

Submission  
No 15

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

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

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Partially Confidential

1<sup>st</sup> December 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

RE: Investigation of Ethics Classes

I understand that there is to be an investigation into current school ethics classes. I would like to make these points:

1. If the ethics classes are to be investigated, it is only fair and appropriate that the religious studies classes face the same scrutiny. Religious education classes have never been formally investigated since their introduction early last century, so it is unacceptable that one is singled out.
2. If the Education Amendment (Ethics) Act 2010 were to be repealed, and the classes removed, this would cause such a situation that would discriminate those children who do not attend religious classes, and is entirely unacceptable. I ask that the act be upheld.
3. It seems very clear that Fred Nile is only seeking to promote his own interests and to halt the freedom of parents, children and other members of the NSW community.
4. Ethics classes are teaching children to consider various viewpoints and think for themselves, and are promoting tolerance and understanding and respect for all, which is essential for a healthy society. A local school in my area conducts the ethics classes, and the children are taught philosophical principles of decision making and to understand different opinions, and are thoroughly enjoying them.

It is appalling that such a class is under threat. I ask that ethics classes continue.

Kind Regards,