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المركز الإسلامي العام
 ٦٥-٦٧ ونجی رود - لاکمبا
 سيدني - أستراليا ٢١٩٥
 تلفون: ٩٧٥٠ ٦٨٣٣
 مكتب الفتاء والدعوة

**El-Hilali Offers a Solution to the Problem and Requests
 the Convening of an Ethical Trial for his Comments**

In the Name of Allah the Most Beneficent the Most Merciful

I have opted to keep silent during the last few days, enduring psychological pressures, media punches, political daggers and missiles which have been orchestrated by a viciously plotted media campaign - the first few webs of which have been weaved by an Islamic group considered to be outcasts and rejected by the consensus of Muslims in and out of Australia.

Those who have felt angry and expressed their anger by participating in this savage attack are excused for doing so.

I consider that the Australian media and some politicians have fallen victims to this misleading misguided plot.

I think that all these punches, stabs and daggers which have been directed at me are quite enough; and I have endured all of this in anticipation of Allah's reward.

It is now my turn; not to respond or defend myself but to reveal the truth so that all our Australian people and the people of the whole world would come to know that what lurks behind the screen is a cheap political exploitation, and a dubious plot - the aims and objectives of which are very well known.

I stress, categorically, that any person - whatever his position may be - who justifies the crime of rape or encourages it under any circumstances, or whoever degrades Australian women for their dress, is nothing but an ignorant, foolish and crazy person who does not deserve to hold any position of responsibility, be it public or private in our Australian society.

Therefore, I request that a legal or ethical court be formed out of:

- 1) A qualified judge
- 2) Two impartial lawyers
- 3) Two accredited interpreters

This court is to be given the role of listening to the recording of the lesson that was given inside the Lakemba mosque on the evening of 27/09/2006. Impartiality and neutrality should be observed.

If this court proves that this recording confirms that I am guilty of giving justification for the crime of rape, that I have given incitement for the crime of rape, that I have claimed that any woman without the veil deserves to be raped or that she is the one responsible for its occurrence, or that the metaphor that I have used is a general description that includes all Australian women, then I will impose the following steps on myself:

- 1- Retire from all religious work and positions
- 2- Place a masking tape on my mouth in public places for a period of 6 months, to discipline this mouth for uttering these words
- 3- Commit myself to public service duties (600 hours in any women's organisation which provides social services to Australian women)

If, on the other hand, these claims prove to be void, I will still make a decision that will serve democracy and enhance the path of co-existence and harmony between the Muslim community and its Australian society away from extremism and racial fanaticism.

I request that quick measures be taken to form this court as soon as possible by any official women's organisation in charge of such matters, for example: the Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (Sex Discrimination).

With my deepest respect,

Issued by
Sheikh Taj El-Deen El-Hilali
Mufti of Australia
02/11/2006