



"Righteousness exalteth a nation ..."

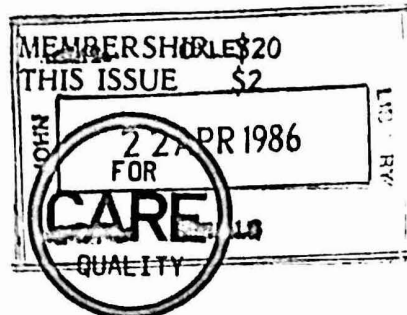
SOCIETY
TO
OUTLAW
PORNOGRAPHY



[OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF 'STOP & CARE']

(Registered by Australia Post - Publication No.QBH2921)

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"Seek that you may excel ..."

COMMITTEE
AGAINST
REGRESSIVE
EDUCATION

The Australia Acts

THE LEGAL ISSUE IS COMPLEX AND OPEN TO VARYING INTERPRETATION

BUT

THE SIMPLE ISSUE IS POLITICAL - "WHAT STYLE OF GOVERNMENT DO WE WANT?"

- (1) Monarchial Democracy - with a division of power in the administration of law and justice, where the Queen and the Governor have the power of veto in order to protect the rights of the people against an oppressive or unjust law;
- (2) Autocratic - with no division of power to protect the people;
- (3) Dictatorial - where power is held absolutely in the hands of one or a few elite.

THE CHANGE IN OUR STYLE OF GOVERNMENT: THE AUSTRALIA ACTS change our system of government from being a Monarchial Democracy to being either an Autocracy, or a Dictatorship, neither of which I believe is acceptable to down-to-earth Queenslanders.

HOW THE CHANGE WAS EFFECTED: This change was carried out when the law has lulled the people of Queensland into believing that our Constitution could not be changed in this way without a Referendum of the people of Queensland.

It was changed secretly on the excuse that the Queensland Parliament was not making the change, but was merely requesting another government to change it.

To effect these major changes by evading the required Referendum is autocratic, if not dictatorial, and to do it without the knowledge of the electors of Queensland is something that the National Party will take a long time to live down, unless urgent and prompt action is taken.

ACTION: The Premier will need to admit to the Queen that the advice on which he acted was not been in the best interests of Queensland, and that he has now decided to hold a Referendum in order to make it possible for the Parliament to make a valid request to the Commonwealth Government and through them to the U.K. Government to make changes to the Constitution.

ELECTION ISSUE: The Premier's style of government will not then become an adverse election issue, but will be able to be turned to his advantage, especially as a Referendum will enable him to put before the people all the advantages of a Monarchial Democracy and the disadvantages and outright dangers of an autocratic republic.

Chatting with Members & Friends

This issue of 'STOP PRESS' is putting before you some of what has occupied my time during the last twelve months or so. Usually when this magazine comes out less frequently it is because my activities on behalf of 'STOP & CARE' have been stepped up in other areas, e.g.:-

1. MENTAL CHILD ABUSE IN EDUCATION - Dealing with parents' complaints regarding school textbooks, (often promoting witchcraft, the occult, pagan religions, violence or anti-family, anti-Christian attitudes), biased 'peace studies', and 'moral dilemmas, questionnaires or assignments that are really exercises in Values Education (a psychological technique for undermining the child's Christian values), or some form of sex education subtly disguised.

2. BUREAUCRATIC ABUSE OF FAMILY - Researching Parliamentary Bills for any potential to interfere with or remove parental rights to bring up their own children according to their own beliefs under God, or in some other way to be a threat to Christianity and the freedom of the family to serve God as God wills. The following Bills came within that category:

(a) The Education Act Amendment Bill was wisely reorganized by the Minister for Education (Hon. Lin Powell) after he and the Premier recognized the validity of our suggestions after a massive campaign on behalf of Queensland parents. The final Act was quite acceptable.

(b) The Intellectually Handicapped Citizens Bill, on the other hand, although it was held up for about two years because of our stirring up much opposition to it, was eventually rushed through in the Premier's absence overseas, by Health Minister Brian Austin, despite my plea to Deputy Premier Mr. Gunn (with the Premier's approval) that the re-presented Bill be allowed to be seen and evaluated by the public before being made law.

We cannot help wondering why the desperate and undue haste to make that new Bill law. Despite my long-term interest in the Bill, I was not sent a copy to peruse, and would be interested to know if anyone else has one, or knows how the final Act compares with the Bill.

(c) The Family and Community Development Bill is being redrafted, and I certainly hope that it is given its public airing before it finally goes in its promised amended form back into Parliament. We had a prolonged campaign against it also for about two years, because its contents were so out-of-character with both the National Party Government and the Minister who presented it. (Hon. Geoff Muntz), and the Liberal Minister (Hon. Terry White) who originated it in the early stages.

Mr. Muntz finally agreed to have it redrafted from "go to whoa" but he now has another Portfolio, so we have to look to the new Welfare Minister, Mrs. Yvonne Chapman, to ensure that this piece of legislation is stripped of its previous undue power to control and dictate to parents in the upbringing of their children. In its previous wording, it was a very blatant example of 'dictatorship by Departmental regulations'.

PLEASE WRITE TO THE HON. MRS. CHAPMAN (Department of Welfare Services), SEEKING HER ASSURANCE THAT WE WILL BE GIVEN ADEQUATE TIME (say, 6 months) TO SEE AND EVALUATE THE FINAL DRAFT OF THIS BILL BEFORE IT GOES TO PARLIAMENT.

(d) The Australia Act has been signed by the Queen, and the Premier is now more or less telling people that it is bad luck but there is nothing that can reverse it. The Premier still has NOT ADDRESSED THE ISSUES, regarding this Act and its effect on us and our children in the future. I am including in this 'STOP PRESS' a copy of the letter that I wrote to Sir Joh on behalf of our large body of supporters. This letter has not yet been answered by the Premier's Department. Believing it to have been consigned to the 'too hard' basket, I 'phoned the Premier's Secretary, and was told that, in the opinion of the Premier, the matter is closed. I replied that, in the opinion of the electors who understand the unlawfulness of what has been perpetrated behind our backs, the matter is far from closed, and we want a Referendum. DON'T FORGET QUEENSLAND'S CONSTITUTION CAN STILL SAVE AUSTRALIA! IT SAYS "AT ANY TIME AFTER THE QUEEN ASSENTS", WE ARE STILL ENTITLED TO HAVE OUR REFERENDUM. Let Sir Joh know you care that he has DENIED US OUR REFERENDUM - next time we may be denied the right to a Parliamentary election, and we will then become slaves to the ruling elite as they happily stay in power forever!! Extreme idea? Isn't taking away our Constitutional safeguards WITHOUT OUR KNOWLEDGE OR PERMISSION even more extreme? SO KEEP UP THE PRESSURE AGAINST THE NATIONAL PARTY until they repent!

Many people I know say they will be voting Liberal at the next election, and many long-time National supporters say they will not be manning booths nor working for the Nationals. The autocratic style of National Party government is rapidly becoming a pre-election topic, and is being taken up by the media. So far I have spoken on this issue to receptive Maryborough, Wide Bay, Bundaberg and Toowoomba audiences, in person and via radio and T.V. interviews and country newspapers - with feedback requests for petitions and 'form' letters. I will try to speak wherever I can to enlighten people on the dangers inherent in the Australia Acts,

WORDS, WORDS!! WAS THE CONSTITUTION WORTH THE EFFORT OF PREPARING IT? Nowadays the law needs a Judge to interpret it, but WHY? Years ago I passed exams interpreting and explaining precise legal sentences in the laws being studied. We did not believe 'legal eagles' could change the intent of laws. Why, then, in the case of our Constitutions, are we now asked to believe that plain English words, inserted years ago precisely to prevent any changes to the role and powers of the Queen and Governor, now are suddenly NOT TRUE. When previous governments (including our Premier in 1977) told us that changes would require a Referendum to ensure that the people's rights were fully protected, were they telling us lies?

UNBRIDLED POWER TO LEGISLATE! Or are we being deceived NOW when the present Governments tell us that a legal way has been found to deny electors their right to prevent this tremendous POWER GRAB by all States and the Commonwealth. Former Liberal Justice Minister recently told one of our "Inner Circle" STOP & CARE members, "State Governments wanted to achieve unbridled power to legislate", . . . No one is entitled to gain from their own bending of the law, and especially not a Government, so STOP & CARE wrote to the Premier, on the AUSTRALIA ACTS:-

THE REAL ISSUES NOT BEING ADDRESSED: Thank you for your Departmental reply to my letter to the Attorney-General. This reply, like the others that are circulating from your office, does not address the real issues nor attempt to solve the controversial aspects of the Australia Acts. In fact, what is being said is so selective, and the information being supplied so defective, as to be damaging to the image of Her Majesty's Government, when seen alongside the details that I have been circulating for some time, and newspapers are at last publishing.

The real issues concern the Constitutional Rights taken from electors:

- (i) our voice in Parliament through a Referendum;
- (ii) appeals to the Queen and the Governor against unacceptable laws;
- (iii) appeals to the Privy Council for more objective judgments;
- (iv) our right and duty TO RETAIN GOD in our Constitution, and maintain the special legal status of Christianity and the Church in Australia.

STOP & CARE members, the majority of whom up until now have been either National Party members, workers, or supporters, are devastated by the out-of-character behaviour of the Government over these vital issues - our rights and liberties. Your Departmental letters try to tell us ties are strengthened, the governor's role is protected, and the Crown is closer to the people, but that is NOT the message that is now coming from the media - "Act cuts last links with Britain", "Cutting the Ties", "Independent at Last", "Acts take away from Queen her powers and functions", "Queen's functions reduced almost to mere formalities", etc. The media, however, is quiet on the utter destruction of the Governor's powers.

SELECTIVE IN CONTENT: In using (for what appears to be 'propaganda' purposes), Mr. Justice Connolly's refusal of an application for an order nisi in the recent Supreme Court Case regarding the passage of the Australia Acts (Request) Act, your letters selected only the outcome of his judgment, and unfairly overlooked the great importance of the arguments upon which the judgment was made. And why was the other, more favourable, Supreme Court hearing not also mentioned?

DEFECTIVE INFORMATION: If the U.K. Australia Act 1986 is framed exactly as the 1985 proposal from this end, then not only is there a distortion of information,

- (1) "effect of the legislation will be to bring the Crown closer to the people."
- (2) "fears you might hold that Australia Acts will somehow lessen the constitutional position of the Queen in the Government of Queensland are unfounded."

but also a more dangerous defect - omission of vital information. Why were electors not told what is our right to know? WHY HAS NOTHING BEEN SAID about -

- (1) the subtle, detrimental removal of God from our Constitution;
- (2) the insertion of that dangerous section which could, e.g., enable New South Wales to legislate for homosexual persons of N.S.W. origin (probably carriers of AIDS) to operate openly in Queensland, despite our laws;
- (3) the second Supreme Court ruling -
 - (i) that raised doubt on the previous one, now the subject of an appeal;
 - (ii) that named the Attorney-General as the proper person to be involved in legal action over the referendum required by Section 53;
- (4) the fact that the first Court ruling did not deal with S.14(2) of the Acts Interpretation Act, that every schedule to an Act is part of the Act itself;
- (5) the fact that Queensland's request for a change to the Constitution IS part of the Act passed by the Queensland Parliament, which you, as Premier, have proudly claimed did make a change "to strengthen" the office of Governor.

Seeing red over sneak moves

I am definitely seeing RED - socialists, humanists and communists behind EVERY SNEAK MOVE to indoctrinate and mentally abuse children in the classroom! So many cases of Sensitivity Training have been brought to my attention so far this year, by parents AND TEACHERS, that it seems we have a flood of values clarification being SNEAKED INTO THE SCHOOLS under INNOCENT-SOUNDING NAMES.

SO WATCH OUT FOR:::: Values Education, Autobiographies, Pastoral Care, Diaries, The 'Me Book', Journal-writing, Kids' Rights, Surveys, Peer Support Schemes/Programmes;

Fish Bowl, Magic Circle and 'It's Up to You' Games, Role-Playing, Group Dynamics/Discussions, Encounter Groups;

Graphic Communications, Communication Exercises [e.g. Mad (Anger) Reports, Charts, and Check Sheets, Decisions and Forced Choice Quiz], Moral Dilemmas, Questionnaires;

Alcohol, Death and Drug Education (e.g. being taught 'experimentation' means 'trying pot', 'recreation' means 'smoking pot at parties', 'abuse' is 'smoking pot to cope with school'), Peace Studies, Nuclear War Education, Logic and Analytical Thinking Exercises, 'Crossroads';

Even disguised in: Home Economics, Physical Education, Biology (Abortion/Contraception) and Leadership Classes, Humans Relations and Personal Development (an end result is in-school promotion for contraceptives and abortion);

IN QUEENSLAND SCHOOLS::: I have personally collected ample evidence that most, if not all, of the above psychological Sensitivity Training techniques are in use in Queensland schools.

BLAME SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDIES BOARD::: One High School principal said the Board of Secondary School Studies requires Values Clarification to be used by the teachers in class. I have verified that Values Clarification is at least recommended by the Board for use in Home Economics, and, judging by the vehemence off the verbal encounter which I had with one member of the Board of SSS, 'required throughout' might be more the way to describe the situation than to say 'recommended'.

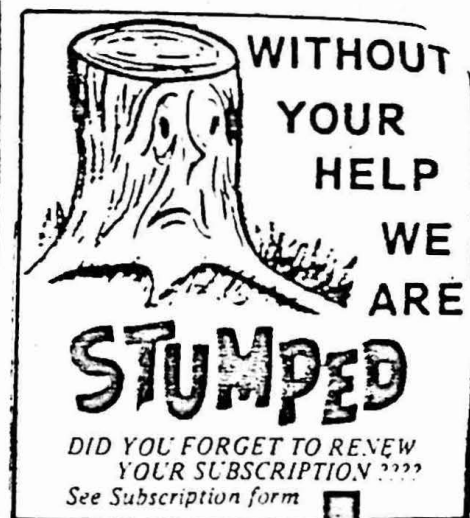
TIME-WASTING::: A Survey of 1500 randomly-selected American schools shows that one-quarter of each day is spent on the above extra-instructional, non-academic activities. Principals of these schools said, "We suffer from lack of time to cover both the basics and social concerns." SO THEN WHY DO THEY DO IT??

TEACHERS, especially STOP & CARE members, can you let me know how much time you must spend on such activities here? Or are you one of those who are bravely refusing to use anything that appears to INVADE FAMILY PRIVACY?

:::PARENTS:::

PLEASE ACT

:::PARENTS:::-----YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED-----:::PARENTS:::
YOUR CHILD'S FEELINGS/BELIEFS ARE BEING MANIPULATED



- ☐ I request that you maintain my name on your mailing list.
- ☐ I apply for renewal of my membership fee \$20 per annum.
- ☐ I apply for Membership - fee \$20.
- ☐ I apply for Assoc/Membership at \$10.
- ☐ I contribute \$..... to assist the work.
- ☐ I will pray for the work.

Comments:

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Number represented by this Membership.....

May God's blessings be upon us and those who govern us, as we seek to serve our Lord in social and political areas that threaten the survival of the family as God's institution for nurturing children.

PLEASE WRITE::: to Education Minister (Hon. Lin Powell), and to your Principal and class teachers, notifying them that, on grounds of freedom of religion, your child is NOT PERMITTED to have his feelings or beliefs probed or manipulated.

1
out
(d) The Australia Act (cont'd). There are three more unanswered letters written by STOP & CARE (about the Australia Acts) - two to the Attorney-General (Hon. Neville Harper) and one to Her Majesty the Queen. I am putting you in the picture where they are concerned also. Here are extracts from our letters to Mr. Harper:-

THE QUEENSLAND CONSTITUTION ALTERED WITHOUT A REFERENDUM
THE ROLE OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL IN THE INTERESTS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Thank you for your letter of 17th inst. However, I wrote to you on a matter of LAW, not politics. My understanding of the role of the Attorney-General (confirmed by the Encyclopaedia Britannica), is that "he exercises his duties in the enforcement of the law, free of Government control or political pressure."

REQUEST TO EXERCISE DUTIES: I am concerned therefore that you have forwarded my correspondence to the Premier, because my letter was requesting you, Mr. Attorney-General, to exercise certain duties, i.e.:-

- (1) to obtain justice for Queensland electors who have been deprived of their right to a voice in Parliament through a Referendum; and
- (2) to represent the interests of the general public as distinct from the interests of any Government Department, including the Premier's.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF LAW: The principle is that law is to be obeyed, but -

- (1) Is law to be obeyed by Government as well as by the people, or not?
- (2) Is the Constitution of any real legal value to the people or not?
- (3) Its purpose is to protect people's rights, so why is it failing now?
- (4) If it is now invalid, when, how, why, and by whom was it made invalid?

NOTIFYING THE QUEEN: Have you notified Her Majesty that the Australia Acts (Request) Act, because it either expressly or impliedly changes the role of Governor, cannot be lawfully enacted (according to Section 53) until electors have been made a part of Parliament through the holding of a Referendum?

BREACH OF TRUST: A Constitution is a document of trust between Parliament and people. We are protesting a breach of this trust - the Government is preventing electors from exercising their right to be part of the Parliamentary process, voting directly on a major issue, by Referendum. Legal advice is that the proper person to rectify this breach of law is yourself as Attorney-General.

LEGAL ACTION TO INVOLVE ATTORNEY-GENERAL: In "F.A.I.Ins. v. Winneke" 1982 (151 CLR 342) the decision was that the Attorney General is a "sufficient and necessary party" in a legal action, so we appeal to you again, on behalf of the people of Queensland, to act to declare Queensland's Request Act to be invalid for lack of a Referendum.

THE 'REQUEST' SCHEDULE IS PART OF THE ENACTMENT: We ask you to take into account a point that was not dealt with by Justice Connolly - S.14(2) of the Acts Interpretation Act which states that every schedule to an Act is part of the Act itself. Therefore Queensland's request for a change to the Constitution is not separate from the Act which the Queensland Parliament passed (without including the people by referendum), and which the Premier has proudly claimed did make a change "to strengthen" the office of Governor.

3. THE ULTIMATE CHILD ABUSE - MURDER BY ABORTION - Campaigning urgently in support of the Government against the "Abortion Industry" by 'phoning 'Inner Circle' members with advance information, while publishing our May 1985 'STOP PRESS' on "GOVERNMENT V. ABORTION INDUSTRY", and including 'form' letters and other suggestions for supporting Cabinet Ministers in their stand against baby murder. In this issue I have included an excellent article on abortion by Mt. Gravatt M.P. Ian Henderson. Please congratulate him on it.

4. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST STUDENTS AT NON-FUNDED SCHOOLS - Making verbal and written submissions to the Education Minister, seeking to find ways to allèviate the financial burden of private education of children in non-funded private or home-teaching systems. I am circulating the letter that I sent to the Education Minister last March, but which only received a 'contents noted' reply from the Acting Minister (Mr. Austin). A recent 'phone call to the Department gained the promise that my letter would be drawn to Mr. Powell's attention for a firm response regarding parents' rights to the 'per capita grant' that the Minister says is for EVERY CHILD. I look forward with great expectation to a satisfactory outcome.



SOCIETY
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REGRESSIVE
EDUCATION



AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY TUTORIAL SERVICES
=====

The Director: Mrs. H.S. Joyner,
PO Box 162, Margate, 4019.
Ph. (07) 204.1450

21st March, 1985.

The Minister for Education,
Hon. L. Powell, MLA,
Parliament House,
BRISBANE.

Dear Mr. Powell,

I have been re-reading, in some March 1984 Hansards, your Answers to Questions in Parliament, and have been encouraged, by what you said, to submit, for your consideration, another suggestion for a more equitable system of per capita funding than that which is currently in force - one that will justly give all parents true financial independence in exercising their rightful choices regarding the education of their children.

To be truly equitable, 'per capita' grants need to take the form of 'education endowment' payments, made directly to parents for the education of every child not being educated by schools which are State-funded. In a State-funded school the parents are already indirectly benefiting from the 'per capita' grant.

Not only do 'approved' schools receive the 'per capita' grant on behalf of the parents, they also receive funding from the Federal Government. This leaves children at non-approved schools of the parents' choice disadvantaged through lack of assistance to their school, and also through lack of 'per capita' grants to which they are entitled. It is a boast of the Government that it provides the means for every Queensland child to receive quality education at either a Government or an independent school freely chosen.

Parents who would choose non-approved schooling for their children (and the numbers are growing fast) are severely handicapped in the exercise of their decision through financial inadequacy, caused in effect by double taxing. Not only do their taxes assist in the provision of State education and of funding for other institutions, but they are also required to pay the high (and in many cases, prohibitive) cost of private education without any return from their taxation investment.

Because of the statements you have made in Parliament, I believe that I may confidently expect your support and the support of your Government in this matter, and I request you to investigate this possibility, and to take whatever steps may be necessary to implement a more equitable per capita grants system. Regarding this matter, I was most impressed by your comments in Hansard, as under:

"The independent schools system must be independent."

"To remain independent it must not have Government controls imposed upon it."

"The Government should not oversee the curriculum that is taught in individual schools; that is not the Government's responsibility."

"Mrs. Joyner's establishment .. operates perfectly legally at the moment."

Yours sincerely,

Rona J. (Rona Joyner, Director)

Encouraging choice in education

THE tough new criteria for funding new private schools which have been recommended by the Commonwealth Schools Commission and which have been accepted by the Federal Government will revive the fears that the non-government school sector still harbours about the long-term commitment of the Federal Government to private schools.

However, the new guidelines are also objectionable in themselves, in that they seem to embody a general hostility on the part of the Federal Government to the exercise of parental choice in education.

The new guidelines are likely to prove difficult for many schools to adhere to. For example, intending schools are required to give two years' notice of their opening in order to qualify for recurrent funds from the Commonwealth. Similarly, they will have to guarantee certain minimum enrolment levels.

Many private schools which have gone on to become valued and successful educational institutions could not possibly have satisfied these unrealistic criteria at the time of their founding.

It appears the Government has been forced to accept the reality of existing private schools because of the potential to lose votes if it denies per-capita grants to currently operating private school systems. However, this appears to be mere political expediency, for by adopting these new guidelines the Government is demonstrating it has no real commitment to the principle of

parents exercising choice in education.

Recent years have seen many parents express their dissatisfaction with government schools by placing their children in private schools. If for some reason the Government does not like this trend it should try to make government schools more attractive to parents. It should not introduce draconian and discriminatory funding guidelines to prevent parents from setting up new schools.

If existing non-government schools deserve in principle to attract per capita grants then so do new non-government schools. The argument by the Government that expansion of non-government schools must be planned is entirely unconvincing. The only way to implement planning is to prevent choice, because the choices of individual parents cannot be centrally planned.

It takes extraordinary commitment and dedication to found a new school. New schools often therefore benefit from a high degree of parental and community involvement. They clearly satisfy a need and are just one expression of individual choice and initiative in a free society.

The Government would do well to finally resolve its schizophrenia on the State Aid issue and accept the principle of parental choice. Otherwise it will risk alienating a major section of the electorate by unfairly discriminating against all those parents who might in the future quite reasonably decide to exercise a choice with which the Government does not agree.

Australia will be ours . .

THE Australian Government retains a mandate from a considerable majority of voters to maintain the ANZUS Treaty, our American alliance and our defence forces at maximum readiness.

Serious damage to these three vital elements of national security will occur if the aims of the overrated Nuclear Disarmament Party triumph over the will of the Australian electorate and its responsible Government.

That curious conclave of knights in shining armour is apparently led and supported by an alliance of Victorian "leftist" pro-communists, restless and neglected young people, pop singers, disc jockeys and purblind, disgruntled academics.

Hearty applause accompanies the mania for suicidal unilateral disarmament so manifested. The applause comes from their communist party allies, Mr Lange and Soviet Russia.

Pope Paul II has consistently said the disarmament we all yearn for must be by all and effectively supervised.

Nuclear-powered Russian submarines roam at will our neighbouring oceans and have been tracked and photographed in the Tasman Sea. Soviet naval bases in Vietnam and Pacific waters serve and arm their nuclear

warships. Soviet influence is currently at work in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. Libyan arms and Libyan-trained guerillas continue to threaten the overthrow of New Caledonia under the guise of "liberation."

Yet our protesters object to the unarmed MX missile splashing down, miles away, and at the worst scraping paint off a surfaced submarine in a prohibited area. It is curious indeed that not a word is protested against our nuclear-powered plant near Sydney.

A Russian general in his book We Will Bury Them, refers to Australia in these terms: "A major assault is unnecessary. Australia will be ours" . . . by penetration of its trade unions, peace movements, academic bodies . . . and manipulation by propaganda of its unemployed and its youth.

Australia either does or does not defend itself. Should we part company with the America that saved our country from destruction in World War II, our

nation might just as well dispose of its army, navy and air force. A defenceless, unallied and helpless nation would face the future.

Repetition ad nauseum of the horrors attendant upon a nuclear holocaust no longer enlightens the community. It is already known by all, only too well. Political opportunism and self-deluding sentimentalism on these vital contemporary issues have become a threat to our survival as a free and independent nation.

Afghanistan-style "liberation" cannot be prevented by defeatists.

Bi or tri-lateral disarmament under supervision is the only solution. Death with honour is preferable to life with dishonour. Let this be understood.

Sanely directed efforts, linked with prayer to end the nuclear war menace, do have a good chance of success. There is no other way known to mankind.

J. F. CAHILL,
Manly, NSW

AUSTRALIAN Monday March 11 1985

DISCRIMINATION ↘

Parents who send their children to non-funded Accelerated-Christian-education-based schools are exercising their right to choose a type of schooling that the Government allows, but does not approve for funding. Parents of children who attend our Community Academy are discriminated against through lack of the "per capita grant" that is surely the right of every schoolchild in Queensland.

Ryan's defence of schools challenged

By GREG SHERIDAN

THE Federal Minister for Education, Senator Ryan, has done me the honour of replying to my articles on education. However, I must confess to remaining unconvinced by the Minister's arguments, which deserve some consideration.

Senator Ryan appears to have at least partly misunderstood, and misrepresented, the arguments I have advanced in *The Australian* over the past few weeks. Perhaps this arises from her incorrect assumption (made on what basis I do not know) that I have lumped together two themes, both borrowed from the United States.

One is that the moral standards of teachers have collapsed and they are telling lies and corrupting youth.

The other is that intellectual standards are being diluted by left-wing teachers and administrators of school systems throughout Australia.

I do not know how the Minister can suggest that the theme that Australian school administrators are diluting intellectual standards is an American theme. Australia does not figure so significantly in the American education debate.

Nor did I assert that moral standards of teachers have collapsed. I do not have any information regarding the moral standards of most teachers nor did I at any stage make the claim that they had collapsed.

In university essays students are taught to summarise an argument accurately before they attack it and this I feel the Minister has failed to do in her rebuttal.

My first article made four points: that much of the social-science curricula had a left-wing, anti-capitalist bias; that new courses such as peace studies and human rights education were even more politicised and more shoddy in their scholarship than the traditional social science subjects; that in values-related areas such as sex education, value clarification techniques were widely used which tended to undermine traditional values; and that the direction of curricula reform around Australia was towards diversification and decentralisation, a direction which the Americans had tried and found disastrous.

I accept the Minister's contention that US schools are different from Australian schools. That is because the Americans implemented some years ago the debilitating reforms which we are now implementing.

The Minister rightly points out there is no Australian equivalent to the general track American curricula. However, the over-

whelming thrust of curricula reform in Australia, adumbrated in documents ranging from the Schools' Commission's influential *Schooling For 15 and 16-year-olds*, the NSW Swan-McKinnon Report and the Victorian Ministerial Review of Post-Compulsory Schooling, is to make Australian education more general and less closely organised around the academic disciplines.

The Minister upbraids my use of the term academic, and says she wants high academic standards spread to a wider range of children. These platitudinous statements are of course opposed by nobody, but the only reliable test of standards, external examinations, have been greatly eroded over the last decade.

The curriculum reform documents already mentioned, especially *Schooling For 15 and 16-year-olds*, and the Victorian Ministerial Review, display a hostility towards traditional academic education. The former denigrates what it describes as bookish learning, the latter challenges the notion that a good general education, even for those going on to university, should be equated with a traditional academic education.

Basics of the arguments misunderstood

The Minister appears to deny my allegations about the biased and politicised nature of the material in such courses as peace studies and human rights education by caricaturing my argument in the following manner: "Sheridan's sensational accusations that teachers are politically controlled by left-wing unions, and are constantly undermining the values of students, are nonsense..."

I never suggested teachers were under the control of left-wing teachers' unions, so the Minister has once again answered an argument I did not make. What I did suggest, and what is undeniable, is that left-wing teachers' unions have played an important role in the development of curriculum materials for courses such as peace studies. I would be interested to see the Minister deny this for it is a claim that the left-wing teachers' unions make themselves.

I went on to quote some of the curriculum material, which I have and copies of and will gladly pass on to the Minister, to demonstrate its political bias and its intellectual shallowness.

The Minister asserts the majority of parents are happy with the schools they know. All

educational research needs to be scrupulously examined for researcher bias. So much education research is self-serving. The Minister must be living in another country if she is not aware of the widespread concern within the community about education.

Research evidence of this disquiet is easy to produce. A survey conducted earlier this year for the Australian Institute of Management reported only one in five Australians thought school leavers had been taught adequate basic skills.

Moreover, the recent report of the Senate Standing Committee on Education and the Arts, *A National Language Policy*, comes to the conclusion that schools cannot be entirely excused when considering the problem of adult illiteracy in Australia. The same committee also concludes it has much evidence to demonstrate "all is not well in the nation's classrooms".

The Minister accuses me of confusing intellectual and basic standards, though she does not specify where this confusion occurs, and then cites the ACER studies of the mid-70s and first part of this decade to show that there has been no decline and some improvement in the basics.

The ACER studies clearly deal only with the minimum standards. Some improvement in minimum standards is not contradictory of a decline in general standards.

In any event the Minister's focus is wrong. The pertinent question is not whether standards are declining, but whether they are adequate. I submit they are not. While the research evidence is scant, there are other ways of measuring standards than through tests (although I believe tests are valuable and there should be many more of them).

One way to approach standards is to see just what is offered in schools, and to determine first of all whether what is offered is adequate. In criticising the curriculum materials used in Australian schools I suggested that what is on offer is inadequate.

However, there is no good research evidence to show the standard of achievement of Australian students is adequate either, and overwhelming testimony from employers, university administrators and parents to suggest it is not adequate.

In conclusion it is interesting that all the curriculum reformers in Australian governments refuse to address the American agenda of educational reform which, if applied to Australia, would undoubtedly have beneficial consequences for academic standards, and the standing of schools in the community.

RONA WRITES ~

WE CARED ENOUGH TO WRITE: On 24th February, 1986, I appealed to the Queen, on behalf of STOP & CARE members, beseeching her to refrain from proclaiming the Australia Acts, because of the breached requirements of Section 53 of the Queensland Constitution, as follows:-

AUSTRALIA ACT 1986

On behalf of this organization's thousands of members and supporters, I beseech Your Majesty to defer proclaiming the Australia Act on your arrival in Canberra on 2nd March, 1986.

I enclose the latest copy of the magazine I have been publishing for nearly 15 years, which you will see relates to the invalid passing of the Queensland 'Australia Acts (Request) Bill'.

According to Section 53 of the Queensland Constitution, any change to the position of Governor cannot be validly enacted without a Referendum to obtain the approval of the electors of Queensland.

We have endeavoured to have the Government allow the people a Referendum, but so far without success. Legal action is under way by an elector of Queensland, who happens to be a member of this organization.

I also enclose, for your information, a copy of two letters which I have written to our Queensland Attorney-General. I have asked him if Your Majesty has been advised of the invalidity of Queensland's Australia Act.

We understand from the Premier of Queensland that Western Australia also has a Constitution that requires a Referendum, but I am unaware of whether or not Western Australia has held its Referendum.

There is no valid request from Queensland for Your Majesty's British Parliament to pass its Australia Act, and possibly there is likewise no valid request from Western Australia either.

We are concerned that Your Majesty may have been given wrong advice that all States have made valid requests to the U.K. Parliament. It could be most embarrassing for all concerned if the pending legal action rules that a valid request has not been made, and the Queensland Constitution has been unlawfully changed.

BLASPHEMOUS AND INDECENT A.B.C. TV PROGRAMMES: On 24th March I wrote to Sister Veronica Brady of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (C/- University of Western Australia, Perth), as under:-

re ABC TV PROGRAMMES 'LEAVING' AND '(D)GENERATION'

After accidentally switching on to Channel 2 last Thursday at 8.30 pm, and then staying with it for an hour, I was very angered to see how our taxpayers' money is being wasted on anti-family, anti-morals, blasphemous programmes.

Speaking as one who has in the past played no small part in helping to clean up the content of blasphemous and immoral magazines published by the Student Unions of Queensland Tertiary Institutions, I would say that these two TV programmes appeared almost to have been lifted from the pages of some of these old offending magazines.

Small wonder that so few people watch ABC TV!

Will you please obtain a recorded copy of these two programmes so that you can view them for yourself and decide what action you should take.

After you have seen the evidence, will you please advise me whether you feel that the Australian Broadcasting Corporation is guilty of broadcasting material that is blasphemous and immoral and not in the best interests of the community, and what action you have taken.

I trust many of our members will take up this issue also, in the hope of bringing some sanity back into the ABC programming. What hope has the younger generation when this is their TV viewing diet.

RONA WRITES - (Cont.)

TEACHER REGISTRATION: Despite the tremendous opposition by parents, teachers, the public, churches and private schools that was generated by STOP & CARE's campaign in 1982 against the Teacher Registration provisions in the finally-defeated Education Act Amendment Bill, together with the fact that the Minister for Education agreed that registration of teachers guaranteed nothing and should not be a compulsory requirement for ALL schools, I repeat, despite all that, the Board of Teacher Education is currently undertaking another major push to have teacher registration the way to control entry into the teaching profession, and to enforce certain levels of compulsory teacher education and on-going system of upgrading qualifications for continued accreditation.

Details of the review being undertaken are publicized in their Project 21 Pamphlet titled "Teachers for the Twenty-First Century". The battle never ends! The fight for freedom of choice is on again, and to be effective you will need to obtain copies of the initial Discussion Paper and the current Summary Statement inviting further comment. The Board will consider submissions received by 2/5/86, (not much time left!) directed to Project 21 Secretary, Board of Teacher Education, PO Box 389, Toowong, 4066.

Copies of my original arguments against registration, as published in 1982 issues of 'STOP PRESS' etc., are still available from me for \$2 each, as an aid to preparing your submission.

"PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION is none other than CLASSROOM INDOCTRINATION" is the title of an excellent pamphlet published by 'Concerned Parents Association of Australia' in Victoria. These will probably be included as a supplement in our next 'STOP PRESS', but we will post them out to you now for two 33c postage stamps each. Highly recommended reading!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: A 'Courier-Mail' Report on 26/3/86 presents a 'gloom and doom' approach by the Uniting and Catholic Churches to the scaling down of the R.E. Curriculum Project Team.

Ever since the change of name from 'Religious Instruction' to 'Religious Education' some ten years ago, there has been an imposed change of policy and direction with regard to religion in schools, that has been of concern to many volunteer religion teachers, and their Churches. I took part in one of the first ten-week training seminars, but was totally unimpressed, and raised objections to many aspects of what was presented by our so-called Christian (but self-confessed Humanist) leader. Over the years since then, STOP & CARE, along with other organizations, has received copies of the Teachers' Notes and we have written letters and submissions and had interviews with Education Ministers and their bureaucrats, voicing our criticism of the continual Humanistic, anti-Christian (would you believe?) thrust of the material and training methods prepared by the Curriculum Team. We warned that this undermining of CHRISTIAN content and approach was the forerunner of an all-out drive to have Comparative Religions taught in class instead of Christianity. So the suggestion along those lines made by the Uniting Church was to be expected.

For those of our readers who are R.E. teachers, I would recommend the graded series of Workbooks and Teachers' Guides that my daughter, Lexia, has prepared as a sound Christian alternative to the Project material. Her books have been published by the Presbyterian Church (on sale now).

ADULT SENSITIVITY TRAINING COURSES: I am currently responding to a number of complaints received about a subtle anti-Christian In-service Sensitivity Training Course that is being foisted on unaware Public Servants - at a great cost to the community in taxpayers' dollars and in loss of work-time for Government employees, which is then compensated for by expensive overtime.

The long-term objective planned by the 'change agents' who devise such courses is (you've guessed it) CHANGE. As with MACOS and SEMP in the schools, so in the work-force, the philosophy is to convince those with dignity and high standards that virtue is a dirty word and vice, crime and low standards are quite acceptable - and "don't anyone dare think, say or act otherwise!" is the message of the course material. The little bit of good that could come from these courses is far out-weighed by their detriment. It's the same old story - power and control over people by psychologically inducing compliance and tolerance of crime and less undesirable behaviour, to produce an accepting attitude to suggestions and situations that would normally be reacted against by those with traditional, conservative, Christian background.

And it's all in the name of improving managerial and supervisory efficiency!

Please contact me if you have any information on similar courses, as I believe there should be concerted effort to have them stopped or changed, don't you agree?

GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER

By Ian Henderson, MLA, State National Party Member for Mt. Gravatt (Qld)

Throw-away People: Our society is not infrequently referred to as "the consumer society". Perhaps it could be more accurately termed "the throw-away society". We began with the throw-away wrapper. Soon we had throw-away cans and bottles. The next step saw throw-away razors, cars, television sets, washing machines, nappies, and so on. Not surprisingly, to some, we have now arrived at the ultimate indecency - throw-away people. Each year tens of thousands of Australian children are literally thrown away by the activities of a group of people who are getting away with murder - the abortionists! The time has come for all of us who are concerned for children to demand action from our governments to halt this criminal industry. The time is NOW.

Anti-Abortion Legislation: I believe that we have a duty, as caring Christian Australians, to examine closely legislative action to protect the rights of the unborn child. To this end I believe that it is time for us to examine again past attempts aimed at stopping the criminal activity of the abortionist. I believe that we need men and women of conviction prepared to sponsor legislative action to protect the unborn child. What should we aim at in such an attempt?

Full Legal Protection: Firstly, we must aim at providing full LEGAL protection for unborn children. As with all life, we must, at the beginning, assume that life itself is sacred. Hence, the need to do all things possible to maintain and safeguard all human life, principally by outlawing any unjustified interference adverse to the continuing development of every human being, both born and unborn. There are, therefore, two key presumptions which must form the foundation stones on which all contemplated legal action must rest. They are

- (a) the presumption of life in unborn children, and
- (b) the presumption of development in unborn children.

Life and Development of the Unborn: The first of our presumptions would establish both that life exists in every unborn child and that, in the natural course of events, life shall continue to exist in every unborn child. The second presumption would establish BOTH that life in an unborn child is part of a continuous course of human development, and that, in the natural course of events, every unborn child shall be born alive. Any person who interferes with a pregnancy, would, therefore, be required to establish the contrary on the balance of probabilities. If this could not be established, such person would be guilty of a criminal offence.

Status of 'Person' for the Unborn: Our next step would be to establish legally the status of "personality" in every unborn child. This could be done by defining, in an Act of Parliament, that every unborn child shall have the status of A PERSON. As such, the unborn child would of necessity have the capacity to be considered as the subject or object of rights, duties, privileges, powers, liabilities, immunities and other fundamental concepts normally associated with legal relations. Thus for all intents and purposes, the personality of the unborn child would be equivalent to the personality of the new-born.

Right to Life and Development: The next step would be to establish the "rights" of the unborn child. This could be done by legislating to the effect that every unborn child shall have the right BOTH to continued life AND to uninterrupted development. Further, it would be necessary to establish legally that the unborn child shall be entitled to INDEPENDENT representation in all matters related to his continued existence. This would be done by defining categories of people who, having responsibilities to the unborn child, shall have the right to consultation in the event of any emergency arising.

Legal Responsibilities and Duties: As a consequence of the above, it would be necessary to define categories of responsibility. Mothers would have legal responsibilities to ensure that everything reasonably possible would be done to maintain and safeguard the continued life and uninterrupted development of the unborn child. The father would have the same responsibilities plus the added

responsibilities of assisting the mother, especially in the area of finance, during the pregnancy.

In addition, it would be necessary to define the responsibilities of the medical profession, counsellors, indeed, anyone who may be reasonably expected to influence the continued life and uninterrupted development of the unborn child. It seems to follow logically, therefore, that every person bound by any duty under any provision of the proposed legislation would have every power and privilege to enforce at law the performance of every duty owed by any person to the unborn child.

A Legally Permissible Excuse: Needless to say, it would be necessary to recognise that emergencies and exceptional circumstances do arise. It may well be, for example, that the life of the mother could be imperilled by her pregnancy. This would, however, only be a legally permissible excuse if there exists -

- (a) objective evaluation which suggests that the circumstances will not diminish in seriousness with the passage of time, AND
- (b) evidence for the lack of an alternative treatment or process, AND
- (c) objective evaluation of the degree of certainty with which it can be ascertained that serious, permanent injury to the mother will result.

Abortion would, therefore, be an EXCEPTIONAL procedure, and it would be necessary for medical evidence to establish that it was not reasonably possible to maintain BOTH the life and safety of the mother AND the safe delivery of the child.

Regardless of the REASON advanced for abortion, it would be necessary to establish ALL of the above. This is especially important in the area of the mother's mental health, the, somewhat sadly, all too frequent "cop-out" used today. I believe that legislation along the lines proposed above would effectively close this much abused "excuse".

Legal Register of Abortions: Finally, I believe that a legal register must be kept of all abortions. This register would include the names of ALL consultants, surgeons, etc., together with the number of abortions "excused" or performed by each. By doing this it would be possible to isolate those people who MAY be involved in excessively large numbers of abortions. These people would then become the subject of a rigorous review by an independent tribunal.

Getting Away With Murder!: To some, the above may appear unduly harsh - indeed, to use the favourite cry of the mass media of today, "draconian" - but this is not a reason for those who believe in every child's right to life to quit. That is precisely what our critics expect and want. If criticism is our excuse for not doing something, then we end up doing nothing. The time has come to stop this despicable industry. It is literally GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER.

The "Status of Unborn Children Bill": For those with a sincere interest in this topic, I suggest that a reading of the unsuccessful "Status of Unborn Children Bill" (New Zealand Parliament, Mr. Kidd, M.P.) would be of enormous benefit. This article substantially mirrors Mr. Kidd's unsuccessful Bill.

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* ACTION :: If you believe that the unborn child is a person (a develop-
* ing human being) and that the mechanics of abortion is painful killing of a
* defenceless baby with no possibility of escape from the knife, the poison,
* or the suction pump, then please WRITE to Mr. Henderson (PO Box 368,
* Mt.Gravatt, 4122) and also to your local M.P., asking him to support Mr.
* Henderson in his worthy bid to have anti-abortion legislation passed
* through our Queensland Parliament.
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