

### **Point 1 - Use of acronyms**

Use of Acronyms assumes a previously adopted familiarity with the shortened form. It's an "in-crowd" thing that works against equity spread.

I believe that in complex text (such as this report), acronyms reduce fluency of reading by effecting interruptions: thoughts of the pivotal facts/ideas being put forward are interrupted as readers grasp for the full meaning of the acronym.

I found the use of acronyms confounding!

Suggestion: Remove acronyms from the text, or using them, include the full words in every instance.

### **Point 2 - Perceived weightings of factors**

The multifarious and complex concepts presented in the report indicate many concerns to be redressed therefore prioritising.

In this Interim Report, explicit weightings of elements of concern are not attempted, though the report's authors indicate elements of high concern not addressed adequately in schools, include:

- Cultural respect for First Nations Peoples
- the "well-being" of young people
- the "special education" category students
- cultural and racial group values
- state and regional differences

Suggestion: Recommend the prioritisation of the above and other relevant elements, proposing support for local application/interpretation of policy as valid and essential

### **Point 3 - Data in discourse loses accuracy**

The Interim Report references data from Singapore and Shanghai.

In policy-world documents, factors/elements tend to be flattened in statistical representations and through generalised expressions: reading of data as 'accurate' can be very naïve – and undermining of higher purpose.

OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) case studies used by leaders, when I have scrutinised them in my doctoral study, reveal highly contestable/inappropriate reveal generalisations, for example, from Australia, China, Finland and Singapore.

I have noted that some Productivity Commission reports warn readers of generalising findings.

Suggestion: Recommend that material presented with Productivity Commission Reports as sources, be subject to deep scrutiny for continual checking of data validity.

NDH

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