

# Letters

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## Mardi Gras

THE unfortunate appearance of a "Jewish community" float at the Mardi Gras prompts me to write that which to some may be perceived as being out-of-date and old-fashioned.

It may be unpopular today to promote marital fidelity, morality and modest behaviour; however, the word of God remains the word of God, even when it is not popular and those of us charged with the responsibility of teaching the word of God dare not be silent.

While agreeing that discrimination and violence towards any person or group is unacceptable, it remains a fact that the law of the Bible and authentic Jewish law forbid a homosexual lifestyle and practices. How much more so must we protest when that lifestyle is associated with a Mardi Gras whose theme is unquestionably to desensitise us to brazen promiscuity and immorality.

**Rabbi Moshe Gutnick**  
**President**  
**NSW Rabbinical Council**

## No place

THE *AJN* of 3/3/00 was filled with such a diverse range of issues. The stories about the "Stars of David" and the endorsement of tolerance by Kerry Chikarovski were both uplifting, positive articles that made me proud of our community.

What saddened me was the close-minded attitude displayed by Major-General Peter Phillips in launching Mark Braham's book. I found it interesting that while Mr Braham admired "Australia's record as a democracy extending the hand of friendship to so many" in the 1930s and '40s, the person chosen to launch his book considered there to be "no place for practising homosexuals in the Australian Defence Force".

**Haydee Toltz**  
**Mosman, NSW**