

**Rabbi Kluwgant**

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**Subject:** Your article

**From:** President <president@ora.org.au>  
**Date:** 30 June 2014 4:58:55 pm EDT  
**To:** "rbaker@theage.com.au" <rbaker@theage.com.au>  
**Subject:** Your article

Hi Richard

ORA will be issuing a formal statement in response to your article, however in the meanwhile please see response from me as ORA president. I'm in the USA but can be contacted on **REDACTE**

Regards  
Rabbi Kluwgant

Sent from Rabbi's iPad

The Organisation of Rabbis of Australasia (ORA) has been on the record a number of times stating that it encourages victims of child sexual abuse and people with information about the perpetration of child sexual abuse to report these matters to the police and appropriate authorities.

While in the past a culture across many communities including the Jewish community may have been to address such matters internally, ORA has acknowledged that this approach is inappropriate. ORA's position on this matter has been received by the full spectrum of religious leaders in the Australian Jewish Community, and we are confident that the message that "cover ups" must not take place, has been clearly heard.

We leave it to the proper authorities to address matters of the past, and if necessary bring to justice those who may be guilty of any offences in this regard.

Any member of ORA found to be guilty of an offense in these matters or in general of not fully co-operating with police investigations, would be censured and in all likelihood expelled from the organisation.

ORA is actively engaged in implementing child protection policies in all our congregations to ensure that our children are protected and Rabbis and ministers are being trained to ensure full implementation of those policies in order to ensure to the extent that is humanly possible that the mistakes of the past are never repeated.

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