



Subject: 95 Elizabeth Chase
Date: Thursday, 11 April 2013 9:36:03 AM

Dear TAFE Committee of Inquiry Coordinator

I am writing to submit a submission for the Inquiry into the roles played by TAFE. My particular concern is about what is happening to Art courses at TAFE which are now costing so much that many people will be ruled out of doing art courses at TAFE. Art courses at TAFE have ensured that many socially disadvantaged people have learned practical art making skills, often from outstanding practising Australian artists, held in very high esteem. These photography, ceramic and painting skills have boosted people's skills to a level that they can seek employment. In cases where graduates have not pursued employment, the courses have still offered a wealth of skills to some of the most marginalised people in our culture. I believe that TAFE should continue to offer highly affordable art courses, to maintain a socially just and inclusive Australia. As a practical example, my sister and brother in law have been able to complete the last year of their art courses this year because they could afford the thousands required. Whereas, other people living on lower incomes have been excluded. This is a process of closing art courses by stealth, because TAFE will claim that there is insufficient demand - money and the high fees are the real reason people are locked out.

Yours sincerely
Lizzie Chase

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