

## **INQUIRY INTO ANTISEMITISM IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Ms Rose Saltman

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I have experienced no antisemitism as a Jewish person living in NSW.

I am deeply concerned that any criticism of Israel be conflated with antisemitism, as Jewish people and the Israeli government are two clearly separate entities.

Further, the claims of certain Jewish groups to represent the views of all Jews in NSW overlooks the diversity of views within our community. I would like to know that my voice will continue to be heard and that I will not be punished for speaking up, regardless of whether I support Israel or not.

The rise in antisemitism, Islamophobia and anti-Palestinian racism since 7 October 2023 has been exacerbated by misleading public commentary from public figures e.g. MPs. Anything that pits different communities against each other is unhelpful.

Antisemitism can only be effectively combatted as part of a broader anti-racism movement, in solidarity with others, rather than through criminalisation and law and order responses, and/or by the exceptionalisation of antisemitism.

Politicians, journalists and community leaders need to understand that diversity exists within the Jewish community. Antisemitism and all forms of racism need to be properly assessed, without any 'favouritism' granted to a single group. Finally, weaponising antisemitism, whether to suppress free speech or buy political advantage, must stop.