

# YBF in conversation with Julia Gillard

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TICKETS to see Julia Gillard at the youth division of Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce (AICC) last week sold out in less than 24 hours as young professionals in their 20s and 30s clamored to hear the former prime minister discuss her legacy, the importance of education and women in leadership.

In front of a crowd of 100 people at the offices of Arnold Bloch Leibler, Gillard was grilled by AICC Young Business Forum (YBF) committee member Shlomit Raz on subjects ranging from her leadership of the country from 2010 to 2013, Israel, sexism and her current role as chancellor of global online education consultancy Ducere.

Reflecting on the sexist attitudes she encountered during her prime ministership, the former PM noted that the gender rhetoric increased during her time in office, rather than dissipated.

But having borne the brunt of such sexist attitudes, she expressed a hope that the way would now be

smoother for the next generation of women in leadership.

On Israel, Gillard commended its innovative culture and emphasis on education, which she said she had admired during each of her visits to the country.

Raz told *The AJN*, "It was an honour and privilege to host a former Australian prime minister. Julia Gillard spoke honestly and openly and gave our members an insight into her life, past and present."

Urging interested professionals and entrepreneurs to get involved in its growing network for stellar events and engaging programs, she added, "The YBF has many more exceptional events planned for the second half of the year, including an environmental innovation panel, an Israeli agri-bio panel, as well as leadership and mentoring programs."

The environment innovation panel is at the Tesla Showroom on August 13 from 6pm. For more information and to book tickets, visit [www.ybf.org.au](http://www.ybf.org.au).



Former prime minister Julia Gillard in conversation with Shlomit Raz at AICC YBF's function last week. Photo: Dean Schmitt