

Subject: Submission to the Commission of Inquiry into Antisemitism at Australian Universities

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am writing to make a submission to the Commission of Inquiry into Antisemitism at Australian Universities. As a parent, I am deeply concerned about the experiences my children faced while attending university, which reflect a troubling environment of antisemitism on campus.

My children reported that during several lectures, they were presented with material that they found to be antisemitic. When they raised concerns about this content with their lecturers, they were met with hostility and were subsequently given poor marks. This response from faculty not only marginalised them but also created a classroom environment where they felt silenced and ashamed. As a result, they felt compelled to transfer to other classes to avoid these lecturers. However, this was not an easy solution, as they found themselves having to approach a course coordinator whose office displayed pro-Palestinian, anti-Israel signage.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, my children were actually relieved to engage in online learning, as it meant they did not have to face the hatred they experienced in person on campus. This shift allowed them a temporary respite from the toxic environment they had been enduring.

This experience has had a profound impact on my children's academic journey and their well-being. The lack of support and the blatant display of bias by university staff are unacceptable. It is clear that antisemitism is not being adequately addressed by university administrations, and this has led to a toxic environment for Jewish students.

Given the severity of these issues, I strongly support the establishment of a judicial inquiry with Royal Commission powers to investigate antisemitism at Australian universities. It is crucial that we hold institutions accountable and ensure that universities are safe and inclusive for all students.

Thank you for considering my submission. I hope that this inquiry will lead to meaningful changes and a commitment to addressing antisemitism on campus.