

17 December 2013

The Hon Julie Bishop MP  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

### Supreme Court Decision India

I write to ask that the Australian Government raise concerns with the Indian Government about the recent Supreme Court judgment reinstating Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, which criminalizes homosexual acts.

While there have been reports that the Indian Government is considering law reform in response to decision, which reverses a 2009 court decision. I share community concern that reform is needed to remove anachronistic legislation that imposes prison terms of between 10 years and life. In practice, this law exposed gay and transgender people to sexual assault, harassment, blackmail and extortion by the police, family members, neighbours and associates.

Constituents who have contacted me are concerned that Australia has been silent on this human rights matter, and I share their concern that the Australian Government should speak out on this matter.

***Could you please inform me what action you will take on this matter?***

Yours sincerely



Alex Greenwich  
Member for Sydney

