

**Submission
No 175**

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

Name: Ms Donna Sife

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I have been a Jewish Educator for SRE classes in the school system for 30 years. As such I am well placed to submit my enthusiasm for the Ethics program that has been trialled in schools for students who do not attend scripture classes. I believe that classes that further ethical and philosophical principles can only benefit our society as a whole. Giving the large number of students whose parents do not align with any particular faith the opportunity to be stimulated by ideas of this nature, is not only a positive direction, but I believe part of the responsibility of the school. It is well known that these students are often unstimulated and under supervised during scripture classes to the extent that I felt a genuine discomfort regarding them. I highly recommend the continuation of the Ethics classes in schools and I am very glad to be able to make my opinion known to you.