

# Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

הוועד הכועל של  
יהודי אוסטרליה

## The Representative Organisation of Australian Jewry

2nd Floor  
306 Hawthorn Road  
Caulfield South Victoria  
Australia 3162  
Tel (03) 9272 5579  
Fax (03) 9272 5540  
E-mail info@ecaj.org.au

PRESIDENT  
Grahame J. Leonard  
DEPUTY PRESIDENT  
Rabbi John Levi AM DD  
HON. TREASURER  
Sam Salcman  
HON. SECRETARY  
Josie Lacey OAM  
EXEC. DIRECTOR  
Geoffrey Zygiel

VICE PRESIDENTS  
Anton Block (VIC)  
David Knoll (NSW)  
Keith Shilkin (WA)  
David Paratz (QLD)  
Norman Schueler (SA)  
Daniel Albert (TAS)  
Bill Arnold (ACT)

CONSTITUENTS  
Jewish Community Council  
of Victoria Inc  
New South Wales Jewish  
Board of Deputies  
Jewish Community Council of  
Western Australia Inc  
Queensland Jewish Board of  
Deputies  
Jewish Community Council  
of South Australia  
Hobart Hebrew Congregation  
ACT Jewish Community Inc

AFFILIATES  
Australasian Union of Jewish  
Students  
Australian Federation of WIZO  
Union for Progressive  
Judaism - Australia  
Federation of Australian  
JewishCare  
Maccabi Australia Inc  
National Council of Jewish  
Women of Australia

OBSERVERS  
B'nai B'rith of Australia/ NZ  
Council of Progressive Rabbis  
Federation of Australian Jewish  
Ex-Service Associations  
Jewish National Fund  
New Zealand Jewish Council  
Zionist Federation of Australia



Mr Kim Williams  
CEO Foxtel  
PO Box 612  
Moonee Ponds VIC 3039

30 August 2007

Dear Mr Williams

I write to commend both Foxtel and yourself for the decision to pull the *War Files* series after discovering one of its episodes was written by notorious Holocaust denier David Irving.

Courts in the UK and Austria have judged Irving to be both an antisemite and a falsifier of history. While honest academic debate should never be stifled, Irving is not a seeker of truth, but an acknowledged liar motivated by hatred. As your response has suggested, his work should never be given credibility by any public exposure. Hence while screening of this episode was clearly an oversight, it is reassuring to hear that Foxtel will look at its editorial processes to prevent such occurrences in future.

Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GJ Leonard', written over a white background.

Grahame J. Leonard  
President

# Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

הוועד הכולל של  
יהודי אוסטרליה

## The Representative Organisation of Australian Jewry

2nd Floor  
306 Hawthorn Road  
Caulfield South Victoria  
Australia 3162  
Tel (03) 9272 5579  
Fax (03) 9272 5540  
E-mail info@ecaj.org.au

PRESIDENT  
Grahame J. Leonard  
DEPUTY PRESIDENT  
Rabbi John Levi AM DD  
HON. TREASURER  
Sam Salcman  
HON. SECRETARY  
Josie Lacey OAM  
EXEC. DIRECTOR  
Geoffrey Zygiar

VICE PRESIDENTS  
Anton Block (VIC)  
David Knoll (NSW)  
Keith Shilkin (WA)  
David Paratz (QLD)  
Norman Schueler (SA)  
Daniel Albert (TAS)  
Bill Arnold (ACT)

CONSTITUENTS  
Jewish Community Council  
of Victoria Inc  
New South Wales Jewish  
Board of Deputies  
Jewish Community Council of  
Western Australia Inc  
Queensland Jewish Board of  
Deputies  
Jewish Community Council  
of South Australia  
Hobart Hebrew Congregation  
ACT Jewish Community Inc

AFFILIATES  
Australasian Union of Jewish  
Students  
Australian Federation of WIZO  
Union for Progressive  
Judaism - Australia  
Federation of Australian  
JewishCare  
Maccabi Australia Inc  
National Council of Jewish  
Women of Australia

OBSERVERS  
B'nai B'rith of Australia/ NZ  
Council of Progressive Rabbis  
Federation of Australian Jewish  
Ex-Service Associations  
Jewish National Fund  
New Zealand Jewish Council  
Zionist Federation of Australia



The Hon Barry Cohen AM  
8 Reardon Place  
Bungendore NSW 2621

30 August 2007

Dear Mr Cohen

On behalf of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry I write to commend you for approaching Foxtel after realising a screened episode of the *War Files* series was written by notorious Holocaust denier David Irving. As you know, this series was pulled as a consequence and Foxtel will surely be more thorough in its editorial processes in future.

Courts in the UK and Austria have judged Irving to be both an antisemite and a falsifier of history. While honest academic debate should never be stifled, Irving is not a seeker of truth, but an acknowledged liar motivated by hatred. The Australian Jewish community is adamant that his work should never be given credibility by any public exposure.

Your action exemplifies the importance of vigilance by all concerned citizens in combating antisemitism and other hate crimes. I thank you not only for your alertness, but for acting in such a principled and decisive manner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GJ Leonard', written over a white background.

Grahame J. Leonard  
President