women.  Good work.”

“I strongly support your campaign to cease the rhetoric of hate against women in the public (or any) arena. Thank you for campaigning against this trend”

“How did society come to this, where we put down our fellow man or woman? Surely we are above behaving as if we are on an episode of Big Brother, The Biggest Looser, Master
Chef or any of the other frightfully low and disrespectful discourse to our fellow human beings. It’s about time we took a hard look at what I see as the American politics of the Murdock Press playing out in our Australian Politics”

“Awesome letter…Thank you so much, to you and all the other women associated with penning it”

“I absolutely support this action”

“Just letting you know that I support the Open Letter.  Lately, I have been particularly troubled by the way Julia Gillard, in particular, seems to be targeted by the media in terms that are derogatory to all women.  I think the letter is timely.”

“Please accept my absolute and unequivocal support of this letter. Language reflects culture, social norms and indicates which behaviours are socially accepted and embraced by a society. Violence against women cannot be embraced by any civilized, sustainable culture. Verbal threat is an indication of intent to act which violates all principles of democratic and civil society. Threat cannot be given social endorsement and must be eschewed by all leaders and citizens of good intent.”

“…the letter is excellent.”

“It’s so important for our voices to be heard.”

"Good on you for mounting this campaign. I hear from time to time about the message of the shock jocks especially against Julia Gillard and I'm horrified that these men feel they can get away with such misogynist language. We need to alert other women and men that this is not the normal robust political to and fro but rather a vicious anti women campaign that rather negates all the good work we try to do with our young boys and girls as we teach them to respect each other."

“AWAVA joins the growing expressions of concern about the misogynistic and sexist treatment of Australia’s first woman Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, within Parliament, in the media and within the community. AWAVA endorses this letter for highlighting that the public treatment of the Prime Minister is akin to the scourge of interpersonal violence that affects 1 in 3 Australian women. AWAVA welcomes informed political analysis and debate and whole-heartedly supports a campaign that demands that the media and politicians lift their game.”

“I totally support you in your comments and agree that what we have observed is deplorable.

I hope your letter is widely adopted and distributed. Accountability and responsibility are so important. People in positions of influence and authority need to understand they are role models for our society. I hope what you are communicating to them gets this message across.”

“I have had similar concerns in that my “gut reaction” to these comments in the last year or so has been that they are clearly inappropriate. It is nice to see someone has taken them seriously enough to act and draft this letter and circulate”

**“Thank-you again for writing this letter re the vitriolic discourse surrounding female politicians - I also believe that the manner in which the prime minister came to power has been given added shock value/longevity because of her gender (the whole knife-wielding angle would have been dismissed by now had she been male).”**

“Please add White Ribbon to the list of supporters of the “Enough is Enough” campaign and congratulations on a fantastic initiative. “

“It is heartening to see the industry joining together in voicing our deep concerns regarding violence supportive attitudes and discourse in Australia’s public arena.”

“This letter expresses my feelings about the use of totally unacceptable language...I wish I had written it. It has my full support.”

“The fact that politicians have huge access to media coverage that may be viewed by young and impressionable person’s is reason enough to condemn violent language of all types.

The misogynist language used by a would be prime minister is reprehensible.

This cheap behaviour not only demeans women but is an insult to decent clear thinking males as well.”

“…one can’t help but feel the demon misogyny has been let loose in among all the so called robust debate. “

“We are confronted daily by derogatory comments made about women who dare to speak out in the public arena and our concerns are that society is becoming ‘normalised’ to this verbal barrage.”

" Thanks for writing such an articulate and much-needed letter. The mud-slinging that goes on in Australian political debates, and that has escalated in the last year or so, is embarrassing. But the sexist and violent nature of comments targeted at Julia Gillard is particularly troubling"