

# National Human Rights Consultation Submission

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**Name:** David Wilson

**Submission Text:**

Regarding a proposed Bill of Rights. I not only feel that there should be freedom 'of' religion but also freedom 'from' religion.

Freedom of religion should mean that an individual can hold religious beliefs without fear of persecution. However, this should not mean that they have a right to affect others who may not share their views. It certainly should not provide organisations conducting the business of religious related activities with the authority to discriminate or in any way ridicule or persecute those who hold different opinions.

In effect what I am also calling for is freedom 'from' religion. This means an individual should not be subjected to any pressures to become involved with any particular religious belief system. Further, governments should not in any way make legislation or guidelines or rules that promote any form of religious beliefs, rules or standards. While government should not ban religion it should likewise not promote religion in any form or become involved in religious based activities.

I further believe that this concept should protect children from being subjected to any particular form of religious belief without being equally exposed to alternative views including the no religion and scientific alternatives.