

From: [REDACTED]
To: [AGD:Royal Commission ECEC](#)
Subject: Submission to the Royal Commission into Early Childhood and Care
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Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to share my views on the current state of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) in Australia. My primary concerns are the burden of cost associated with privatized child care, the positive experience and models in the Nordic countries, and the inadequate funding provided to public child care and early learning.

The cost of privatized child care in Australia is a significant burden for families. The high fees and long waiting lists make it difficult for many parents to access the care they need for their children. This is particularly concerning for low-income families and single-parent households, who often struggle to make ends meet. The cost of child care is not only a financial burden but also affects the quality of life of families, who often have to choose between work and care for their children.

On the other hand, the Nordic countries have developed and implemented successful models of ECEC that prioritize the needs of families and children. The comprehensive, publicly funded systems in countries like Finland and Sweden have been praised for their quality and accessibility. These systems not only provide affordable and accessible care but also focus on children's educational and social development. The positive experiences and outcomes of the Nordic models demonstrate the potential of publicly funded ECEC to benefit families and children in Australia.

Inadequate funding for public child care and early learning in Australia is also a significant concern. The lack of funding has resulted in a shortage of public care options, particularly in rural and remote areas, where families have limited access to affordable and high-quality care. This has created a significant barrier for many families to access the care they need for their children and harms children's educational and social development.

In conclusion, I firmly believe that the Australian and South Australian Governments must prioritize ECEC and invest in a comprehensive, publicly funded system. This system should be accessible to all families, regardless of their income or location, and should focus on children's educational and social development. I hope that the Royal Commission will consider the concerns raised in this submission and make recommendations that will improve the lives of families and children in South Australia.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Thank you and kind regards

David Coombe (FGLF)

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[REDACTED]

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