

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Anti Discrimination Law](#)
Subject: Regarding amendments to the Sex Discrimination Act 1984
Date: Thursday, 23 February 2023 12:08:50 PM

Dear Officer,

I am writing this email to address the proposed amendments to the Sex Discrimination Act 1984. I tried to upload a PDF file in the submission area of the Australian Law Reform Commission website, but it wouldn't upload, hence the email.

The proposed amendments to the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 would remove exemptions currently provided to all religious educational institutions, including the Muslim community to which I belong. The proposed amendments seek to promote equality and eliminate discrimination in all aspects of Australian society, including in education, but this will mean that minority religious groups will lose their religious freedom and right of following their religious ideology openly within their communities.

I believe that the proposed amendments would be detrimental to the Muslim community, as it would not allow us to practice our religious beliefs in harmony. The removal of exemptions could impact the ability of religious educational institutions to uphold their beliefs and values, and to provide education in accordance with their beliefs and values.

As a member of a minority religious group in Australia, I believe that

1. It is our right to practice our culture, language and religion.
2. Government has a responsibility to make sure the rights of minority religious groups are protected.
3. Government funded private schools with less funds compared to public schools. Majority of the funds come from parents; hence we have every right to choose the kind of education given to our children
4. It is our right to choose and uphold our religious ethos instead of forcing us to abide.
5. With the new law, it is discrimination against those with religious beliefs and forcing us to comply.
6. Staff, children and families should abide by the code of conduct of the schools and institutions and are welcome to seek alternative arrangements if they disagree.
7. The law should be balanced to allow us to continue our rights and our dignity.

The above points are in alignment with Article 18 & 26 of the United Nations universal declaration of human rights <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

There are also in compliance with Articles 4, 8 & 30 of the UNICEF child rights: <https://assets-us-01.kc-usercontent.com/99f113b4-e5f7-00d2-23c0-c83ca2e4cfa2/fc21b0e1-2a6c-43e7-84f9-7c6d88dcc18b/unicef-simplified-convention-child-rights.pdf>

Kindly consider my appeal to not make any amendment to the Sex Discrimination Act 1984.
Thank you,
Sabahat.