

CREATION RESEARCH IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS “APPALLING”. ABC TV News, 13 August 2011 broke the story and [The Australian](#) 15 August 2011, p2, continued attacking John Mackay for speaking to students at Gympie State High School. They reported; “Mr Mackay, whose website blames Darwinism for last month's massacre in Norway, spoke to the Gympie State High School assembly last week, outraging some parents, students and campaigners against school chaplains.” Attendance was voluntary and students were required to obtain permission from parents to attend. The lesson was approved by the school's principal and the P&C and Education Queensland confirmed the school's chaplain had a role in organising Mr Mackay's talk, but said it was up to the principal to approve guest speakers.

Atheist's and secularist's hero Ron Williams, who is mounting a High Court case against Australian government funding of chaplains complained: "This story, while appalling, is just a day in the life within the state schools of Queensland. I have scores of emails from outraged parents." *The Australian* concludes “A spokeswoman for federal Schools Minister Peter Garrett said the department would investigate any formal complaint made about the Gympie lecture.” So far no formal complaint has been made.

OUR COMMENT: The Australian correctly reports; permission was given by the school principal, class attendance was voluntary and required parental permission. The Deputy Principal collected permission slips as students entered. *The Australian* incorrectly called it a school assembly. It was a class and it was full and it included many non-Christians. The lesson given can be freely reviewed on our Evidence Web [here](#). (see *The Search for the Origin of Life*, Chapter 14 - HOW TO RECOGNISE A CREATION) which we designed for use in Govt High Schools.

It is revealing to note that in all the “appalling” objections to our report that Norway bomber Anders Behring Breivik did claim to be Darwinist who believed in the supremacy of European culture,([World Net Daily](#)) the one question critics are not asking is; “Is the report true?” They just object to the link to Darwinism. But Breivik's actions are consistent with Darwin's own beliefs, to quote from Darwin's letters about natural selection and the Muslim invasion of Europe: “...The more civilised so-called Caucasian races have beaten the Turkish hollow in the struggle for existence. Looking to the world at no very distant date, what an endless number of the lower races will have been eliminated by the higher civilised races throughout the world.” (Letter to William Graham, 3 July 1881) (more detail [Evidence News 3 August](#))

The thrust of these latest news reports seems to be that if chaplains can invite Creation Research speakers to Govt High Schools then chaplains must go.

ALSO NOTE: ABC News showed a brief excerpt of John Mackay talking about students having problems with Christianity because of the creation evolution issue BUT this was not an interview with the ABC about the Gympie school or the chaplaincy issue. It was from a programme made in Britain by Richard Dawkins in 2008. We have advised the ABC we will only do live to air interviews with them.

(Ref. education, philosophy, teaching)