

Statement from the Leader of the Opposition

Sunday, 19 March 2023

- 1 Yesterday afternoon Victorians witnessed an abomination on the steps of the Victorian Parliament when neo-Nazi
- 2 protesters engaged in an affront to the values we should all hold dear as Victorians.
- 3 The violence, prejudice and hate that these protesters conveyed by their odious actions will never be acceptable in our
- 4 State. I condemn them and commit to opposing such hate wherever it may exist.
- 5 This afternoon I met with Moira Deeming MP who attended yesterday's rally. I discussed her involvement in organising,
- 6 promoting and participating in a rally with speakers and other organisers who themselves have been publicly associated
- 7 with far right-wing extremist groups including neo-Nazi activists.
- 8 At our meeting I informed Ms Deeming that I will move a motion at the next party room meeting to expel her as a member
- 9 of the parliamentary Liberal Party as her position is untenable.
- 10 This is not an issue about free speech but a member of the parliamentary party associating with people whose views are
- 11 abhorrent to my values, the values of the Liberal Party and the wider community.
- 12 The Liberal Party I joined and which I am now honoured to lead, must strive to represent all Victorians.
- 13 Regardless of religious faith, race, sexual preference and identity, Victorians everywhere should know that the Liberal Party
- 14 is inclusive and can be a voice for them.
- 15 No matter what our background we all share the abiding bond of an essential humanity.
- 16 Equality of opportunity, the benefits to each and all of an enterprising culture, the security that comes from the rule of law,
- 17 the strength which stems from families and communities that can live together in search of happiness while sharing in
- 18 Victoria's prosperity, must extend to all people who reside in our land.

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