

**Submission
No 121**

MEASURES TO PROHIBIT SLOGANS THAT INCITE HATRED

Name: Dr Louise Katz

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I oppose proposals to ban or criminalise political slogans, including phrases such as “globalise the intifada” and “from the river to the sea”.

Such bans undermine protest rights, disproportionately impact Palestinian communities, and weaken democratic participation in NSW.

Slogans are used in peaceful protests to express political opposition, solidarity and calls for justice.

To treat slogans such as ‘globalise the intifada’ as inherently hateful is inherently racist. The term ‘intifada’ is a secular Arabic word that can apply to any struggle, and indeed has referred to the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland, the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the 1949 Jeju uprising in Korea. It is a strong word - a verb meaning ‘to shake the dust off’ something.

The phrase ‘From the river to the sea’, is a call for freedom of all peoples in that region between the Jordan and the Mediterranean and indeed, ALL communities need to be protected from hatred, intimidation and violence.

NSW already has criminal laws that address incitement to violence, threats and harassment. These laws focus on harmful conduct and provide appropriate safeguards. New laws banning political slogans such as “globalise the intifada” and “From the River to the Sea” are unnecessary at best, divisive at worst.

More appropriate anti-hate measures are education, dialogue, and anti-racism initiatives that are inclusive of all.