I think faith-based schools ought be able to select staff who agree with their beliefs. Same as one would not expect a political party to be forced to employ someone who was a supporter of a party with opposing views.

The current system has worked for many decades. Why change it? I presume the reason is idealistic, by people with whom I would vehemently disagree.

And therein lies the issue - freedom of choice: Am I able to raise my kids the way I think best? Or, as in "1984", does "big brother" government know best?

Some say: why should the taxpayer support religious schools? Because parents of such children pay tax. (Actually, I'd guess that they pay *more* tax proportionally)

In fact, I support the idea that government allot a set amount per child for schooling, & let parents choose the school.

I reckon that if this were done, many more kids would move to religious schools. ...as parents want freedom of choice.

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(I accept that financial issues need to be considered here, but this is beyond the scope of my contention here. But witness that many "hard-up" people do send their kids to religious schools, in spite of cost! Consider why.)

I want my kids to learn in an atmosphere conducive to maintenance of high standards & respect for truth. Not according to government's latest fads.

Many think religion is indoctrination, & secular society is not. I vehemently disagree. Government policy seems to be becoming more anti-religious, so policies tend towards indoctrination in a direction I would oppose.

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So I want Christian schools to be able to select those who would not denigrate their ethic. Same with other religious groups of established beliefs.

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As a medical doctor, I see people every day who have made choices that have health consequences. Sometimes I'm not for the choices my patients make, but I absolutely support their right to choose how they wish to live their lives.

Dr Ian Truscott 14 Feb 2023