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## Media Release

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## Hopes shattered by ALP discrimination

Newly registered political party, Hear Our Voice, condemns Kevin Rudd and the Labor Party for not supporting equality under the law for gay and lesbian people.

Hear Our Voice NSW Senate candidate, Toni McLennan, reminds Mr Rudd that the recent Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission's (HREOC) Same-Sex: Same Entitlements Report says that discrimination against same-sex couples is a breach of human rights.

"Kevin Rudd is choosing discrimination because of his religious views," Toni McLennan said.

"Love and relationships come in many forms and same-sex couples should be afforded the same recognition under the law as other Australians.

"By not having equal rights under the law, it sends a message to other Australians that there is something wrong with being lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender and inter-sex (LGBTI). What is wrong is people are being discriminated against and persecuted for something they have no control over.

"I also condemn Mr Rudd's attitude to same-sex couple adoption. This issue is one of discrimination through ignorance. Gay and lesbian families are just as loving and caring as heterosexual ones.

"The real contest this election is the control of the Senate cross benches, and if I am elected I will act quickly and strongly to remove all forms of discrimination in the law for gay and lesbian people. It is the right thing to do.

"Kevin Rudd has made it clear that Labor does not support the LGBTI community on these issues. Therefore the gay and lesbian community should not support Labor this election. They should put their vote behind progressive parties like Hear Our Voice in the Senate," she said.

## Media Note:

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