

Progressive Atheists Inc.

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Victorian State Election Candidate Survey - November 2014

Candidate Comments - Question 9

Question 9. Domestic Violence: are you in favour of implementing the key 'asks' of the 'No More Deaths - keep women and children safe from family violence Campaign'?

Read more about the 'No More Deaths' campaign:

http://www.dvrcv.org.au/sites/thelookout.sites.go1.com.au/files/NoMoreDeaths_Campaign_Key_Ask.pdf

Animal Justice Party | Monbulk District | McADAM, Jennifer

Domestic violence: I think the aims should be less gender specific to include all victims of domestic violence (eg, elderly parents, adult children, same-sex couples)

Animal Justice Party | Northern Metropolitan Region | POON, Bruce

I have not spent sufficient time studying this issue to understand if the 'Key Asks' represent the best policy response to this issue. Of course, I am interested in reducing family (and all) violence, and believe that additional funds should be made available to tackle this problem.

Australian Christians | Evelyn District | de PYLE, Damien

The Australian Christians support policy that lowers and hopefully stops domestic violence. However, I'm not sure if we would support all of the policies in the "No More Deaths Campaign".

Australian Christians | Eastern Metropolitan Region | JANSON, Vickie

Domestic violence is a serious issue and while I would agree in principle to the campaign I would want to see the detail of any campaign before endorsing it; a quick glance via a survey is not really giving the particular campaign the serious attention it deserves.

Australian Christians | Western Metropolitan Region | ROGERS, Geoff

Unsure about this doc. What are key and non-key asks?

Australian Country Alliance | Hastings District | LESLIE, Scot

I am not in a position to make a categorical response to this issue at this stage.

Australian Country Alliance | Murray Plains District | WINN, Bryon

We have a policy of mandatory sentences for repeat offense on restraining orders.

Australian Country Alliance | Ripon District | DOMASCHENZ, Trevor

Rural people are like victims of Domestic violence we have been battered so long we put up with it. Needs to be more country people decisions by country people and more input into domestic violence solutions by the victims and the perpetrators.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Bendigo West District | EDWARDS, Maree

Labor will establish a Royal Commission into Family Violence.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Cranbourne District | PERERA, Jude;

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Dandenong District | WILLIAMS, Gabrielle;

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Mill Park District | D'AMBROSIO, Lily;

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Wendouree District | KNIGHT, Sharon

Labor agrees that family violence should be a key election issue. We believe that family violence is a crime, has devastating effects on victims and the community, and that Government has a responsibility to do everything it can to help keep women and children safe.

Labor recognises and values the important work of organisations, such as those associated with this petition, who day in day out deal with victims and their families and aim to stamp out family violence.

Labor will not shy away from taking strong action. If elected we will hold a Royal Commission into family violence to find answers for its prevention and to repair the broken system. A Royal Commission is the most powerful body of inquiry in our system and this crisis is so urgent that it deserves no less.

The Royal Commission will investigate our entire system from the ground up. It will begin its work early next year, reporting to all Victorians by the end of 2015.

We obviously cannot pre-empt the findings but are confident that the issues raised by the No More Deaths campaign will be addressed. It is therefore important for you to be aware that Labor have committed to implementing the recommendations from the Royal Commission.

As you are likely aware, family violence is a key priority for Labor. In December last year Opposition Leader Daniel Andrews appointed Danielle Green MP as the first ever Shadow Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence, to ensure this important issue gets the attention it deserves. An elected Labor Government will continue a dedicated family violence portfolio operating out of the Department of Premier and Cabinet. We are proud that the No More Deaths campaign supports these initiatives and is calling on other parties to follow our lead.

Labor has also announced that in Government we will re-establish the Family Violence Death Review for all family violence related deaths investigated by the Coroners Court. The Napthine Government refused to fund the review for more than 3 years, but has recently responded to pressure from stakeholders and the Opposition and finally announced further funding.

The death review was an initiative of the former Victorian Labor Government to act as an important tool to inform policy and help stop preventable deaths from occurring.

Under a Labor Government the Coroners Court will be able to continue their vital work of examining past tragedies with the aim of preventing future ones.

Further Labor announcements include a trial of duress alarms for the most at-risk women as well as a safety audit of Magistrates Courts that deal with family violence matters.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Eltham District | [WARD, Vicki](#)

I haven't been able to get your link to work

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Thomastown District | [HALFPENNY, Bronwyn](#)

Labor has promised to have a royal commission into violence against women and would not want to pre-empt recommendations from that.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Wendouree District | [KNIGHT, Sharon](#)

The death review was an initiative of the former Victorian Labor Government to act as an important tool to inform policy and help stop preventable deaths from occurring. Under a Labor Government the Coroners Court will be able to continue their vital work of examining past tragedies with the aim of preventing future ones. Further Labor announcements include a trial of duress alarms for the most at-risk women as well as a safety audit of Magistrates Courts that deal with family violence matters.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Northern Victoria Region | [SYMES, Jaclyn](#)

I support most of the 'No More Deaths' key asks and Labor are ahead in many of these areas (i.e. announced a Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence well before the NMD campaigned for one), Labor's commitment to dealing with family violence is well documented. The Royal Commission as part of its deliberations will consider in detail the issues raised by NMD and make recommendations by the end of 2015 and Labor have committed to implementing them.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Western Victoria Region | [EDWARDS, Dale](#)

I would add, educate and aid men to develop the relationship skills and personal capacity to change their behaviour and manner of engaging with women, children and the family, I would also support an initiative that monitored changes to personal attitudes to family violence in society.

Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Western Victoria Region | [PULFORD, Jaala](#)

Our response to family violence needs to also be informed by Labor's proposed Royal Commission. A law and order response on its own will result in no change and the tragedy will continue.

Independent | Albert Park District | [ARMSTRONG, Steven](#)

I am not familiar with the technicalities of the issue. Therefore I will not say anything.

Independent | Bayswater District | [CARBONARI, John](#)

Domestic violence is reflective of a low grade culture now permeating our society.

Independent | Caulfield District | MYERS, John Barry

Need to read the doc. first. but support programs to facilitate prevention of any violence and/or emotional tyranny, and to support victims of same.

Independent | Mildura District | CORY, Mark

I have not had a proper chance to view the page, so can not comment.

Independent | Murray Plains District | HICKS, Nigel Anthony

I have been unable to view the link

Independent | Pascoe Vale District | TIMPANO, Francesco

The information provided is inadequate to make a yes/no response or I am yet to adopt a firm position on the issue and am undertaking further study/research and analysis before deciding.

Independent | Ringwood District | CHALLINGER, Michael

I am in favour of protecting the victims of family violence. Sorry, no time to review the specific "asks".

Independent | Eastern Victoria Region | DAVID, Jean-Michel

I am in favour of the ensuring protection for women, children (and in rarer instances men) at risk of domestic violence. The wording of the proposals would have to be carefully considered to ensure that it addresses and meets those needs and not have other unintended consequences.

Independent (Save the Planet Party) | Frankston District | SMITH, Reade

I am aware and have investigated incidents of men being subjected to serious family violence while I was a police officer and also my children and I experienced it. I have investigated and charged many people for assaulting other people who were friends, family and total strangers. I support the implementation of any program that educates all citizens, male and female to not commit any physical assault to any other person, family or stranger.

Voice for the West | Northern Metropolitan Region | CLEARY, Phil

I have answered yes to question 9 but as a campaigner against male violence, in the context of violence against women, I believe we need a royal commission into the violence. So too am I calling on the government to apologise to those women whose rights - my sister included - were obliterated under the barbaric provocation law and the defensive homicide law, both of which have been abolished in Victoria. So too do I believe we need to better fund community health centres as a front line agency in the campaign against violent men. It's time we revisited just how we are protecting women from violent men and to accept that the courts have and continue to fail women, especially in allowing discriminatory and misogynist narratives to dominate hearings.