

To the Productivity Commission,

Submission: Opposition to the removal of DGR status for SRE & School Building Funds

I'm an avid supporter of SRE in schools. I have been an SRE teacher in a primary school for around 6 years and can see the value of the program and the results in the classroom. My three children also attended SRE during their school years and received valuable spiritual, moral and ethical education, which has carried on and influenced them into their adulthood.

Consistent with prior literature, our results suggest associations of frequent religious participation in adolescence with greater subsequent psychological well-being, character strengths, and lower risks of mental illness and several health behaviours.

–(Chan & VanderWeele 2018).

Removal of the DGR status for SRE & School Building Funds would actually cost the government dearly in the future. On a broader scale, many organisations and charities may no longer be financially viable and the services they previously provided, thanks to the tax-deductible donations, will need to be replaced from government funds.

Yours sincerely

Jean Saxby (BSc DipEd)

References:

Chen, Y. and Vanderweele, T.J. 2018. Associations of Religious Upbringing with Subsequent Health and Well-Being: From Adolescence to Young Adulthood: An Outcome-Wide Analysis, American Journal of Epidemiology, DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwy142