

**Submission  
No 13**

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

**Name:** Ms Penny Szentkuti

**Date received:** 1/12/2011

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Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011

To whom it may concern,

I am a parent who strongly supports the ethics classes being held in our public schools. My child has already spent a year in non-scripture, spending time doing little of value while the rest of the school week is over-crowded. I would like him to have the opportunity to use this time more productively and ethics classes offer such a choice.

Reverend Nile claims that the ethics classes need investigation, however they were under enormous scrutiny last year when they were being trialled and introduced. There was considerable support from the general public and by the end of the process they had even gained the support of many religious leaders. I have seen no such scrutiny aimed at the existing religious education classes and to be fair, if the proposed investigation goes ahead, all classes offered at the Religious Education timeslot should be examined.

I believe that Religious Education belongs outside our secular public school system altogether but if it is to be retained, it is necessary to offer a non-religious alternative such as the current ethics programme.

Yours sincerely,

Penny Szentkuti