

Committee Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

20 November 2018

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of my school community I wish to add my submission to be considered as part of the Committee's enquiry into allowing faith-based educational institutions to discriminate on the basis of gender identity, sexual orientation or other protected attributes.

The King David School is a progressive Jewish school that was founded on the values of inclusion, egalitarianism and social justice. Whilst the School's very purpose is to provide an education to people of the Jewish faith, our school rejects the notion of discriminating against staff, parents or students on the basis of their gender identity, sexual orientation or other protected attributes.

Our school has a proud history of supporting those members of our community who identify as LGBTIQ+. It is a shameful fact that on top of the myriad challenges faced by those who identify as LGBTIQ+ they are subjected to community messaging that can make them feel alienated, excluded and rejected.

We proudly support our students to embrace their Jewish identity and we believe that this is best done in a warm, open-minded and diverse setting that avoids discrimination wherever possible.

We believe that the language, symbolism and outcome of a potential expansion of discriminatory provisions that would allow for exclusions under the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* could do untold damage to members of our school community.

I urge the Committee to reject an expansion of discriminatory provisions and to recommend the removal of exclusions that could be relied upon to discriminate against students and staff in Australian schools.

Yours sincerely,



Marc Light  
Principal