

**Submission
No 259**

INQUIRY INTO EDUCATION AMENDMENT (ETHICS CLASSES REPEAL) BILL 2011

Name: Ms Kate Watts

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Please allow the ethics classes to continue. They are a wonderful way for children to have thoughtful discussions about important issues.

I am strongly opposed to religious education in state schools, inside school hours. However, I consider that if religious education is scheduled, then an alternative should be offered as well, and that ethics classes are an excellent alternative.

My children have attended ethics classes and benefited a great deal from them - they have brought home the discussions they held and continued these with the family. It would be very disappointing and bewildering if the state government were to cancel something that is working well and promoting exactly the kind of questioning and thinking skills that education is designed to develop.