

26 May 2020

LGBTI Domestic Violence Awareness Day
PO Box 10575
Adelaide Street
Brisbane, QLD 4000



By email: BenB@dvconnect.org

Dear Colleagues,

Letter of support for 'LGBTI Domestic Violence Awareness Day' — Pride in Law

As a Board of Directors, one of our key responsibilities is to support and encourage our profession.

Pride in Law is Australia's first and only LGBTIQ+ Law Association, which is '*Law Focused, Pride Inspired*'. Since launching in July 2017, Pride in Law has continued to provide visibility, education and advocacy around LGBTIQ+ issues in the legal profession. We represent and promote legal professionals, increase community understanding of the law, help protect the rights of individuals and advise the community about the many benefits legal professionals can provide. Pride in Law also assists the public by advising government on improvements to laws affecting Australians.

Over the past few years, Pride in Law has supported a number of important causes in the community, particularly in the area of the prevention of domestic and family violence. Our association is dedicated to raising awareness of the unique issues the LGBTIQ+ community face in abusive relationships. Further, Pride in Law is devoted to educating the wider community through educational events. We believe that change begins with us as individuals. We all share the power to change. If one individual becomes more respectful and accepting it will influence other. This is how we will change the world.

During Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month each year, we are reminded of the shocking statistics in heterosexual relationships. Unfortunately, our association notes, credible statistics are not available, collected or released on regular basis to identify the level of harm caused in the LGBTIQ+ community. This must change!

Pride in Law supports the new initiative to draw awareness to domestic and family violence through the inaugural LGBTI Domestic Violence Awareness Day, which will occur on 28 May 2020. With its hash-tag, #ImHereForYou, we can make a difference and raise awareness. Congratulations to all involved in creating this campaign, including QuAC, DVConnect and the Queensland Government.

We are stronger together; we are united in our commitment to end abuse in all forms. Domestic and family violence does not discriminate. We all have a place to 'Do something and say something'. Not now, Not ever. Together.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Clifford-Jones
National Director, Pride in Law

Emily Phillips
National Director, Pride in Law

Michael Bidwell
National Director, Pride in Law