

**Submission
No 365**

INQUIRY INTO EDUCATION AMENDMENT (ETHICS CLASSES REPEAL) BILL 2011

Name: Mrs Sally Rosenthal

Date received: 24/02/2012

The Director General
Purpose Standing Committee No. 2
Parliament House
Macquarie St Sydney NSW 2000

24/2/2102

Re: Submission to the Inquiry into Ethics Classes

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the continuation of ethics classes as an alternative to SRE. I have a daughter now in Year 1 and another child who is 3. I was very surprised to find out we were still having SRE as part of the curriculum and how limited the alternative choices are. My daughter attends Jewish scripture, as a cultural lesson only but it ensures the hour is not wasted totally.

I am also concerned we are wasting time for so many children instead of allowing there to be options in our very multicultural society. In some ways I feel Australia has come so far, in others I am in total disbelief. The way we currently present SRE classes for our children is a case where I cannot understand our current system and what we are offering our children.

Please update this system and allow all primary school children and their parents to have many up-to-date options and have all of their learning time maximised. The discussion of ethics at a young age can really shape the way a child approaches life and the primary school system has an opportunity to facilitate this learning and discussion.

I reject the proposition that the Education Amendment (Ethics) Act 2010 should be repealed and implore you to look at ways of ensuring it is offered to all primary school children.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Rosenthal