

Submission regarding Anti-Discrimination Act changes

Hide

From:

Sent: 12/12/2017 9:56 AM

To: Policy AGD

Director, Legal Policy
Department of the Attorney-General and Justice
GPO Box 1722
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Director,

I write to express my views in regard to the discussion paper about proposed changes to the Anti-Discrimination Act.

I wish to make my opinion known regarding question 14: "Should any exemptions for religious or cultural bodies be removed?"

I believe Australia has a majority secular worldview. This world view is distinctly different to the Christian biblical worldview which is in minority in Australia. Christians, reasonably, want to keep their institutions distinct. In order for this to occur, the people employed in these institutions need to hold the same biblical worldview. If people with a vastly different worldview work in the institutions, the institution will gradually cease to reflect a Christian worldview.

This can be compared to, for example, the Labour party employing only Labour sympathisers to work in its organisation. If it employed Liberal sympathisers, their organisation's ethos would be eroded.

The need for Christian institutions to employ only Christians is particularly stark in the case of Christian schools. Christian parents have a legitimate desire for their children to be in an environment influenced by a Christian worldview for their education. The presence of staff with an opposing worldview undermines this environment sought by Christian parents.

It is for the above reasons that I believe it is appropriate *not to remove* the current exemptions for religious bodies from the Act.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted footer]