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Media Release

The CLP's decision to platform Sall Grover in the name of women's safety is deeply troubling and divisive.

Friday 6 November 2026

Transgender women in the Northern Territory deserve to be safe. As do all women. Women's rights and transgender rights are not competing causes. You cannot claim to stand for women's safety while deciding that some women are less deserving of protection, dignity and respect than others.

Women in the Northern Territory face horrific levels of violence. In 2024–25, the rate of women killed by an intimate partner was 25 times the national rate. In 2025, police recorded more than 7,100 victims of family and domestic violence-related assault in the Territory. These are the issues demanding urgent government attention.

Women need protection from violence, safe accommodation and access to essential services. They do not need a Government fuelling division over which women deserve to feel safe.

Aboriginal women are being killed at alarming rates. Thousands of women experience violence. Women fleeing domestic violence are turned away from shelters. Women are waiting, or worse flying interstate, to access basic healthcare that should be available here in the Territory.

Against this backdrop, it is extraordinary that the CLP is choosing to platform an ideological campaign that is divisive and harmful, threatens the safety and dignity of some women, and does nothing to make women safer.

The CLP is choosing to launch this campaign alongside Sall Grover, whose exclusion of transgender woman Roxanne Tickle from her women-only app was found by the Federal Court to constitute unlawful discrimination. That finding was upheld on appeal, with the High Court subsequently refusing Grover permission to appeal further.

There is a profound contradiction in claiming to champion women's safety while giving a public platform to someone whose actions have been found by Australia's courts to have unlawfully discriminated against another woman.

Territorians deserve access to safe spaces, support and protection. That should never come at the expense of transgender people, or be used to justify discrimination and exclusion

If the CLP are serious about women's safety, instead of promoting divisive and harmful rhetoric they would be investing in maternity and gender-affirming healthcare, domestic and family violence prevention, homelessness and emergency accommodation for women and children, early intervention programs for men who use violence, and the frontline specialist services that women rely on.

Trans women are women. They are legally and medically recognised as women. They deserve the same safety, dignity, respect and protection under the law as every other woman. They should not have to defend their right to be recognised, or have their safety put at risk to advance someone else's political agenda.

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