

**Submission
No 161**

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

Name: Ms Robyn Wates

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18-2-12.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to support Reverend Fred Nile's Ethics Repeal Bill to repeal the ALP and Green's Ethics Course Bill so that the official Scripture classes taking place in government schools may continue as they have done since 1880.

Scripture classes have always been offered with no competing course offered as an alternative or at the same time and I believe this should continue to be the case in 2012.

I believe the Ethics Course does not teach children right from wrong and therefore this is very misleading to parents who mistakenly believe this may be a good alternative for their children to learn "right from wrong". The course is based on secular humanist thinking. It does not mention God, Jesus Christ or the Bible but instead there are no absolutes therefore promoting "situation ethics" or "relativism" which means whatever you choose to do such as lie, steal, revenge etc depends on the circumstance at the time.

Teenagers today in our secular humanistic society today are already confused and many out of control with binge drinking, violence and particularly suicide which is growing at an alarming rate. Children need to be taught the

basic truths of Christianity such as "God loves them and they are worthwhile and valuable people" 'forgiveness' and 'hope', today more than ever.

This is the reason we need to continue SRE in our schools even if it's only for 35 mins each week. Ethics if taught at all should never replace SRE or be offered as an alternative instead of SRE!

If parents do not wish for their children to attend SRE there are many valuable learning alternatives already for them but they should not have to choose between the 2. We need our children to learn Christian values as well as "situation ethics" but not only one, for a well balanced approach to life and to understand our basic Christian heritage so that they can then grow up to be well balanced individuals who can make right and good choices for themselves.

Thank you supporting Rev Fred Nile's proposal for this inquiry and for allowing me the freedom of speech which has come from our Christian heritage as Australians.

Yours sincerely

Robyn Waters.