

1. Has the Act reduced or stopped change or suppression practices? Describe any impact you think the Act has had on the occurrence or the nature of change or suppression practices.

I think the Act has restricted freedom of speech and freedom of religious practices causing harm and fear to many young people who are afraid to practice their faith.

2. To what extent do you think the community is aware of and understands: a. the Act and how it works b. what change or suppression practices are and c. the harm caused by change or suppression practices

It is not clear, whether ordinary religious teaching i.e. reading passages from the Bible; requested prayer, pastoral care, support for celibacy and even parental conversations are lawful. This uncertainty has created fear, confusion, and self-censorship in churches and families.

3. Could the Act's operation and effectiveness be improved? If so, how?

Making it abundantly clear It is not illegal to practice your religion in Victoria.

4. How clear is the Act's definition of what is and what is not a change or suppression practice? If further clarity is needed, what forms of clarification would be most helpful?

More clarity needed

5. How clear is the exclusion for health service providers? If further clarity is needed, how could this best be achieved?

N/a

6. Is greater clarity needed about how people of faith can hold and express their beliefs to support clear understanding and compliance with the Act? What forms of clarification would be most helpful?

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