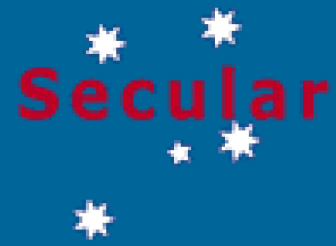




# Media Release



Gregory Storer – Candidate for Melbourne Ports

20 August 2010

## Gillard Stands Condemned

In the clearest example yet of why we need true secularism in Australia, Gillard has openly stated that she believes Australia has a Christian Heritage, thereby negating all other immigrants that have arrived in Australia since European settlement and wiping away tens of thousands of years of indigenous heritage.

The Secular Party of Australia condemns Gillard for her outrageous claim that she accepts Australia's cultural and religious heritage. She ignores the fact that 42% of residents in Melbourne Ports are not Christian and she uses religion as an excuse to deny equality for all Australians.

Gillard stated in an interview that she accepts the Christian reason for marriage and ignores the fact that the Marriage Act was only changed in 2004 to specify marriage between one man and one woman. Her use of the term 'Christian heritage' is disrespectful and deeply offensive to married people of no faith and of other religions.

Despite her personal held beliefs about marriage, she should not allow her decision to be based on religious grounds to the detriment of a section of the community. Government should be about protecting minorities against the unjustifiable will of the majority.

The Secular Party of Australia's policy is equality for all. The removal of religion from government decision making is now paramount. No one religion should be used to lord it over the rest of the population.

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