From:
To: House of Assembly - GAA

Subject: A school community of care and compassion
Date: Wednesday, 17 July 2024 3:11:12 PM

Re: A school community of care and compassion

Dear Committee Secretary,

I was alarmed to hear of the high levels of bullying of Australian teenagers and especially in Tasmania. These days I send my children to a Christian school and I am thankful that it has been a safe space for my children to learn and grow. For us our Christian School has been a refuge from the unprofessional and unsafe environment our daughter, and ourselves as parents, experienced in her state primary school. From my experience as a parent, Christian schools strive to be and are communities of care and compassion because they strive to follow the example of Jesus. In my experience they work hard to address bullying and have a strong culture of care and compassion for all students. In fact in comparison to the pathetic quality and complete lack of care we experienced at our state government primary school, I have nothing but praise and admiration for the Christian teachers at our Christian school. They treat teaching like a vocation not a job. They really love our kids. I am asking the Committee to ensure that Christian schools can continue to provide the caring, nurturing environment that I have chosen for my children and experienced first hand. The key to their success and care is that they are living out their faith to its fullness. This must be allowed to continue as it is now why my two young girls are thriving instead of stagnating as they had begun to in the state system. If there is anything that needs to be examined it's the horrific state of public education and the Principals and Government department hell bent on identity politics over education, indoctrination over critical thinking and feelings over discipline. I'm more than happy to share my story in more detail as a parent who felt bullied out of the state government system.

Sincerely, Mr. Chris Bowditch

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