

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Anti Discrimination Law](#)
Subject: Anti discrimination in Christian Schools
Date: Thursday, 23 February 2023 6:41:11 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I commenced filling out the recent survey re anti discrimination in christian schools and it only allowed me to fill in one page.

In going back to survey, it said that It had been completed.

In the event that I cannot get back to the survey, I wish to make this submission.

My submission relates to my experience with Christian National Schools.

As well as teaching in State Schools, I have taught in CEN schools for over twenty years.

I have not witnessed any discrimination in the schools in which I have taught.

I have also served on Boards of the CEN schools, sent my four children to one of these schools and now my grandchildren attend these schools.

I know that same sex attracted and trans children attend our schools. These children should be and are treated with respect and love as are all children in the school.

When it comes to employment of teachers, I strongly believe that only committed christians who share the ethos of the school should be employed.

In the survey there is a suggestion that schools can only preference in the area of teaching 'religion'.

Such a suggestion shows a woeful misunderstanding of teaching practice and is coming from a philosophically naive understanding of worldview.

All schools are religious, being underpinned by a faith commitment or world view and a null curriculum.

I can assure you that our schools seek to faithfully embed a christian worldview in all curriculum areas of the school. This endeavour is pursued with academic vigour.

In the survey preamble, there is the assumption that schools such as ours, teach religion as 'icing on the cake". Therefore it is assumed that this is the only area where discrimination regarding employment of teachers is justified.

This is an absurd position to take.

I find the proposal that christian schools can only discriminate in a very limited area of teaching is extremely discriminating while at the same time shows a total lack of understanding of teaching practice.

Seeking to limit the right of our schools to choose teachers who share the ethos of the school community is blatant discrimination. I thought that the Government was committed to anti discrimination for all groups our society.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Dickens

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