

I stand with and for Tony Jones without a single reservation.

I have worked with Tony in so many different relationships that I offer a unique statement of support.

- I was his direct supervisor and mentor as Director of Religious and Jewish Studies at St. Cloud State University where he taught as an adjunct with both integrity and excellence.
- I am his partner in Jewish-Christian dialogue.... we have taught together in churches, university and seminary settings.
- I am his friend and because of my age and seniority in clergy, academia, and life—I have been humbled to offer him my insights—both praise and challenge.
- I am his student as he tutors me on the Emergent Church and new and still unknown force of social media.
- I am a collaborator in writing, speaking and networking tomorrow's religious conversations.

Tony Jones is a fabulous, complex and all-too-busy 21st century religious thinker and a person I know very well with whom I would and do trust my family, my children and most importantly I know that his values and his behavior are a seamless garment of responsibility.

I have been a rabbi for nearly 42 years and my pastoral experience has taught me that the tragic and unrequited rage of some people cannot be tempered by any boundaries. Tony is now the victim of such a person, and so I raise my voice in support of his name, his person, and most of the entire burden he carries as a parent in caring for the most innocent victims his children. It is time that we who know Tony Jones join in a public declaration of concern that charges that defame another adult will also and ultimately scar children.

Let us stop the cycle that both defames and scars because someone cannot control himself or herself in a realm that offers no boundaries.

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