

To those who will listen

There is, we believe, a time to keep silence and a time to speak. Usually in relation to government policies we keep silent, knowing that it is an entirely different thing to write legislation that analyse it. The time has come when we need to speak. This, because the legislation proposed here in regards to home educating has neither the good of the child, parents, government or society in mind, and undermines human rights, the right to privacy and religious/life philosophy freedom.

The vast majority of parents who home educate have chosen to give so that their child(ren) will receive. To give opportunities, guidance, time, energy, love so that their child(ren) will receive an excellent education.

- The world is the classroom
- Parents speak in their mother tongue(s)
- Children learn at their own pace without intrusion or inspection
- Many different people, places, books and resources are used to instil knowledge, understanding and wisdom

This proposed legislation removes the freedom of home educating families in the Netherlands to do the above mentioned!

Not only that, but the liberty of living in a way that conforms to life/religious convictions is restricted. Home educating families for whom Dutch is not the mother tongue will no longer have the blessing of the human right to communicate in their first language. The home will no longer be a private place. And so, home educating, in its most free and beautiful form, will be rendered void!

We implore the government to allow every child in the Netherlands (whether s/he has previously been registered in a public/private school or not) the wonderful opportunity to a choice of education. Give families the liberty and freedom to choose for an excellent home education (or, should we say, world education). The country will be a richer place as a result!

May you be given wisdom to propose legislation that will give opportunities for the education of wise children, whether in schools, at home, in the world, or a combination. For “wisdom is better than rubies...the fruit of wisdom is better than gold: yea, than fine gold”.

Yours sincerely

Citizens who have chosen to speak