

# Progressive Atheists Inc.

Est. 10 Jan 2010 | Reg: A0054119U

*Proud Member of Atheist Alliance International*

*Allied with Secular Coalition of Australia*



---

Victorian State Election Candidate Survey - November 2014

## Candidate Comments - Question 6

**Question 6. Mandatory Reporting Laws:** are you in favour of removing religious exemptions to the mandatory reporting of child abuse?

**Australian Christians | Evelyn District | de PYLE, Damien**

Changing these Mandatory Reporting Laws by removing Religious exemptions would make Pastors and Fathers almost like police rather than counselors. Pastors and Fathers are people that help others with their problems and by forcing them to report to the police would remove the religious freedom of pastors and fathers from being able to help them by making them report everything to the police. Churches should be places sinners feel safe about opening up about their struggles and getting help to overcome those struggles, not to be policed and feel insecure.

**Australian Country Alliance | Murray Plains District | WINN, Bryon**

In favour

**Australian Country Alliance | Ripon District | DOMASCHENZ, Trevor**

Mandatory reporting laws have resulted in small accidental bruising having to be reported. Anti Discrimination laws need to be simplified and widened.

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

ALP Response: Conscience issue.

**Australian Labor Party - Victorian Branch | Eltham District | WARD, Vicki**

All child abuse should be reported; more work needs to be done with religious organisations to make this happen.

**Independent | Bayswater District | CARBONARI, John**

The retention of Australia's cultural heritage is supported.

**Independent | Ringwood District | CHALLINGER, Michael**

Mandatory reporting should not apply to the confessional. Otherwise no religious exemption.