

Submission
No 208

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

RECEIVED

21 FEB 2012

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a teacher whose classroom experiences embrace in excess of five decades, it is my firm opinion that "Scripture" classes in schools should remain as an option for families of all religious backgrounds + cultures. For those children whose parents nominate "Non-Scripture" as their choice, introducing "Ethics" classes as an alternative becomes a competitive issue, as "ethics" should be integral across the curriculum, not nominated as an alternative to a legislated half-hour of religious instruction. With "religion being the basis of culture", despite the ethnicity of each culture, it is imperative that the child be instructed from an early age during the formative years prior to adulthood. Therefore, should this instruction be neglected at home, for whatever reason, the child is dependent on the instruction offered during Scripture classes. Finally, dependency on knowledge of the Christian Bible is vital to a fundamental understanding of English, as biblical references are constantly made in the media to situations relevant to modern society.

In closing, it is my fervent hope & prayer that Scripture classes will continue as such in the future, for the benefit of all those who have chosen to attend.

Respectfully yours,