



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

February 23, 2017

Littleproud MP denounces Islamic leadership in Australia on violence against women

The Federal Member for Maranoa David Littleproud was outraged overnight by the controversial comments of Keysar Trad, the President of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils, on Sky News which condoned violence towards women as a 'last resort'.

Mr Littleproud said today, "As a country, we're endeavouring to make every effort to educate our people that violence of any kind, whether it's against a man or woman, is not on.

"In my view the unfortunate comments of Mr Trad last night raise serious questions about the leadership of the Islamic faith in this country." Mr Littleproud said.

In the exchange between Andrew Bolt and Mr Keysar last night, Mr Bolt read from the Koran, saying "*It is permissible for him (husbands) to beat her (the wife) light with his hands*", to which Mr Keysar responded "*Violence is a last resort*". Mr Keysar continued to say that he believed a good person would never get to the point of using violence, because in his view they'd have eliminated the problem at the first step.

"Irrespective of your religion or faith, violence against or the mistreatment of women must be condemned for the sake of safety and for the future of our children," Mr Littleproud said.

For anyone suffering from violence or mistreatment, help is available. Please call 1800RESPECT (available 24 hours), or Lifeline on 13 11 14. If your situation is an emergency, please call '000'.

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Media Contact: Candice Stower

E: Candice.j.stower@aph.gov.au
