



New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies

The Representative Organisation of NSW Jewry

ועד הקהילה היהודית בנ.ס.וו.

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This morning at the Conference hosted by Working NSW entitled: "*Things Fall Apart: What is Work Doing To Families and Communities?*" Board President David Knoll endorsed the need for a fair system of industrial laws in Australia. In presenting the Jewish community perspective on industrial law reform he said:

"Work must not become an idol, and a life devoted exclusively to work can constitute a form of idolatry when done voluntarily by the worker, and is of course slavery when imposed by the State. Above all, Judaism stresses, moderation, fairness and balance."

Speaking together with Anglican Archdeacon of South Sydney, Deryck Howell and Michael McDonald of the Australian Catholic Commission for Employment Relations, Mr Knoll also explained that: "*Jewish law has since its origins provided for a balanced relationship between employers and employees appears in the Torah (the Bible)*".

He added: "*As a part of that balance, the Torah insists on the Sabbath as a time for family to spend together, eschews the workplace replacing the home, and warns that this can destroy the very fabric of society which revolves around a stable family unit. Employers are expected to create conditions which encourage family life to flourish, fairly balanced with their need to meet pressing deadlines and hectic schedules.*"

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Constituents: Association of Jewish Engineers • Australasian Jewish Medical Federation (NSW) • Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) • Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors & Descendants Inc • Australian Friends of Tel Aviv University (NSW Division) • (The) Australian Jewish Genealogical Society • Australian Jewish Historical Society Inc • B'nai B'rith Council of NSW • Bondi Mizrahi Synagogue • (The) Central Coast Shalom Progressive Jewish Congregation Inc • Central Synagogue • Chessed Bereavement Support Services Inc • Child Survivors of the Holocaust Group (Sydney) • Coogee Synagogue • Cremorne & District Hebrew Congregation • Eastern Jewish Association • Friends of Bar Ilan University (NSW Division) • Friends of Magen David Adom (NSW Division) • (The) Great Synagogue • Jewish Arts & Culture Council (JACC) • JewishCare • Jewish Centre on Ageing (COA) • Jewish Folk Centre Inc • Jewish Secular Humanistic Community (NSW) Inc • Joint Committee for Jewish Higher Education • Kehillat Masada Synagogue • Keren Mishpachot Hagiborim Inc • Maroubra Synagogue (KMHC) • Masada College • Moriah College • Mount Sinai College • National Council of Jewish Women of Australia NSW Division (Inc) • Newcastle Hebrew Congregation • Newtown Synagogue Inc • North Shore Synagogue • North Shore Temple Emanuel • NSW Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen & Women • NSW Association of Sephardim • NSW Board of Jewish Education-Academy BJE • NSW Board of Progressive Jewish Education • NSW Friends of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem • NSW Jewish War Memorial Community Centre • NSW Maccabi • NSW Society of Jurists & Lawyers • ORT Australia Inc • Parramatta & District Synagogue • The Shalom Institute • Sir Moses Montefiore Jewish Home • South Head & District Synagogue • Southern Highlands Jewish Community • Southern Sydney Synagogue (Incorp. Illawarra & Bankstown Synagogues & South Coast Hebrew Cong.) • State Zionist Council of NSW • Strathfield Hebrew Congregation • (The) Sydney Jewish Museum • Technion Society of Australia (NSW Chapter) • Temple Emanuel (The Congregation of Kehillat Emanuel) • The Emanuel School (TES) • The Jewish House • Urim (Parents & Friends of Jewish Young Adults with Special Needs) • WIZO NSW. Wolper Jewish Hospital • Womanpower • Yad L'Yad Inc