

**INQUIRY INTO STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR
SPECIAL NEEDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES SCHOOLS**

Name: Mr Tim Bailey (PC)

Date received: 13 June 2017

Partially
Confidential

Dear Members

My name is Timothy Giles Bailey. I was born in Canberra

I currently work as a general practitioner at Dapto Medical Centre and I graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine from the University of Newcastle in 1983. I have spent 5 years in senior Medical Administrative positions and until recently worked as an Emergency Department doctor in various departments around the eastern states and South Australia.

I guarantee that as far as I am aware, all the information contained in this communication is accurate.

I am writing this email to explain my request to make a verbal submission to the parliamentary enquiry into the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) - disabled children enquiry.

I freely admit that my faith in the parliamentary system and the Public Services it oversees has become practically non-existent. I have very little expectation that this brief message will attract any significant attention. If it does, I have just as little expectation that anything worthwhile will eventuate to improve what in my view is a totally corrupted and self-serving State Education Department. The only reason I am making this representation at the last moment, is because I have been shamed into doing so one more time, by the others who have made the effort and exposed themselves yet again, by writing regarding the same issues. I do not have as much to lose as they do.

At the hands of the NSW DEC, both my daughter and I as her representative, have endured merciless manipulation, to suit the whims and ambitions of the various senior officials whom we (through various issues) have come in contact with. As a result of my ongoing formal protests (over approximately 2 years from 2013 - 2014) re such behaviour from Principals, School Directors, Executive directors, the Deputy Director General, my local member (Gareth Ward, whom I believe is currently appointed as Parliamentary Secretary) and the (then) Minister himself (Adrian Piccoli), I believe I have discovered that every single DEC officer or political "representative" to whom I turned in an attempt to right wrongs, was similarly corrupted, self serving and unaccountable. Whatever happened to our Australian democratic way of life?

I have documentary evidence of all of the above allegations, including signed letters from all the people mentioned, in which they maintain "I am advised that" (amongst other things) it is *perfectly within acceptable DEC mechanisms for 10 - 12 year old children to be coerced into giving written statements about their teacher, against their wishes, and without any independent oversight of the process, or the knowledge or consent of their parent/s, and for those written statements to be used in disciplinary proceedings against the teacher concerned.*

In my opinion, this one issue highlights a complete lack in all the officers involved, of appreciation for community norms and expectations. I also believe it reflects despicable arrogance, coupled with an institutional disregard for the far-reaching effects of their callous and ignorant approach to any problem within their jurisdiction, which does not suit their personal agenda.

The faceless "advisors" are always un-named. Those 'advised' are always apparently unable to form their own point of view - even at Ministerial and Directorship level.

Below is an abbreviated account summarising the situation, which I wrote at a time when I was still hoping for action. I would dearly love to have the chance to put my questions regarding all the issues below, and more related to them, to all of the above-mentioned people, in person and in public. For that to happen for the people involved to have to face the public they are meant to serve yet have treated as refuse to hear them attempt to justify their reprehensible actions (or ignorant inaction) to person after person, issue after issue, and to have it all on public record what accountability that would bring.

With due respect, I request that I be called before the Parliamentary Committee to provide a verbal submission, which I can do with a plethora of documentation on the subject.

Yours sincerely

TIM BAILEY

Karen (my wife) and I (Tim) have an issue that is very close to our hearts and that we think, or hope, might interest all of you at SumOfUs as well.

As part of the resistance to what appeared to us to be a classic case of corporate bullying (and which appears to us to go all the way to the top of the Department of Education in the state of New South Wales, Australia), I started a petition through avaaz.org. It did attract a few signatures, but we have since been told by many 'would-be-signatories' that they are too scared to sign because; 1. their anonymity is not assured; and therefore 2. if they are parents they are scared their children will be subtly discriminated against, or; 3. if they are teachers they will lose their jobs or have their hours reduced.

Below I have cut and pasted the text of my petition. Our question is this - do you have any ideas about how to overcome this difficult hurdle and bring about an enquiry into the Dept. of Education, aimed at bringing down the corrupting influences and starting the (government) organisation afresh?

Has your child been bullied at school? Do you know of a good teacher who has been bullied for standing up to 'authority' - for what is right, what is decent and what the community wants? Our recent experience in New South Wales, has revealed that the Department of Education has apparently institutionalised bullying. They appear to have created a culture where those who protest when they are treated unfairly or abused, can expect to be blamed for the problem. Those who hand out the abuse and unfairness, get what they want. Does this ring a bell?

All those bullies in schools are simply responding to the 'trickle down effect' from above. Good Principals, Good Teachers and Good Students are all affected. They all have to endure intimidation and distortion of the truth whenever they 'blow the whistle' on an offender, at whatever level that offence might take place.

Sign this petition to request that an independent parliamentary enquiry be made into the problems at _____ and extended to include the entire Department of Education.

The internal Employee Performance And Conduct unit of the Department of Education appears to be complicit in all of this activity, which is apparently supported all the way up the departmental food chain. EPAC make no comment on evidence provided to them in the form of written statements from school children, when those statements are taken without the knowledge or permission of their parents. They simply use it to bring our good teacher down. Do they think they are above the law? Lets find out - sign the petition!

Let's not support a system that teaches our children NOT to stand up for what is right, NOT to get in the way of what is wrong. Let's petition our government to find out WHY we are producing a generation of children who think that abuse of others, denial of the truth and non-acceptance of their responsibility to the community is the way to go, to "get ahead". Please, sign this petition!

Please let us know if you have any ideas you think might be able to help us.

regards, TIM & KAREN BAILEY