

Submission:

As a citizen with long standing commitment to faith based education in Australia I respectfully submit my urgent solicitation that schools established for this purpose be safeguarded in their mission to be both, in this instance Catholic and Schools in the true sense of the word.

All parents contribute through their taxes to the support of all educational institutions. A just return of some of this contribution is made through funding to those parents who again contribute to the support of the schools they choose for their children while still helping to fund Government and other Schools which others use.

The fact that Government funds are used to support faith based schools is no argument to force such schools to engage teachers whose philosophy of life militates against the mission of the school. Students who obviously disrupt or interfere with the good function of the school's mission might be requested to apply to a school that supports their beliefs and where learning can be pursued harmoniously.

Sexual orientation of itself is no bar to employment where the person concerned is committed to the faith mission and education offered in the school to the satisfaction of the parent body and employment authorities and where the teachers or students demonstrate such a commitment to living a life as faithful (in this case) to Christian Gospel principles and practice as is possible for them at that stage of life.

Margaret Knagge, rsj