

# Media Release

## The Not-So Holy Comedy Debate

### “Is laughter the best medicine?”

The fourth instalment of the **Not-So Holy Comedy Debate** will address the topic “[Is laughter the best medicine?](#)” on Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of August at the City of Melbourne Town Hall.

Father Bob Maguire returns to moderate a hilarious debate between Annie Louey (Melbourne International Comedy Festival), Sam Gebreselassie and Michael Shafer (Melbourne International Comedy Festival) of the affirmative versus Justine Sless (Melbourne Jewish Comedy Festival), Cemil Yildiz and Jacob Sacher (Melbourne International Comedy Festival) of the negative team.

The comedy debate is organised by the [Jewish Community Council of Victoria](#) (JCCV) & [Australian Intercultural Society](#) (AIS) and is proudly supported by the City of Melbourne and the Department of Premier and Cabinet Victoria.

“We are very excited to host the fourth instalment of the Not-So Holy Comedy Debate”, said AIS Executive Director Ahmet Keskin, “it is a fantastic opportunity to promote cross-cultural awareness with a comical twist”. He added “The debate is the comical highlight of our event calendar and we look forward to seeing what these great comedians bring to the table”.

JCCV President Jennifer Huppert said “The Not So Holy Comedy Debate is a wonderful example of how how members of the diverse Victorian community can work together in good faith and good humour. The aim is to break down stereotypes, to emphasise the values which our community values, and be entertained.”

The event will take place at Swanston Hall, Melbourne Town Hall at 7pm on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August. For further information pls call Mujdat Keser (AIS) on 0499 996 289 or President Jennifer Huppert (JCCV) on 0419396239.

**Australian Intercultural Society (AIS)** is a not for profit organisation that has been operating in Melbourne since 2000 with the aims of promoting multiculturalism and fostering intercultural and interfaith dialogue. We believe in reaching out to all members of society by providing a platform for cultural and information exchange.

**The Jewish Community Council of Victoria – JCCV:** For over 80 years the JCCV has been the peak body of Victorian Jewry, Australia’s largest Jewish community. With over 50 major communal organisations as its affiliates, the JCCV represents the mosaic of Jewish religious, political, cultural, welfare, educational and social associations serving the Jewish community in Victoria. The Victorian and Federal Governments, their agencies and Victoria Police, the media and ethnic and religious groups have long recognised the JCCV as the representative body of the Victorian Jewish community, speaking on its behalf on all matters affecting its welfare, safety and interests.

#### **Australian Intercultural Society**

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