

**Submission  
No 87**

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

**Name:** Mr Gareth Wreford

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25 January 2012

The Hon Marie Ficarra MLC  
Chair  
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2  
Via email [gpscno2@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gpscno2@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms Ficarra and Committee Members

**RE: Inquiry into the *Education Amendment (Ethics) Act 2010***

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the inquiry into Ethics Classes in NSW State schools. As a parent of a child entering a State Primary school this year I offer the following views in response to the Inquiry terms of reference:

a) The current operation of 'special education in ethics' in State schools

As Ethics classes are only offered to children whose parents have chosen for them not to attend special religious education (SRE) there is no conflict with SRE and therefore no need to alter the current operation of Ethics classes.

While beyond the scope of the current Inquiry I would be more interested in seeing NSW Government time and resources used to examine the content of the current volunteer run SRE. In my view it would be more appropriate for knowledge of major religions to be addressed through curriculum delivered by trained teachers.

b) Whether the *Education Amendment (Ethics) Act 2010* should be repealed.

The *Education Amendment (Ethics) Act 2010* should not be repealed.

Yours sincerely

Gareth Wreford

