



The Hon Michael McCormack MP

Minister for Small Business
Federal Member for Riverina

MEDIA STATEMENT

11 August 2017

EDITORIAL APOLOGY

This morning a column I wrote for a local newspaper was subject to a number of discussions in the media.

I wrote this editorial nearly 25 years ago and I want to assure the public my views have changed quite significantly since the time of publication.

I have grown and learnt not only to tolerate, but to accept all people regardless of their sexual orientation or any other trait or feature which makes each of us different and unique.

I apologised wholeheartedly for the comments at the time and many times since, but I am making this statement to unreservedly apologise again today.

I want all Australians to show each other the respect that they deserve and embrace the things that make us all unique.

I have grown and I hope others can do the same.

The debate on same sex marriage should at all times be carried out in a respectful manner and I encourage both sides to be mindful of the hurt that their words might inflict, even unintentionally.

I will respect the will of the people and vote accordingly in the Parliament, and I encourage every Australian to have their say in the upcoming survey.

ENDS

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