

Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

**The Representative
Organisation of
Australian Jewry**



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Responsibility to Speak Out

Religious leaders not only have a right but a responsibility to become involved in public debates on matters of social justice Jewish and Uniting Church representatives reiterated after their recent meeting in Sydney.

The Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) and Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) National Dialogue, meeting in the UCA offices, considered theological, historical and pragmatic aspects of religious groups and individuals participating in the public and political sphere, following presentations by Reverend Michael Barnes of the UCA and Jeremy Jones of the ECAJ.

The Dialogue members surveyed the development of Jewish and Christian thought regarding public intervention, the range of matters on which non-partisan, moral interventions were possible, realistic and constructive, and the reality of the experiences of religious groups and individuals who have involved themselves in public affairs.

As well as discussing this issue, the Dialogue members discussed the nature and development of prayer, in Judaism and in the UCA. Josie Lacey and Peta Pellach presented on aspects of Jewish prayer, while Dr. Howard Wallace outlined the place of prayer in UCA religious practice.



The participants in the Dialogue were Rev. Michael Barnes (UCA), Sally Douglass (UCA), Jeremy Jones (ECAJ), Josie Lacey (ECAJ), Grahame Leonard (ECAJ), Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio (ECAJ), Rev. Dr Lorraine Parkinson (UCA), Peta Pellach (ECAJ), Rev. Elizabeth Raine (UCA), Rev. Dr. John Squires (UCA) and Rev Dr. Howard Wallace (UCA).

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