



MEDIA RELEASE

“Terrorists Have Valid Grievances” One Fifth of Australian Muslims Surveyed Agreed or Strongly Agreed.

19 September 2014, Melbourne - Q Society of Australia welcomes the publication of a national study highlighting the attitudes of Muslims in Australia. The government-funded project is the first to quantify the consequences of Australia's fight against terrorism for Muslim communities.

University of Queensland surveyed 800 Muslims between June and August 2014. Fourteen focus groups were surveyed across Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. The report in its entirety is to be presented next year.

Q Society President Debbie Robinson said “The critical point of this study is that 21% of Muslims in Australia sympathise with Islamic terrorists and agree that terrorists have valid grievances”. “This explodes the myth, it’s only a small minority agreeing with terrorists. In this instance a result of 21% is comparable to overseas surveys.”

Since 9/11 studies conducted overseas have consistently shown that while a majority of Muslims may integrate into Western societies, a substantial minority hold views incompatible with liberal democracy.

According to UK studies published in The Examiner on 20 December 2010, 32% of Muslim university students would support killing for Islam in certain circumstances and 40% want sharia law in Britain. The Pew Research Centre in the USA reported that 19% of Muslims would not fully rule out supporting suicide bombers.

In order to address the problems we first have to recognise them. The aforementioned study provides crucial information relevant to Australia.

We call on the Australian Government to stop misleading the public by dismissing the evidence and saying Islamic jihad has nothing to do with Islam. We ask Australian leaders to embrace the ‘Proposed Charter of Muslim Understanding’, as published for Australia by the Q Society in 2013. The Charter is written by Sam Solomon, a former Muslim himself, and endorsed by The Hon Gerard Batten MEP, a leading European Parliamentarian for the popular UKIP party.

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A [pdf version of this release](#) as well as a copy of the [Proposed Charter of Muslim Understanding](#) are attached.