

WELCOME TO THE TENTH EDITION OF OUR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

LGBTI LEGAL SERVICE INC



MOVIE FUNDRAISER WRAP-UP

On Thursday 4 November, we hosted a movie fundraiser at New Farm Cinemas on the opening night of the new Marvel movie, ETERNALS. Before the movie, lucky door and raffle tickets were bought and prizes were drawn out. Prior to the movie starting, Patron of the Service, Matilda Alexander, gave a powerful speech on LGBTIQ+ representation in the arts, as well as calling for support in our push to modernise anti-discrimination laws. The fundraiser was an huge success and the Service raised over \$800. A massive thank you to our Office Manager, Symone, for organising and setting up the event. We could not have done it without her! Stay tuned for the next movie night early in the new year!

TO PRIME MINISTER SCOTT MORRISON: OUR LAWS SHOULD PROTECT ALL OF US, EQUALLY.



Australian Muslim Women's
Centre for Human Rights



Australian
Nursing &
Midwifery
Federation



BLAQ
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



CITY OF
SYDNEY



DIVERSITY
COUNCIL
AUSTRALIA



FECCA
Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia



IEU
International Education Union



Jesuit
Social Services
Building a Just Society



THE MYER
FOUNDATION



REICHSTEIN
FOUNDATION
change not charity



THE
SNOW
FOUNDATION



RACGP
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners



TGV
TRANS
GENDER
VICTORIA



YWCA
Australia

OVER 250 ORGANISATIONS HAVE SIGNED THIS OPEN LETTER.
CHECK OUT THE FULL LIST OF SIGNATORIES, AND ADD YOUR NAME:

EQUALITYAUSTRALIA.ORG.AU/PM



We encourage you to read and sign the open letter to Prime Minister Scott Morrison regarding the Religious Discrimination Bill 2021 prepared by Equality Australia. The letter raises concerns over the Bill's impacts on the LGBTIQ+ community and outlines how the proposed laws do not protect all of us, equally.

Click [here](#) to sign the letter to Scott Morrison PM.

A factsheet on the Bill can also be found [here](#).

LGBTI Legal Service pay our deepest respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTIQ+ Sistersgirls & Brotherboys community and recognise the ongoing battle for visibility and inclusivity.

We pay respect to Elders past present and emerging. We acknowledge the wisdom, strength and truth telling of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In the spirit of reconciliation, we are committed to fostering a culture of shared knowledge and learnings with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people accessing justice.





2021 Pride in Law Winner - Congratulations Emile!

The Pride in Law Award recognises and rewards outstanding contribution and commitment to the practice of LGBTIQ+ inclusion in the legal profession in Queensland.

Long-serving volunteer of the Service, and newly appointed President, Emile McPhee, has been a significant advocate in driving some of the LGBTIQ+ legal reforms in Queensland and Australia.

Once again, congratulations Emile!

Radio Interviews on Community Issues

On 19 November the Service was invited to speak on 4ZZZ Radio Brisbane during Trans Awareness week. Patron of the service, Matilda Alexander, attended 4ZZZ's "Queer Radio" show and spoke about the current and upcoming legal issues affecting trans people.



On 26 November, Matilda also spoke to ABC News Radio Brisbane in relation to the Religious Discrimination Bill, which was introduced to Parliament earlier that morning. Matilda spoke about the potentially dangerous and harmful effects the proposed laws may have on the LGBTIQ+ community if the Bill is made law in its current form. Under the proposed Bill, schools can expel and exclude students who they believe do not conform to the school's belief system. This means that students who identify as LGBTIQ+ will have no protection from being expelled or excluded from a religious school. Also, employees of faith based institutions who express their support for the LGBTIQ+ community have no protection from being dismissed under the religious exemptions in the proposed Bill.



10 Point Plan for a Fairer Queensland

The Queensland Human Rights Commission is currently reviewing the *Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act* to ensure that it is keeping up to date with the changing needs of society. This review is an opportunity for Queensland to have world-class equality laws. The LGBTI Legal Service, in conjunction with other community legal centres across Queensland, have developed a "10 point plan for a fairer Queensland". The Plan was created with the aim of empowering others to engage in the review process and for others to use or refer to when engaging with the review. The more voices there are calling for similar reforms, the better chance we have of seeing a fairer Queensland.

Click [here](#) to read through the 10 Point Plan.



Follow us on social media to keep updated on news and upcoming events

@LgbtiLegalService LGBTI Community Legal Service @LGBTILegal

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER JOSH CAVALLO COMES OUT AS GAY

Australian professional footballer, Josh Cavallo, came out as gay in October. In a very low-key but incredibly moving 1 minute Instagram video, Josh faced the lens and delivered a strong 6 word message – “I’m a footballer and I’m gay”. Cavallo is the only openly-gay top flight professional footballer in the world. Cavallo stated that he was tired of trying to perform at his best on the pitch while living a double life. Living this double life was beginning to take a significant toll on Cavallo’s mental health and he said he was going “into dark places”. Cavallo stated that “at the end of the day I just wanted to be happy. At the time, Cavallo was dreading posting the video, not knowing what to expect from the sometimes toxic football community. After posting the video, it quickly went viral and the reaction was overwhelmingly positive. Messages of support from football clubs, players, fans, celebrities and others who saw the video flooded social media.



Cavallo felt a sense of relief seeing this overwhelmingly positive reaction. Cavallo said that it felt like he had finally gotten rid of this burden he had been carrying for years and now could solely focus on his football. Cavallo hopes that his announcement will encourage more footballers in Australia and around the world to come out. Cavallo stated that “everyone is welcome in the game of football, and deserves the right to be their authentic self”. In a sport dominated by straight males, it was incredibly brave of Josh Cavallo to come out whilst still playing. The worldwide reaction to Josh Cavallo’s announcement will hopefully encourage other LGBTIQ+ people and sporting participants to come out and be their true self, no matter what their profession.

