

Submission
No 21

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

Name: Mr Daniel Guenther

Date received: 2/12/2011

Partially Confidential

Daniel Guenther

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

RE: Ethics Classes Parliamentary Inquiry

Dear sir or madam:

Preferring not to sit idle at our taxpayer funded state school, my son attended Anglican scripture for several weeks as a kindergarten student before switching to Buddhism.

When the Anglican scripture teacher learned of this switch, she instructed the entire class to pray for his soul so that he would not spend eternity in hell. This left his classmates in tears and word of this came back to me from the parents of a very upset child who was in the class.

I consider SRE a form of discrimination against my child. The treatment he received from the SRE teacher was nothing short of child abuse. Yet after lodging our complaint, it fell of deaf ears. In my opinion, it is SRE that is due for a parliamentary inquiry.

If we are genuine about our concerns about the objectives of our programs, why is SRE given carte blanche while ethics classes are held to a different standard? Why is SRE above this scrutiny? I am furious about the treatment my son received and demand a broader inquiry to include all SRE programs.

It is over 100 years past time to stop the discrimination and psychological child abuse that we call SRE. I respect parents who choose to indoctrinate their children. However, this should take place during their own time. Leave my children alone and let them be instructed by the teachers of NSW.

Sincerely,

Daniel Guenther