



Darfur and the Jews

The Australian Jewish News 10 November 2006

According to Dr Mark Baker (AJN, 3/11) the situation in Darfur is horrific and something must be done. This is not exactly news and his article would have had considerably more to offer if it had gone lighter on the hand-wringing and heavier on the solutions.

For Dr Baker's information, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies, Jewish Community Council of Victoria, Australasian Union of Jewish Students, B'nai B'rith, Union of Progressive Jewry, Anti-Defamation Commission and Australian Jewish Democratic Society are among the local Jewish organisations who have taken action in some way, be it petitioning Government, liaising with Darfurian Australians or fund-raising for refugees. Indeed the international Jewish community has been at the forefront of the 'Save Darfur' campaign, to the extent that radical Moslems have criticised their efforts as a Zionist plot! Hence for Dr Baker to imply the Jewish community has been lax is quite simply wrong.

Geoffrey Zygiel, Executive Director, Executive Council of Australian Jewry