



Pitt Street Uniting Church

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A progressive faith community of justice-seeking friends in the heart of Sydney

Media Release

For immediate release

“The ACL does not speak for us.”

The Pitt Street Uniting Church has declared that the Australian Christian Lobby (ACL), which is holding its national conference on 23 April at the Wesley Centre, “does not speak for us”.

“The ACL advocates for a narrow and extreme set of policies which have a detrimental effect on the lives of LGBTI people,” stated the Pitt Minister, the Revd Dr Margaret Mayman.

Dr Mayman said that “the ACL opposes marriage equality, despite many opinion polls which show that the majority of ordinary Australian Christians support marriage equality for same sex couples.”

“The ACL has promoted a very misleading national campaign on the Safe Schools Coalition, which has led to reduced support for Safe Schools, and policies which will leave young lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex young people at risk.”

Dr Mayman said that the ACL frequently ignored policy issues which concern many Christians. “For example, it would be good for the ACL to campaign for the closure of the Nauru and Manus Island detention centres. Many Christians are concerned about the proper recognition of indigenous Australians, but the ACL says little about that issue.”

“The Pitt Street Uniting Church supports community members who wish to protest against the extreme policies of the ACL and some of their speakers, urging all to focus on policies which will contribute to a more just and compassionate society. We do not support name-calling and attacks on individuals,” Dr Mayman said, “but rather respectful exchange that will lead to greater understanding and social cohesion.”

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[Approved for public release, 22 April 2016.]