

E-mail Message

From: ">Colin & Louisa Lynch [SMTP:"Colin & Louisa Lynch"]
To: ">civil.law [NOTES:"civil.law"]
Cc:
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To: Exceptions Review - Department of Justice

Equal Opportunity Act 1995

We refer to Sections 75, 76 and 77 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 which we understand are currently under review. In our view, these Sections should remain unchanged. This is essential for true freedom of religion. Freedom of religion is guaranteed in the Constitution and provided for in the Charter of Rights - particularly Section 14.

We believe:

Religious freedom is meaningless if Christians are forced to act against their deeply held beliefs.
Churches must be free to hire ministers and other workers who uphold the beliefs and conform to the practices of their church.
Christian schools have the right to hire staff and other workers who share the religious beliefs the school was established to promote.
People whose beliefs or practices are at odds with those of a church or Christian school have no right to demand employment at that church or school.
If the Charter of Rights and Responsibilities is used to take away the rights of religious believers, then it will have failed to protect human rights in Victoria.

The laws of Australia have been established on the foundation of Christian standards and these should not in any way be tampered with or discounted. All Australians have enjoyed the benefits from these laws and we do not believe the current provisions should be changed.

Yours Faithfully

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