To the ALRC – re inquiry into religious exemptions for educational institutions and recommendations which seek to limit the ability of faith-based schools and other institutions to hire staff in accordance with their religious ethos.

It is a fundamental tenet of democracy, that there is the opportunity for free-speech, and freedom of religious beliefs, with respect for others who also have their personal beliefs.

Currently, there is a very strong left-wing pressure to restrict any such freedom, and to rather coerce uniformity of any position with no personal beliefs permitted, let alone tolerated.

This deterioration became abundantly clear in the homosexual debate over "marriage" reform, with no traditional or otherwise position permitted. A tiny minority (the evidence is about 1%—NOT 10%) seeks to force the hand of the vast majority by terrorist-type intimidation and irrational tactics to suppress the rights of others, and certainly to completely suppress the personal beliefs of others—whether about the misunderstandings of the homosexual community, or any other beliefs—including religious beliefs.

An oppressive society, that does not allow variety of beliefs, nor respects the rights of others—other than the rowdy minority—is nothing short of a dictatorship like the Syrian, Russion, and other oppressive regimes. That seems to be the agenda of the Labor Govt, as well as the Greens, and should be opposed at all costs in order to provide the rich diversity and respect of a multicultural society, that Australia has become.

Rev Dr David A Swincer