

ACNC-financial reporting requirements, submission

As in the past the Exposure Draft exempts religious charities:

- *The requirement to prepare a financial report is not mandatory for a basic religious charity.*

There is no reason (in this day & age) why religions should be considered better than the rest of the other charities that are out in the same market place raising funds.

We all speak of a level playing field etc. but it doesn't exist. BoysTown have been exempt for years but are one of, if not the biggest players in art unions/raffles and none of us knows where the public funds that they collect end up. There hasn't been an actual BoysTown for years so the funds don't go there and that's a good thing with recent claims in the media against the past religious carers at BoysTown still to be resolved.

Religions are no different when they are fundraising face to face, donations taken in the church may be another thing but mailing out to addresses all over Australia selling lottery tickets and breaking NSW 'Foreign Lottery' laws (over many years) when they haven't held a permit for NSW shows they are not worthy of special dispensation, just because they are religious.

If religious charities are exempt and are therefore in no way transparent as to how their public funds are used they shouldn't be supported by the Australian public, as the limited funds available are better spent on organisations that bother to do the right thing.

All religious charities have accountants and hopefully auditors so why don't they offer to disclose, even though they are not required to do so, or is there something to hide?

The ACNC appears to be just another rubber stamp for these so-called religious charities: *"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing"*