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Media Release : Protests in Sydney over anti-Islamic Film

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Dear Theteam,

Media Release : Protests in Sydney over anti-Islamic Film

A Message from Affinity Intercultural Foundation

Affinity Intercultural Foundation strongly condemns the violent protests at the Sydney CBD yesterday.

It is a democratic right to protest over a matter that one strongly objects to, however, this does not warrant the use of vulgar statements and/or violence. Respect for other members of society and the law is paramount and a cornerstone of every society. Any response an individual or community wants to show should be within the bounds of respect for the people and the law of the land.

Affinity believes that the effective way to get a point of view across is through the medium of dialogue. We endorse the sentiments of esteemed, contemporary Muslim scholar, Imam Fethullah Gulen, who advocates "...my message is that lasting change will only result from peaceful expressions of reaction and open dialogue. Consorting to violence...for protest constitute a betrayal of the soul of the very Islamic tradition that many of these protestors seemingly claim to defend".

Affinity trusts the broader Australian society will not judge the majority of the Muslim community by the scenes at the Sydney CBD yesterday.

On behalf of the Affinity family, we thank our law enforcement agencies for the outstanding job they are doing and convey our well wishes of a speedy recovery for those who got hurt in the line of duty yesterday.

If you would like to discuss anything about this Media Release, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Ahmet Keskin on 0425 236 560 or akeskin@affinity.org.au

Regards,

Affinity Intercultural Foundation

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