



# PRESS RELEASE

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**932 Bourke Street  
Zetland (Sydney)  
NSW - 2017.  
P O Box 7185, SSBH  
Alexandria NSW - 2015.  
AUSTRALIA.**

Tel [02] 9319 6733

Fax [02] 9319 0159

Email: [admin@afic.com.au](mailto:admin@afic.com.au)

Web: [www.afic.com.au](http://www.afic.com.au)

**AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL  
ISLAMIC ORGANISATION  
REPRESENTING  
MUSLIM COMMUNITIES**

**45 Years of Community  
Services**

23 January 2009

## **Misguided views on the position of Women in Islam**

The President of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils, Mr Ikebal Adam Patel said that the views of Abu Hamza on the position of choice by women in a marital relationship in Islam had been taken out of context as Islam never preaches violence against any living creature let alone one's spouse. These are mere personal views of Mr Hamza and should not be given any legitimacy by the wide coverage that this matter has unfortunately generated.

Islam teaches peace on all aspects of life and the conduct of violence against women finds no roots in Islam and is in fact abhorrent by its mere suggestion.

He added that fulfilling ones physical commitment to their spouse does not mean one can force it on them, irrespective of the gender. The option of coercion and force are not even considered, let alone legitimised or condoned in Islam.

He further added that Muslims are incredibly proud of their religion and every man and woman living in Australia is a proud citizen and will abide by the law and will continue to enjoin what is good and forbid what is wrong and will struggle against the vices of society.

*For further information, please contact:*

**MR. IKEBAL PATEL (CHAIRMAN) AT 0419 418 237.**