

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Anti Discrimination Law](#)  
**Subject:** Do not destroy my children's faith-based school  
**Date:** Sunday, 19 February 2023 10:52:06 PM

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To whom it might concern.  
The Australian Law Reform Commission,

The matter of serious concern to me is this. Faith-based schools should be completely free to operate according to their faith, beliefs & ethos.

Here are some reasons why! Religious Educational Institutions have never in our Australian history been erroneously seen as Anti-Discrimination establishments. This is an absurd idea.

Firstly, your points A and B state that religious educational institutions should not be allowed to discriminate against current or prospective students and staff on the grounds of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or relationship status, or pregnancy. Let me state that as a teacher I have never witnessed a student disadvantaged or to use your weaponised word (discriminated) against. I believe that schools should have the right to enforce appropriate measures to address and prevent open promotion of ideologies that conflict with the school's beliefs (e.g. transgenderism, inappropriate sexual behaviour, homosexuality, etc.). ( Schools should not be displaying any sexual behaviours. It is highly inappropriate. They are children. They must be protected from such things & allowed to maintain their innocence. And concerning staff, I believe that religious schools should have the right and freedom to employ or promote those who authentically live out their faith in accordance with the religious basis of the school – and to replace those who say they agree with the school's beliefs but live contrarily.

Secondly, I was initially encouraged by point 3 of Proposition B, which states that, "Religious educational institutions should be able to require staff involved in the teaching of religious doctrine or belief to teach religious doctrine or belief on sex or sexuality as set out by that institution and in accordance with their duty of care to students and staff, and requirements of the curriculum."

However, point 3 of proposal D then says, "Respect for an educational institution's ethos and codes of conduct or behaviour should not require employees to hide their own sex, (we all hide our sexual organs. It is called modesty) sexual ideas & feelings, gender feelings & ideas, marital or relationship status, or pregnancy in connection with work or in private life, or to refrain from supporting another person with these attributes." So, even though Proposition B states that religious schools can require staff to teach a particular worldview, this becomes of no effect when teachers are completely free to openly (model=teaching)opposing views. These statements negate each other.

I therefore ask the ALRC to remove point 3 from Proposed point D. You see

whatever a person lives they teach. It is called modelling. This is taught in universities as a powerful way of teaching.

The prevalence of faith-based schools in Australia shows that they are highly valued by a whole host of families. It is no surprise that integral faith works & dual-headed teaching completely confuses students. The ALRC should not seek to 'fix' something which is not broken. I do understand that people with insecure foundations would be intimidated by sound faith-based foundations.

Faith-based schools & institutions should be free from the attack of targeted discrimination legislation. At the end of the day, anyone who disagrees with a religious school's code of conduct can simply attend a different school. Birds of a feather should be free to flock together. Otherwise we actually have no freedom.

Thank you for seriously considering my statements in your submission hearings.

Mr. & Mrs Norman & Patricia Martin

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