



Executive Council of Australian Jewry

Extremism is the Only 'ism' We Must Oppose

One can only sympathise with the plight of the Lebanese people as so poignantly expressed by Dayan Youssef (Letters, 11/08). Innocents continue to suffer there as they do in Israel and elsewhere in the Middle East.

Yet clearly both the problem and the solution lie in the words of Ahmed Al-Jarallah, Editor-in-Chief of Kuwait's *Arab Times* (08/08). As he writes: "The fundamentalist ideology of Hezbollah has led to these killings and destruction....Today [Arab] people want to say what they want with full freedom and without fear for their leaders. This was evident when the Prime Minister of Lebanon Fouad Al-Siniora told Arab foreign ministers at their meeting in Beirut "Arab countries have rejected dictatorship and fundamentalist ideology." Siniora's speech was rejected only by Syria, Iran, and Hezbollah."

Forget socialism, capitalism, imperialism etc. Extremism is the only 'ism' we must oppose today.

Geoffrey Zygier

Executive Director

Executive Council of Australian Jewry