

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the house to the serious danger faced by Muslims who choose to leave their faith.

Shari'a (Islamic) Law prescribes the death penalty for adult male Muslims who choose to leave Islam. Most of the Islamic schools of law also have the death sentence for women. Other penalties are also imposed.

Your petitioners therefore humbly request the House to support all efforts by Muslims to have the apostasy law reformed, so that Muslims who choose to leave their faith are no longer liable to any penalty but are free to follow their new convictions without fear, in accordance with the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We also ask the House to use its influence on the Governments of countries where punishments for apostasy are part of the legal system, to encourage abolition.