



# Women's Health Victoria

*healthy empowered equal*

**Women's Health Victoria** Reg. No A0029795W ABN 33365284944  
Level 8, 255 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC Australia 3000  
**T** (03) 9664 9300 **F** (03) 9663 7955 **E** whv@whv.org.au **W** www.whv.org.au  
**Postal Address** GPO Box 1160, Melbourne VIC Australia 3001

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For immediate distribution**

### **Verdict highlights the need for our political leaders to step up**

**MELBOURNE – Wednesday 26 August 2015**

Women's Health Victoria calls on our political leaders to put an end to anti-choice protesters harassing and intimidating women accessing reproductive health services.

"At a time when our state is calling for an end to violence against women, allowing the continued harassment and intimidation of women in public life is a double standard that must be challenged," said Rita Butera, Women's Health Victoria Executive Director.

"Imagine being harassed on arrival to work every day and the toll that has on a person. Imagine facing a difficult personal decision and then being intimidated or jostled when at your most vulnerable," Ms Butera continued.

The Supreme Court's ruling today highlights the need to ensure that women accessing reproductive health services in Victoria do so without obstruction.

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#### **For media enquiries and interviews, please contact:**

Kylie Inserra, Communications Coordinator, Women's Health Victoria  
M: 0409 119 101 E mail: [kylie.inserra@whv.org.au](mailto:kylie.inserra@whv.org.au)

#### **About Women's Health Victoria**

Women's Health Victoria (WHV) is a not-for-profit, state-wide women's health promotion, information and advocacy service, focused on improving the lives of Victorian women. WHV works collaboratively with women, health professionals, policy makers and community organisations to influence and inform health policy and service delivery for women.

WHV's work is underpinned by a commitment to reducing inequities in health which arise from social, economic and environmental determinants.

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