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Mr Colin Pettit
Commissioner for Children and Young People
Ground Floor, 1 Alvan Street
SUBIACO WA 6008

Dear Commissioner Pettit

We were very interested to read the article "What's going on inside your child's head?" the Sunday Times February 23, 2020, providing a summary of some aspects of the survey you undertook of nearly 5,000 schoolchildren in Western Australia.

Some of the survey results have prompted us to write to the Minister for Education, with a copy to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Police respectively, seeking information about their intentions to improve the outcomes. A copy of this correspondence is enclosed for your interest.

Of particular concern is the reference to mental health issues. One of the underlying factors in the level of anxiety among children, is the "end of world in 10 years" climate change scenario touted by the likes of Extinction Rebellion, Greta Thunberg and others.

One would think that by Years 6-7 students would be taught the scientific facts about Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and how necessary it is for the welfare of the planet NOT the destruction of the planet. Enclosed is CNI FACT SHEET – CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂) which clearly sets out the benefits of CO₂. The Fact Sheet has never been refuted by any scientist or anyone at all.

When we raise this and other issues with Minister Ellery we are told that School Principals have the discretion to decide what is appropriate for schools to teach in class.

It is extraordinary that politicians and others are talking about "net zero emissions of greenhouse gases, essentially CO₂, when it is so necessary for life on Earth and does not warm the Earth.

We will welcome your response, please, as to what can be done to remedy or improve those aspects of the survey, which can be judged to be unsatisfactory.

Sincerely

Denis Whitely

Denis J Whitely – Executive Director