

From: Jane Baker <jane.baker1@optusnet.com.au>
Subject: **Cutting Aid to Indonesian Schools**
Date: 10 February 2011 4:41:08 PM AEDT
To: Tony.Abbott.MP@aph.gov.au
Cc: Jane Baker <jane.baker1@optusnet.com.au>,
Julie.Bishop.MP@aph.gov.au, Kevin.Rudd.MP@aph.gov.au,
Julia.Gillard.MP@aph.gov.au

Hon Tony Abbott MP
Leader of the Opposition
Parliament House

Dear Mr Abbott,

On behalf of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women I am writing to express how appalled we all are by your suggestion that funding should be taken from Indonesian Schools to reduce the need for a flood levy to provide relief to flood and cyclone victims in Australia. Apart from our commitment to support education everywhere, but particularly in countries where children/ girl children miss out because of poverty and/or sexual discrimination, we also have standing policy that Foreign Aid should be increased - and what better form of aid than education. It would be absolutely shameful if a wealthy country like Australia were to suggest that cutting a program initiated after Indonesia's disastrous tsunami was an appropriate way to pay for own own climate disasters.

We do hope that this is but a temporary aberration and not a serious policy suggestion.

Yours sincerely
Jane Baker

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