

*I wish to make a submission to the to the **Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee**. regarding the Sex Discrimination Amendment (Removing Discrimination Against Students) Bill 2018*

The Wong Bill seeks to remove exemptions in the Sex Discrimination Act (SDA) 1984. It goes beyond schools and school children; removing the ability of religious educational institutions to maintain the religious ethos and exposes them to litigation under the SDA.

My name is Alan Harker and I am one of hundreds of Volunteers who teach Christian Religious Instruction in State Schools in Queensland. We do this under Queensland laws and regulations.

Under these laws we are allowed to teach Christian morals of love for God and our fellow mankind. This covers respect for Parents and those in authority, not to murder or steal or to tell lies or to covert another's property or spouses or partners etc. and many more positive values for a peaceful life.

These virtues are essential for us to live in a peaceful community and with each other.

The community needs these values to be taught to children to offset the violence shown on the media, films, internet and computer games etc.

There is so much family violence, divorce and broken homes, children need to know that there is a God who loves them personally and who forgives mistakes, just as they should to forgive others their mistakes and move forward to a better, happier and healthier lifestyle. It also gives them a hope for a better future.

For the above reasons I believe it is essential for this nation, as a whole, to allow the freedom of Christian Religious Instruction to continue to be taught to children across the Schools of Australia.

Sincerely
Alan Harker