

Forum answers threats to Christian schools

The future of Christian schools is to educate policymakers on the primacy of parental responsibility, according to a recent FamilyVoice forum with WA Liberal MLC Nick Goiran and Mark Spencer of Christian Schools Australia.

The webinar forum, hosted by WA Director Darryl Budge in December, concluded that the non-negotiable rights of parents to choose an education for their children is being misunderstood and misapplied by policymakers.

“Christians must engage in the public conversation prayerfully and compassionately, educating MPs and all Australians,” Mr Budge said.

Mr Goiran explained, “Nobody would question the right of a parent to be able to choose who is their child’s babysitter.

“Why is it suddenly now an issue that a parent chooses who is educating their children for six hours of the day, five days of the week, 40 weeks of the year?

“It’s a massive investment that parents give to stand-in educators – not only for safety purposes, but what they talk about, how they discipline, and how this is informed by the Biblical principles of the parents.

“If a law maker, a policy maker, an author of these reports, cannot understand those very basic principles it’s no wonder that we get the proposals

that are before us.”

Mr Spencer, who is CSA’s Policy Director, criticised the irresponsible decision of the WA Law Reform Commission to propose cutting and pasting legislation with serious problems from Victoria.

“Those amendments would severely curtail the ability of faith-based and Christian schools in WA to provide parents with a choice that is fundamental in international law,” Mr Spencer said.

“This choice is protected as an absolute right under Article 18.4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights, to which Australia is a signatory.”

Mark said that the new proposals have grown from “some lies in the Wentworth byelection in 2018 that faith-based schools were expelling gay-identifying kids left, right and centre, and without any evidence of that occurring.”

Mr Goiran added, “We absolutely need to hammer home that we need all staff to be Christian. What happens when two students are in a fracas and the gardener



Mark Spencer and Nick Goiran MLC speaking with Darryl Budge

intervenes, wouldn’t parents want them to intervene the same way as their family babysitter would?”

Mr Spencer chimed in, “We’ve been saying this to MPs for decades. I think some just choose not to listen. We’ve been collecting great stories from staff and students at Christian schools on a website, MyChristianSchool.au.

“You’re hearing parents say that the teaching, admin and maintenance staff all make a community of faith. And when MPs hear those stories, you have these light-bulb moments, when they actually get it – oh you are different, they say – yes, we want to keep that difference.”

Identity destruction via birth certificate

The WA Labor Government is set to allow parents to alter their teen children’s birth certificate to identify as “non-binary” in a fresh effort to attack the mental health of our youth, according to FamilyVoice Australia.

A new draft of the state’s “Equal Opportunity Act” will reportedly abolish the Gender Reassignment Board and allow a teenager, with parental consent, to erase their gender on their birth certificate via a medical practitioner’s certificate. The government is yet to decide on a minimum age.

“This identity lie that we are not a son or daughter is an effort to culturally and legally exclude God’s design for humanity, and to falsely accuse Christians of being ‘unloving’ when we oppose this identity deception,” said FamilyVoice WA Director Darryl Budge.

“The general public doesn’t want newborns to be lied to, as Attorney General John Quigley has reportedly backed away from the extreme Tasmanian ‘non-binary’ newborn approach. The

WA Registrar will rely on hospital confirmation of sex if the parents give false information.

“Why is this state-backed conversion therapy acceptable on a minor, even a three year old in gender clinics in Australia and the UK, over a decade before legal age of consent?” Mr Budge asked.

The Royal Children’s Hospital Gender Service in Melbourne “will see children aged three to 17 years” after a GP referral, according the RCH website.

More than 70 children aged three and four were sent to the controversial Tavistock NHS transgender clinic, according to a *DailyMail* report on 27 December.

Mr Budge said that the Equal Opportunity Commissioner Josh

Bryne has baselessly claimed that the Act’s definition of gender history discrimination were making complaints “difficult to access”.

“The commission’s figures reveal that complaints have fallen by over 30% over five years, and the recent average on ‘gender history’ is one complaint, or 0.2%,” Mr Budge said.

“The Labor Government should focus on helping employees with physical or psychological impairment discrimination and racial discrimination, as these were 24% and 15% of all complaints respectively,” Mr Budge said.

Learn more about opposing changes to the WA Equal Opportunity Act at familyvoice.org.au/campaigns/stop-anti-freedom-vilification-laws