

20 June 2006

Dear Sirs

We are writing to you to with concern and to explain why we feel that the 3% GST, proposed to be added to Fee paying school fees in 2008 is very unfair.

We currently have a child at a fee paying Catholic school, which we understand is totally unsubsidised by the States, therefore saving the tax payer a considerable amount of money. We understand that Catholic Schools do not get the same level of support as some of the other fee paying Colleges.

We are not wealthy and make a lot of sacrifices to enable us to send our daughter to a Catholic fee-paying school and this is purely because no other States run school provide the Religious type learning background which, we, being Roman Catholics, wanted our daughter to be taught in.

We find it very difficult coping with the standard yearly increases in the School fees as I it is and we most certainly would not be able to afford a further 3% on top of that.

We also have another child who should be attending the same Catholic School in September, and we have calculated that if the 3% GST tax is applied to fee paying schools in 2008 we will have no other choice but to take both girls out of the fee paying School and put them into the States run school system.

We have discusses this with other parents and friends who are in the same situation as ourselves, especially those who have more than one child in the fee paying School and many, like us, will have no choice but to remove their children from the fee paying school and put them into States run schools.

How would the States schools cope with over 1,800 new children or even a quarter of that number? We feel that Education whether fee paying or not should be exempt from GST, in fact, I would go one step further and argue that they should be tax deductible.

Question: Will GST also be levied on Nursery Fees and After School Care?

Yours Sincerely

*B.M Hopley*

Bernie & Helen Hopley