

Submission  
No 34

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

**Name:** Mr Stephen Howard

**Date received:** 9/12/2011

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Partially Confidential

Stephen Howard

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

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to let you know of my concern regarding the review of Ethics Program which I feel is unnecessary given the program was approved by parliament in 2010.

The program has been thoroughly scrutinized and the teacher rigorously vetted and trained.

I have had an active participation in the introduction of the class at School in 2011. The program was overwhelmingly endorsed by the P&C many parents of whom are religious and continue to send their children to SRE but recognised that an accredited program was appropriate for those children who did not elect to attend SRE.

My two children attend the classes run this year and I found the administration and teaching of the subject matter was exemplary.

The benefit of introducing Ethics into schools will benefit the community at large by encouraging open minded, tolerance and considered discussion at an early age.

“Conventional people are roused to fury by departure from convention, largely because they regard such departure as a criticism of themselves” Bertrand Russell

Sincerely,

Stephen Howard