

**Submission  
No 411**

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

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My view is very simple but, to me, blindingly obvious. Anyone seeing news reports about the bashings, assaults, shootings, stabbings, frauds and robberies every day in Sydney must conclude that we have an ethics deficit. Anything that diverts the non-religious students from wasted time to learning about ethics should be considered essential, not a matter of debate. Australia is effectively a secular state, so relying on waning religious organisations to guide our ethical development (although they are of course welcome to continue in the field) is a recipe for failure. [There is no attached document: That's it!]