

# A submission on Religious Educational Institutions and Anti

A submission on Religious Educational Institutions and Anti-Discrimination Laws .

The Consultation Paper which if adopted would make discrimination against students on the grounds of sexual orientation,gender identity,marital or relationship status or Pregnancy in schools and other religious educational instutions unlawful , by removing Exceptions currently available under Federal Law.

I find this to be discrimination against Religious Schools and Instutuions.

Freedom of Religion is an important “Right “ and is protected by the UN Freedom of Religion Declaration which Australia is a signatory.

Legal protections and Exemptions are threatened for faith based schools

If the Federal Government implements legal changes recommended by the Australian Law Reform Commission.

States and Territories have anti-discrimination Laws except New South Wales and have narrower exemptions than the Federal Law .

The Federal Law takes precedence over State Law and in a circumstance where a State Law is unfair to a Religious School recourse to the Federal Law can provide an exemption.

If the Federal Law is scrapped by the present Government then all protection for Religious Schools is lost. Some mechanism must be found to protect Religious Freedom.

A religious School should be able to teach its Religious Doctrine without Interference from the State and its curriculum should be free from interference From the State. Should the Federal Exemptions be removed and State curriculum be mandatory which contain material unacceptable to the Religious ethos of the school some exemption would need to be applied and some action taken by the State to preserve the freedom of the

School to teach Religion.