

**Rabbi Moshe D Gutnick**

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**From:** Rabbi Moshe D Gutnick <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 July 2011 9:28 AM  
**To:** jlevi@jewishnews.net.au  
**Cc:** cecelia@jewishnews.net.au  
**Subject:** Fwd: Statement

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B"H

Whereas there have been in recent times the reporting of unfortunate cases of abuse of children including sexual abuse, both here and overseas, and the misapprehension that Jewish Law prohibits the reporting of such abuse to the relevant authorities, or G-d forbid condones the non-reporting or concealment of such abuse , the Melbourne Beth Din and the Sydney Beth Din together with the Organisation of Rabbis of Australasia wish to reiterate the following Halachic principles:

1. We reiterate our unqualified condemnation of all forms of child abuse.
2. We reiterate that there is no Halachic impediment to conveying all credible information regarding such matters to the police or relevant authorities , but to the contrary, it is halachically obligatory to do so.
3. This obligation applies not only to mandatory reporters but to all who become aware that abuse is taking place.

We encourage all in the community who have information in relation to abuse to come forward to the relevant authorities so that the "evil can be removed from our midst".

The Melbourne Beth Din  
Rabbis of Australasia

The Sydney Beth Din

The Organisation of