

**Submission
No 93**

MEASURES TO PROHIBIT SLOGANS THAT INCITE HATRED

Organisation: Pride in Protest

Date Received: 12 January 2026



Submission to the inquiry into Measures to prohibit slogans that incite hatred

January 2026

About Pride in Protest

Pride in Protest is a community collective of queer people and others that support queer liberation, which mostly works on Gadigal Country. We do grassroots organising around issues that impact the lives of queer and trans people, and other related social and economic justice issues.

In writing this submission, Pride in Protest has drawn on the knowledge and experience of a diverse collective of members of the queer community, including community workers, health workers, educators, policy & advocacy workers, academics, sex workers, and more.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our submission.

Please get in touch for more information or if you would like to speak further.

Pride in Protest collective – prideinprotest@gmail.com.

Recommendations:

- No criminalisation of Arabic slogans calling for recognition of Palestine.
- End the racist policing of borders.
- End the conflation of Judaism with a genocidal ethnostate, stop the two-way arms trade with Israel, sanction Israel, and expel the Israeli ambassador.
- End security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States 'AUKUS' and close the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap (JDFPG) and all other US and UK military and intelligence bases in Australian territory.
- Disarm, Defund, Dismantle the NSW Police. Examine all functions currently performed by the NSW Police, and end those that only cause harm.
- Hand over remaining Police functions (and associated funding) to more appropriate entities to carry out in a way that prioritises safety and wellbeing rather than violence, control, and punishment.



With very little notice and an impossibly short deadline, this inquiry is an undemocratic way to rush through racist policies while still claiming that “consultation” occurred.

The community was denied adequate notice of this inquiry. The government left it to word-of-mouth to respond to proposed measures that would significantly undermine the right to freedom of expression and political communication for the people of New South Wales (NSW). The three weeks between 22 December and 12 January are an inappropriate and inadequate timeframe for genuine consultation.

‘Globalise the intifada’ is a call for freedom and justice.

As the government has already been informed, in Arabic the word ‘intifada’ simply means ‘shaking off’ oppression. In Arabic-language usage, any civilian uprising against oppression can be referred to as an intifada, including the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto Uprising or ‘Warsaw Ghetto Intifada’. A similar sentiment applies to “From the River to the Sea” or “From the River to the Sea, Palestine will be Free”. None of these slogans are a call to violence, and to imply as much, is to promote the racist and Orientalist stereotype that all Palestinians are violent terrorists who are fundamentally inhumane and deserving of extermination, only able to garner sympathy through Islamist radicalisation. For Chris Minns to respond to being fact-checked on this matter by accusing others of being “almost troll-like” is not only deeply racist, but also works to prejudice the inquiry. Taken in context, this is a thinly veiled attempt by the government to censure the Free Palestine Movement and wash their hands clean of the blood from their complicity in the genocide. We are well aware that this is a test case which will open the floodgates for further censoring and more standoffs between peaceful protestors and heavy-handed police who already pre-emptively arrested an elderly woman wearing a shirt that read ‘Globalise the Intifada’ at the rally against the United States’ invasion of Venezuela. This does far more to undermine social cohesion by sowing distrust of South West Asian and North African (SWANA) people more broadly, and those in solidarity with them. Working to ban such slogans calling for Palestinian sovereignty also directly undermines the federal government’s recognition of a Palestinian state.

Recommendation: No criminalisation of Arabic slogans calling for recognition of Palestine.

Governments have laid the groundwork for a rise in far-right white nationalism and neo-Nazism

It is no coincidence that in expanding police powers, Nazi rallies are now being ordained across states, tacitly endorsing white nationalist racist violence while undermining the stated goal to ‘protect communities from hatred, intimidation and violence’. What’s more, it is convenient that “antisemitism” is only cited when it aligns with the government’s interest in suppressing dissent against its complicity in genocide, but never to address neo-Nazis openly calling for the violence against Jewish people and the implementation of



antisemitic policies. Such opportunistic acknowledgement of racism is fitting for a government that is openly hostile to immigration by flagrantly violating human rights principles through draconian policies such as Turn Back - Operation Sovereign Borders, uncannily similar to Tony Abbott's racist rhetoric to 'Stop the Boats' and the Anti-Fairness Bill, which includes denying notice or time for a fair response before being deported. Such policies normalise xenophobia and lead to the rise in anti-immigration rallies. At the same time, there has been a 200% rise in anti-Muslim hate incidents since the Bondi attack as a result of the selective outrage that further divides our communities.

Recommendation: End the racist policing of borders.

Governments promote the antisemitic conflation of Judaism and Zionism, which gives rise to antisemites holding all Jewish people accountable for the war crimes of the State of Israel

By framing the genocide in Gaza as a religious war between Jewish people and Muslims, the NSW Government is sowing social division and promoting antisemitism. Claiming that it is antisemitic to criticise the State of Israel is conflating Judaism and Zionism. This dangerously promotes the deeply antisemitic idea that Jewish people are *inherently* prone to, or in agreement with, the atrocities being carried out by the State of Israel including genocide and mass rape. This dehumanises Jewish people, and undermines the Jewish slogan, 'not in our name', a refusal to have a peaceful religion co-opted in the name of genocide.

While the Free Palestine Movement has been conscientious of distinguishing between Judaism and Zionism, it is the New South Wales and Federal governments which have been borrowing from the playbooks of Netanyahu and the American right in making such antisemitic assertions. By giving the state of Israel the social license to commit a genocide under the guise of Judaism, Jewish people are more unsafe *globally*, paving the way for others to assume they gave the green light for the genocide and are therefore deserving of retribution. If the government is *genuinely* concerned about antisemitism it must not only renounce the state of Israel and the co-optation of the peaceful religion of Judaism, but also support a One-State Solution, get rid of the Israeli Embassy, pressure Israel to withdraw from Gaza and Lebanon, and impose an arms embargo and sanctions on the state of Israel. At the same time that means combatting Islamophobia, starting with implementing the recommendations of Australia Palestine Advocacy Network's report on racism in schools. It also mean immediately disinviting the Israeli president - Isaac Herzog - for potentially inciting genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

Recommendation: End the conflation of Judaism with a genocidal ethnostate, stop the two-way arms trade with Israel, sanction Israel, and expel the Israeli ambassador

Government warmongering drives extremism

Terrorist attacks are overwhelmingly a response to foreign occupation. In particular, it is the government's support of the war on terror that has created this downward spiral whereby the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) has been able to grow their membership whilst inspiring horrific attacks which otherwise *should never* have happened - as in Bondi - and otherwise *would never* have happened. And while the



government accuses the Free Palestine Movement of prompting the Bondi attack and having ties to ISIS as a strawman, the reality is that ISIS does not support Palestinian liberation nor does it support the call to globalise the intifada. This exposes the claim that 'globalise the intifada' is a slogan that incites hatred and terrorism as a racist myth. Regardless of whether or not the Bondi shooters were affiliated with the Free Palestine Movement, however, to take two people and use a broad brush to paint protestors as potential terrorists only works to repackage the concept that all Palestinians and their sympathisers are terrorists, working to undo the tremendous efforts of SWANA people to carve out a place for themselves in society despite Islamophobia and racism. The only way to keep people safe from terrorist attacks is to break from the hegemony of the United States, which continuously illegally invades foreign countries and only threatens global political stability.

Recommendation: End security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States 'AUKUS' and close the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap (JDFPG) and all other US and UK military and intelligence bases in so-called Australian territory

Protecting communities from hatred, intimidation and injustice requires honesty about the main drivers and victims of hatred, intimidation and injustice.

Communities are protected from hatred, intimidation and violence not through criminalisation and deeply politicised kneejerk racist responses, but through looking at where the hatred, intimidation, and violence is actually coming from, identifying who is most impacted, and doing the things that will actually prevent these from flourishing. This includes not using the push for supposed hate speech protections for queers as a way to pinkwash these racist proposed law reforms. The police don't keep queers safe, the *community* keeps queers safe. Arming Zionist militia with ties to Israeli intelligence in New South Wales who do not distinguish between anti-Zionism and antisemitism is also not the solution:

Police enact hatred, intimidation and violence

Last year was the highest on record for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander murders in custody since records began in 1970. The NSW Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes found there is "shameful homophobia, transphobia and prejudice" within NSW Police. The NSW Law Enforcement Conduct Commission 2023 inquiry into NSW Police Force responses to domestic and family violence incidents found incidents of abuse are deliberately and routinely mishandled when the accused offender is a police officer.

These are just some of the examples that make it clear: the police are not keeping the community safe.

Academic literature suggests disarming police is key to the safety of the public. Arming police can make interactions between officers and members of the public more tense, and ultimately may lead to an increased likelihood of violence. In 18 countries, including the United Kingdom and New Zealand, police do not ordinarily carry guns. Removing police weapons is also consistent with the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody's recommendation for community policing practices.



The NSW Police are given a variety of functions, many which are obsolete or harmful, and none of which they do well. Functions like criminalising poor people, targeting and locking up Aboriginal kids, and over-policing protests calling for justice and human rights, are functions that should cease to exist. Other functions currently given to the police may have some utility, but the police are an inappropriate entity to be carrying out these functions. This includes responding to mental health crises and domestic violence. In these situations, some response is required but police responses almost always lead to more harm, violence or even death. Functions like these should be handed over to more appropriate entities to carry out in ways that prioritise safety and wellbeing rather than violence, control and punishment.

Recommendation: Disarm, Defund, Dismantle the NSW Police. Examine all functions currently performed by the NSW Police, and end those that only cause harm.

Recommendation: Hand over remaining functions (and associated funding) to more appropriate entities to carry out in a way that prioritises safety and wellbeing rather than violence, control and punishment.