

**Submission
No 305**

**INQUIRY INTO EDUCATION AMENDMENT (ETHICS
CLASSES REPEAL) BILL 2011**

Name: Mr Reuben & Mrs Margaret Fox

Date received: 28/02/2012

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27/2/12

The Chair,

General Purpose Standing Committee No.2.

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Dear Sir/Madam,

We are requesting the repeal of the ALP - Green Ethics Course Bill.

In the past Scripture sessions at school have been prepared for and delivered in a very acceptable manner. Parents have been free to request their children be absented from scripture classes if they so desired. These children have gone to the library or been involved in other activities.

One of the major problems with this Bill is that it offers 'ethics' at the same time as scripture. This creates an environment where parents are faced with making a choice. These same parents were, up till now, content for their children to be given the opportunity to learn about Christian beliefs and values.

Why change a program that's working effectively? Will the 'ethics' program offering security to children? Who would decide the material to be used?

We are also concerned at the Ethics course content. From the discussions we've observed, the children are not encouraged to have absolutes. In fact, they can choose according to their feelings. - a situation could be right today, wrong the next day. With scripture, children are encouraged to uphold standards and know why they are important.

We therefore urge the repeal of the ALP - Green Ethics course Bill.

Thanks Reuben & Margaret Fox