Committee: UNICEF

Topic: Imposition of Religion on Young Children

Country: Australia

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Australia is a country located in Southern hemisphere. Australia is the largest country in southern hemisphere, and is 6th largest in the World. Their official language is English. In 1788, Great Britain has started colonizing Australia. Australia was colonized by Great Britain until January 1901. Australia is a federal parliamentary constitutional monarchy with Prince Charles being the head of the country. Australia does not have an official religion.

Even Australia does not have an official religion, but religious education is allowed as long as it is objective. 30% of schools in Australia (94% of private schools) are affiliated with a religion. Australia has a lot of different religion types but 57% of people are Christian.

As a possible solution on “imposition of religion on young children”: the religion education can be limited by the government until the children become a certain age. After the children reach that certain age the religion education they will have must be objective and must include different religions other than the most common religion in the country.

As another possible solution on “imposition of religion on young children”: since it is clear that the people who grow up with a high rate of religion imposition by their families and society, can be discriminated and prejudiced about other religions. So in order to decrease this discrimination and prejudice, the government can create opportunities for children to visit other countries and to learn about other religions at a young age. So that children will grow up by becoming familiar with different religions as much as they learn their family religion. So this will give them a chance to learn about other religions and also this will teach them not to have prejudices about different people and religions.

In conclusion, countries with a diverse population like Australia should develop educational policies that ensure individuals do not develop prejudices toward other religions and ethnicities. The education systems of such countries should provide a fair and objective view of religions and cultures in the society so that no one feels alienated. Of course secularism should always be the foundation of such societies.