

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Submitter Comments:

I disagree with the proposed Education Bill.

I do not believe it is right to decide and monitor whether children are receiving a quote on quote "high quality" education. High quality encompasses an extremely wide range of definitions and thus it is unruly to try to contain it within your proposed borders. The Australian National Curriculum is limiting to children who wish to further their education in different ways.

I understand that you also included Tafe and Senior Syllabus as well, however, you do not include University as a "high quality" education. Many children who homeschool do university courses and subjects (me included) from early high school and many more go on to start University early. University is tertiary education! Although, even if that were to be included, what about the various other activities and interests homeschoolers participate in which are outside these walls; are they to be considered?

Furthermore, I do not believe children should be put on trial as to whether homeschooling is in the best interest of themselves in matters of safety and wellbeing.

Who is to say and enforce whether homeschooling is in the best interest of us, the children?

We understand that you want the best for us, however, I am a fifteen-year-old teenager who left the school system due to being unhappy there. The schoolwork involved was straight forward and narrow-minded and we were spoonfed information and told exactly how to think. Is this really creating a generation of innovative thinkers? Not to

mention that the kids were quite blatantly upsetting. Around every corner there was someone gossiping or picking a fight. The environment was not only toxic because of that. I would wager that you know of the outbreak of vaping at literally all schools. I could not walk into a single bathroom without inhaling the fumes. And I have been at both ends, at the private school Trinity College Beenleigh and to the public school Windaroo Valley State High School. Each was equally bad. School is not in the best interest of any child currently. Do I need a doctors certificate, a therapist to label me, child services to check on me in order to assert that I indeed am allowed to homeschool? I have been homeschooling for a year now and I have never, I mean never, been happier than I am now. I have great friends and a fantastic limitless education.

Please do not force me or anyone else into the box you have provided because honestly no one can fit into it.

For most of my life, before I was properly introduced to homeschooling, I thought homeschooling kids didn't learn or do much and were overall friendless and lonely. But, oh, how my opinions have changed... and I think yours can change too.