

**INQUIRY INTO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND  
CARE SECTOR IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am an Early Childhood Teacher with over 20 years experience in the ECEC sector. Throughout the years I have watched government policies take steps that have led to a significant decline in the quality of Early Education and care. As big organisations are allowed to create services that run on a shoestring budget and underpay their workers. The culture of these organisations (putting profit over children's well-being) and the stress put on educators has led to a toxic environment in which many children are mistreated.

Many of my friends who were once colleagues have left the sector due to seeing how poorly services have treated children and the inaction that happens when this is reported.

We have been a sector in crisis for many years and without significant change the abuse of children and the educators who care for them will continue.

I love working with children and advocating for their rights, but after years of feeling like I am fighting a losing battle I fear that I may too become another statistic of someone who has been forced to leave a broken sector.