

12th February 2023

I am deeply concerned about the proposals by the The Australian Law Reform Commission (LRC) to interfere with the operation of independent and faith-based schools.

At present, parents have a “choice” of educational institutions, from state run schools, to Christian, Jewish, Muslim and other independently operated schools. The proposals set out by the LRC would “homogenise” the operation of schools to one set of secular beliefs. This is in direct contrast to the stated aims of the Commission. The reforms would not only limit inclusivity and diversity but would also have a harmful effect to our multicultural society.

The objectives, as set out by the LRF, are largely operating in state run schools at present and therefore available to parents/families who prefer these ideals. It is pertinent to note that the continued decline in enrolments in state run schools versus private/religious schools shows the increasing preference for the values and teaching of independent/religious schools over state run schools.

If the Commission is truly interested in diversity and inclusion, then they will not introduce their proposed amendments and will allow independent/religious based schools to keep their independence and their religious beliefs, thereby ensuring parents have a range of educational institutions to select from.

Please REJECT the LRC proposals.

Yours sincerely,
Mr & Mrs Kimball Nunn