



Rev. Hon. Dr. Gordon Moyes AC, MLC
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Ms Nermien Riad
Founder and Executive Director
Coptic Orphans
Po Box 2281
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Friday, 31st October 2008

Dear Nermien

I thank you for the opportunity to host the Coptic Orphans Public Forum at New South Wales Parliament on Tuesday 28th October 2008.

After watching your presentation, I truly believe that the work of Coptic Orphans has allowed vulnerable children to break the cycle of poverty, and confidently face the future with a renewed sense of hope and a life enriched with education, health and equality.

The programs of Coptic Orphans such as *Not Alone*, *Valuable Girl Project*, and *Serve to Learn*, have improved and touched the lives of over 15,000 orphans and other vulnerable children in Egypt who will, one day, become the agents of change in their local communities.

Proverbs 31:8-9 says we are to “speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; defend the rights of the poor and needy.” The compassion of Jesus requires us to be so moved by the needs of children that we act.

Coptic Orphans is a commendable example of an international Christian developmental organisation that has extended true generosity to those who have suffered. Children who are assisted by Coptic Orphans will have the power to transform their generations to become tomorrow’s leaders.

I guess it must be close to twenty years that I have been supporting Coptic Orphans, and I have valued every meeting with you and members of the Australian team, as you have appeared on my radio and television programs and now in Parliament.

Congratulations on celebrating your 20th anniversary. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely

Reverend The Honourable Dr Gordon Moyes AC
Member of the Legislative Council
Parliament of New South Wales