

Submission: Do not remove tax deductible donations for religious assistance to students, nor buildings in religious institutions.

It is financial folly and socially and emotionally cruel to students to remove the magnificent support they receive from religious people in schools.

What is so wrong about teaching students to love and respect each other, don't kill people, steal, lie, and do to others as you would have them do to you?

When my daughter was in Year 12, one of her school-friends was killed at a camp when a tree fell on her tent. Back at school, the chaplain arranged for chaplains in surrounding schools to be in the Hall for the other students to talk through this tragedy. My daughter attended every day and talked with the chaplains and her friends. They decided to create a Memorial at the school.

Without the chaplains I don't think the students would have recovered from that terrible trauma. The government does not have the resources to provide that immediate social and emotional healing.

It would cost the government squillions of dollars to replace these wonderful people. If not replaced, the community cost would be astronomical, in lost productivity, sickness and mental health issues.

Instead of being so divisive, cannot the government think of a unifying vision for the common good in the most cost-efficient way?

The removal of tax-deductibility is a divisive attack on good programs which will result in broken and ineffective people, our society & country.
Get a grip!

Yours sincerely,

Dr Katina Haller