

Wauchope Presbyterian Church

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Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill

Various people and organisations are telling us that this Bill will further restrict free speech and decision making. As a small but growing Church, living and working in regional NSW we would not like to see any further restriction on these things.

Nor would we encourage a growth in the ways that people can vexatiously take revenge or frighten opponents into silence through the legal system.

Australians have been noted for a diverse array of opinions and laconic ways of being able to state these. The Lord Jesus and the Bible in general place big store on <u>speaking the truth in a loving manner</u>. This is a standard that we would encourage our law makers and governors to aspire to.

There is also something Australian, Christian and character building in being able to cope with someone's opposing opinion to yours. Let's allow those opinions within a wide and reasonable degree.

More restrictive legislation is not the answer in all of this.

Peter Huxley