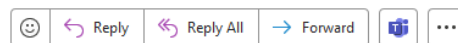
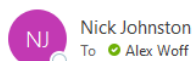


Still to be finalised but as I now have it



Sun 19/03/2023 6:59 PM

Sunday 19 March 2023

## Statement from the Leader of the Opposition

Yesterday afternoon Victorians witnessed an abomination on the steps of the Victorian Parliament when neo-Nazi protesters engaged in an affront to the values we should all hold dear as Victorians.

The violence, prejudice and hate that these protesters conveyed by their odious actions will never be acceptable in our state. I condemn them and commit to opposing such hate wherever it may exist.

This afternoon, I met with **Maira** Deeming MP to discuss the events of Saturday and her association with neo-Nazi sympathisers which has come to light as a result of the events of yesterday

At our meeting I informed Ms Deeming that I intend to move a motion at the next party room meeting to expel her as a member of the Parliamentary Liberal Party as her position is untenable.

This is not an issue about free speech but a member of the parliamentary party associating with neo-Nazi sympathisers and what they represent.

The Liberal Party I joined, and which I am now honoured to lead, must strive to represent all Victorians.

Regardless of religious faith, race, sexual preference and identity or ethnicity, Victorians everywhere should know that the Liberal Party is inclusive and can be a voice for them.

No matter what our background we all share the abiding bond of an essential humanity.

Equality of opportunity, the benefits to each and all of an enterprising culture, the security that comes from the rule of law, the strength which stems from families and communities that can live together in search of happiness while sharing in our state's prosperity, must extend to all people who reside in Victoria.

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