

17-01-2024

Dear Karen,

RE: Productivity Commission 'Future foundations for giving' draft report release – *'A very concerned parent'*

I have reviewed with interest the 'Future foundations for giving' draft report. Whilst there are some potentially good findings and suggestions, I am VERY concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.

This is of significant concern & worry to me as my children currently attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. In a time where the cost-of-living increases are at unprecedented levels, I know & fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to our children's school.

If the Government adopts this foolish recommendation, we will have no other option than to send our children to a local public school which will; **a)** impact their learning experience, **b)** stifle their academic potential, **c)** put even more pressure on the 'already-overcrowded' public school system.

On a final note, I feel this is a nothing short of an undisguised attack on religion as the majority of private or independent education is provided by religious organisations.

Please take my concerns seriously, as I am sure our family won't be the only one impacted.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Rowland