

## **Concern about civics and citizenship**

FamilyVoice Australia spokesman David d’Lima has cautiously welcomed a State government move requiring all South Australian senior students to take civics and citizenship lessons - as something the government says will be good for democracy - but FamilyVoice raises questions about the role of faith, family and freedom during such classes.

“FamilyVoice Australia welcomes any move that boosts awareness of civics and citizenship rights and responsibilities, and improves democracy, but we want to know if the government will permit criticism of its own policies and practices,” David d’Lima said.

FamilyVoice also raises concern about courses that attempt to study civics and citizenship in the absence of exploring foundational faith.

“The 1836 Proclamation of Governor John Hindmarsh, announcing the formation of government in South Australia, is a strongly Christian document and we would like assurance that foundational texts will be studied carefully and respectfully,” David d’Lima said.

FamilyVoice is also concerned that the curriculum will become a further tool in the inculcation of anti-family ideology.

“A great danger in asserting individual citizenship rights is to forget the common good, including the role of the traditional family and the great institutions of society,” David d’Lima said.

“We are concerned that the study of civics and citizenship will further confuse young people as to the biological reality of gender, the importance of marriage for the raising of children, and the value of institutions and associations.

“As the family and the free institutions of society are basic to the community, it is imperative not only to study those building blocks, but to assess and commend their value.”

Further details:

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