

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 130
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes in homeschooling legislation, particularly the requirement to follow a specific curriculum. We never planned to homeschool but when "Covid" kicked off, bringing with it all its restrictions, we were forced to homeschool for a short while whilst schools were shut. This shone a light on what nonsense schools are teaching our children. The National Curriculum is outdated, repetitive and irrelevant and we will not be teaching it. When we pulled our daughter out of mainstream at the end of Prep, she could only count to 10, knew a handful of sounds and couldn't recognise or write numbers or letters. What had she been doing for an entire year besides getting whistled at like a dog and learning the "high 5" (useless steps that teach children not to face their problems - not a great approach when she's an adult in the real world!) Since homeschooling, our eight year old daughter is now enjoying English and Australian authors like J K Rowling and Anh Do. She writes her own books, developing characters and dialogue, learning the important things as we go. She has been able to establish growing her own garden, learning first hand how to care for things at each stage of their growth cycle. This has extended to animals and their grouping, then endangered animals which led us to exploring different countries of the world and their cultures. This natural flow of interest is exactly what the current curriculum stunts. She is learning the piano and has just completed her first book. She is learning Spanish and has just passed her fourth module. She can bake, she can swim, she is being raised with Christian principles, something schools abandoned a long time ago. We teach her the truth, we show her both sides of a story/theory and demonstrate how to critically think for herself and come to a conclusion. There is no propaganda in our home, there is no wokeism in our home. She is free to be a child, she is free to play, create and imagine without the limitations of the curriculum. I find these proposed changes to the way we homeschool our children extraordinary considering the state of our schools. Families have chosen to leave behind the curriculum for all sorts of reasons so why try and force them back into it? Wouldn't it be more productive (and confronting) to explore the reasons why they left it in the first place? Thank you for considering my concerns.