



## Hon Teresa Gambaro MP

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary Citizenship and Settlement  
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary International Development Assistance  
Federal Member for Brisbane

### Media Release

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#### **MP says stop the hate!**

As the Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Friends of HIV / AIDS, I applaud the action by Adshel to reverse their decision to remove safe-sex awareness messages from their billboards in Brisbane.

I am both saddened and disgusted by today's defacing of these messages, and now more determined to see good health promotion messages reach the widest possible audience.

It is a sad fact that HIV/AIDS continues to affect our community. Limiting awareness campaigns by defacing billboards is totally un-acceptable and to write such a violent hate message is totally abhorrent to me.

2010 saw a higher number of people diagnosed with HIV than at any time since testing began in the mid-1980s and with 65 per cent of those diagnoses among gay men.

Surely in an enlightened society we can address these issues. It is just as important as ever for everyone to discuss safe sex.

**ENDS**