

## Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 1937  
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**From:** [Kimberly Freeman](#)  
**To:** [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Homeschooling rights in Queensland  
**Date:** Monday, 25 March 2024 9:33:21 AM

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Dear Committee,

I am writing to express my support for homeschooling and its importance for families who have chosen this educational path. As a concerned citizen, homeschooling parent and an advocate for parental rights in education, I believe it is crucial to recognise the value of homeschooling in nurturing strong family bonds and fostering emotional well-being in children.

Gordon Neufeld is a psychologist known for his work in child development, attachment theory, and parenting. His expertise stems from extensive research in the field, clinical and practical application in family dynamics. In his book, "Hold On to Your Kids," he emphasises the significance of creating secure attachments between parents and children. Neufeld argues that a strong parent-child bond is essential for a child's emotional development and resilience. He writes, "Attachment relationships are the most enduring and influential of all human bonds. All other relationships in life are built on the foundation of these early attachments." This highlights the pivotal role parents play in shaping their children's emotional well-being.

Furthermore, Neufeld underscores the importance of family influence over peer influence in a child's life. He discusses how modern society often prioritises peer relationships over familial bonds, leading to various social and emotional challenges for children. Neufeld writes, "It is our influence as parents, far more than that of peers, that will determine the kind of adults our children will become."

Homeschooling provides an ideal environment for strengthening parent-child relationships and preserving family values while maintaining relationships with peers. By homeschooling, parents can personalise their children's education, instil their values, and provide individualised attention to address their emotional needs. Moreover, homeschooling allows families to prioritise quality time together, fostering a deeper sense of connection and belonging.

As a government committee dedicated to education and family welfare, I urge you to recognise the importance of homeschooling as a valid educational option for families as we know our children best and will provide an education that help them to grow and thrive without having to adhere to standards that are outdated and archaic, leading to mental health struggles at the very least. It is essential to uphold parents' rights to choose the best educational path for their children, including the option to homeschool as well as what and how their children are taught. By supporting homeschooling initiatives, we can empower families to nurture strong family bonds, promote emotional well-being, and prioritise parental influence in their children's lives leading to strong community members and upstanding citizens.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter. I trust that you will consider the valuable role homeschooling plays in supporting families and promoting children's development.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Freeman

