

Progressive Atheists Inc.

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Proud Member of Atheist Alliance International

Allied with Secular Coalition of Australia



Victorian State Election Candidate Survey - November 2014

Candidate Comments - Question 7

Question 7. Anti-discrimination Legislation: should religious bodies be allowed to discriminate in employment even when the religious observance or policies are not a genuine occupational qualification for that job?

Animal Justice Party | Southern Metropolitan Region | WALSHE, Nyree

I am not sure of the scope of this question so I pass.

Australian Christians | Eastern Victoria Region | BELSAR, Ash

I'd need an example of what is meant by: 'even when the religious observance or policies are not a genuine occupational qualification for that job?'

Australian Country Alliance | Murray Plains District | WINN, Bryon

In favour of removing religious exemption

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

ALP Response: NO

Australian Sex Party - Victoria | South Barwon District | WALLIS, Nick

It would depend whether the institution in question receives any kind of public funding or provides any public service. Private organisations often discriminate in many ways when deciding who to employ for whatever purpose. Some of the fast food venues seem to have an unspoken policy of only hiring the young. Are they discriminating against older people who may know more about their rights and need to be paid more? It's difficult to tell. I wish they wouldn't do that but I'd rather not create more legislation and more regulation for the private sector to deal with. And, to be honest, I don't know why someone would want to work for a private organisation if it had institutional discrimination against them for no good reason. I'd be avoiding that organisation all together. The main issue here is that many religious organisations end up inter-twined with public service providers... often through quite sneaky methods. I'd rather keep the solely religiously motivated OUT of the public sector. If they want to be involved, then they ought to be motivated by something other than spreading poor ethics, divisive cultural values or domineering social engineering desires. I thought people got into religion because they thought it

was a good thing... not to bully strangers with half-arsed ontologies built into obsolete dogmatic hierarchies...

Independent | Bayswater District | CARBONARI, John

This is a Constitutional matter.

Independent | Mildura District | CLUTTERBUCK, Jo

I do not have enough information on this subject to make a decision

Independent | Mildura District | CORY, Mark

I don't support affirmative action or quotas in any form. it is state sanctioned discrimination of those that don't fit the mould.

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 | Eastern Victoria Region | DAVID, Jean-Michel

Occupational QUALIFICATIONS are often only a part of criteria for employment within a religious body. I would generally support that a 'best fit' be a fair qualifier for a particular position for employment within a religious body.

Independent | Eastern Victoria Region | SINDT, Christine

In the Lutheran Church of Australia, only men may be appointed to the position of Pastor, whereas in Europe, women may be appointed to that role. I consider that to be discrimination. I am aware of excellent women who would have liked to be Pastors in Australia, and have returned to Germany, because there was no opportunity for them to follow their calling.