



ECCV reflects on the Islamophobia in Australia Report 2017

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The Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria Chairperson, Eddie Micallef has welcomed the academic report that *"provides formal research into ECCV's community insights"*. The [Islamophobia in Australia Report 2017](#) provides us with previously unknown knowledge and understanding of Islamophobia in Australia. Islamophobia is defined as discrimination and prejudice towards people of Muslim faith, or perceived ethnic identity associated with Islam. The [Islamophobia Register Australia](#) provides an avenue for incidents of Islamophobia to be reported, recorded and analysed. Since the formation of the register in 2014 these attacks have been tracked.

The ECCV Chairperson, Eddie Micallef states *"the key findings of the report indicate female victims, particularly those with Islamic head covering, were the main target of Islamophobia. About a third of female victims had their children with them at the time of the reported incidents"*. ECCV believes it is concerning that nobody intervened for about 75 percent of the reported discrimination incidents.

ECCV has been leading the way in raising the issues of public discrimination against Muslim women since we published our social cohesion policy brief [On the Road with Muslim Mothers](#).

"ECCV believes a society that demonstrates respect and welcome to all communities is a society that is safe for all of its citizens" Eddie Micallef, the ECCV Chairperson explains why respect is an integral part of active citizenship. Australia's multicultural society has long welcomed Muslims and most Australian's embrace their fellow Muslim Australians with open arms in our workplaces, schools and in our communities. Read [ECCV's response to Australia becoming the most ethnically diverse country in the world](#), according to the Australian Bureau of Statistic's Census 2016. The ECCV Chairperson Eddie Micallef declares *"ECCV believes individuals, the media and industry have an obligation to contribute to the success of social cohesion and harmony as it impacts every citizen's right to access safety and participate as an active citizenship"*

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