

# National Human Rights Consultation Submission

AGWW-7RX689

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**Submission Text:**

Education should be seen for what it is. A collection of skills and knowledge that enables a human to participate in roles within society.

Now the emphasis is more on the education than actually doing things. This has become problematic in many ways:

1. The more educated (by systematic methods, such as classroom based education), the less open-minded and the more likely they are not to listen to people with proven experience.
2. The current system has become a mockery of itself, I was schooled in a high school of 1200 kids, so naturally it became something other than an education environment. We would learn the wrong skills, like how to barricade teachers up to the blackboard and make them fear for their safety and have a nervous breakdown. This is what happens when systems of regulation and control collapse. Now, today, my friends have taken their children out of school, since they were passing a 9 year old that can't read. I thought that when we moved here from the failing systems of the punk generation in the UK in the late 70's that we, as Australians, had learnt from situations like that of my father who was beaten for being left-handed, left school at 11 and cannot read.
3. If the education system prepares people, then why was I spending a great deal of my working life, teaching graduates the things they were supposed to learn in Uni? It clearly doesn't in this day and age, given my experience. I realised this at a young age and started educating myself by encyclopedia and reference sections in libraries. I left school at 15, so naturally, on paper society treats you as largely useless, especially given this current environment of recruitment agencies. All they know how to do is match a bit of paper to a job, they can't think that someone could be of value to society if they don't have the tertiary requirements stipulated by the role. This is laughable and highly discriminating, so much so that I lost interest in the whole career path thing for a long time. No method of education delivery or government mechanism taught me how to use a computer at 9 years old, the world didn't even think they had importance in an wide administrative context back then.

Those that can, do. Those that can't, teach.

This has become a truism in my life as a modern Australian. It has lead me to have a greatly diminished respect for classroom education at best. At worst, it is generating feelings of isolation and hate, since I used to dream of a university education and now these minds are making me feel ill as they have no understanding or context of how things relate to the real world.

We are getting so close the the 'Let them eat Brioche' statement that lead to the French Revolution, but with technology the way it is, revolt against a system that does not understand or provide for you is a non-issue. So if people have been pushed to a point of where they would revolt, yet feel they can't have the issues dealt with and that no-one is responsible for the management and delivery since we have such minimalised governance, then we create the systems where teenagers walk into schools with semi-automatic weapons.

It all points to the fact that the path of Education leading to Employment is a responsibility of Government, the private sector, doesn't care if it trains 10,000 more than the industry can handle placement for. That's how

you end up with degree-qualified people that can't get into the field which they were trained for and this is a further debasement of rights. These people then go and take jobs made for people that have not had this level of education, leaving the people that would normally fill these roles disenfranchised. Either this or the educated won't take 'regular' jobs as they think they are above this and create a unemployment problem.

Viewed in this manner, private industry are actually creating a situation where the government ends up supporting these people.

With well planned systems of regulation, education, placement and control we can overcome this. If we want to position ourselves as the 'Jewel' of South-East Asia, we had best start working toward the systems that would make this a reality.