

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 7 April 2010

Nominations called for the most Outrageous, Ridiculous or Ignorant comment made about the GLBTI community

Launching [the GLORIA awards](#) today, NSW Labor MLC Penny Sharpe asked the public to nominate the most outrageous, ridiculous or ignorant comment they had read, seen or heard about the GLBTI community in the past year.

“Every day there are public comments about people in the GLBTI community that are ignorant, unhelpful and sometimes dangerous. The GLORIA’s (Gay & Lesbian Outrageous, Ridiculous and Ignorant comment Awards) are new a event that will shine a light on these comments and provide a fun night to expose homophobia in our community” Ms Sharpe said.

“If you have ever yelled at the television, newspaper, radio or the computer when you have seen one of these comments – I urge you to nominate it for a GLORIA.” she said

“Tony Abbott’s recent forays into the threatening (or not) nature of homosexuals and Eddie Maguire’s handling of men’s ice skating are just a couple of the nominations we have already received.” Ms Sharpe said **

The GLORIA’s are modelled on former NSW MP Meredith Burgmann’s [annual Ernie’s](#) awards for sexist comments.

Comments can be nominated by the public in seven categories (Media, Sport, Politics, Law, Religion, Online and Silliest GLBTI comment made from within the GLBTI community) at www.theglorias.com.au until Thursday 22 April 2010.

Online voting for the comments will open on Tuesday 27 April.

Voting closes at the GLORIAS awards dinner being held at NSW Parliament House on the [International Day Against Homophobia](#) Monday 17 May, 2010.

The awards will be announced on the night by author, journalist and commentator David Marr.

The penultimate prize, the Golden GLORIA, for the worst comment of the year, will be decided at the dinner via a “boo off”.

For more information or to nominate a comment go to the website:
www.theglorias.com.au

For comment, contact Penny Sharpe on 9230 2741 or 0413 386 104

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** More serious examples of the types of comments that could be nominated:

- From the US, where a gun lobbyist called Ron Owen produced bumper stickers that said

“Gay Rights? Under God's law the only rights gays have is the right to die.”

- Jeff Kennett's remarks in 2008 where he supported a football club for sacking a trainer because he was gay with the comments:

"It's the same if you have a paedophile there as a masseur, right?... And you might say the paedophile would do no damage, but once it was pointed out to you, you have a duty of care to those underage children not to put them in a situation of risk."