



CONDELL PARK BIBLE CHURCH

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

29 Lancelot St, CondeLL Park, NSW 2200

1 August 2008

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Facsimile: 6277 5794

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Inquiry in the effectiveness of the Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act 1984

As a minister of Religion and educator functioning in the realm of Christian education, I write this submission to express my personal viewpoint on the effectiveness of the Sex Discrimination Act 1984. Thank you for allowing input from others outside of Parliament itself.

My submission is in favour of the Sex Discrimination Act, 1984 in particular reference to j) impact on employment with specific reference to educational institutions established for religious purposes as mentioned in Section 38.

My understanding and belief is that religious freedom is a fundamental part of our Australian Constitution and that within that framework many churches have been established with a God-given set of doctrines and beliefs. That body of citizens meets in accord with their value base and are allowed to commence educational institutions for religious purposes to teach the Word of God.

It is right and wise to employ staff who adhere to the belief and practice of that religious organisation. Employing those who hold to opposing views and practices in regard to sexuality may be extremely injurious to the students. The Bible establishes firm guidelines to be followed in this respect and walking contrary to those principles means that one is on a pathway of error.

Standing pre-eminently for the conversion of souls, the edification of believers, and worldwide evangelism

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An educational institution established for religious purposes should be allowed to discriminate to avoid injury to the students by the vastly inconsistent and conflicting views and practices held by some who are believing and acting in stark contrast to the Word and way of God. To be forced to employ those with such conflicting views in this environment is untenable for all involved.

In summary, I believe the existing exemptions in Section 38 of the Act should be retained. This submission is made with a prayerful desire that you would give due consideration. I am available to elaborate further if necessary.

Kind regards,



Ronald John Christie
Associate Pastor
(Condell Park Bible Church)