

THE DIRECTORS *of*

THE MENZIES RESEARCH CENTRE

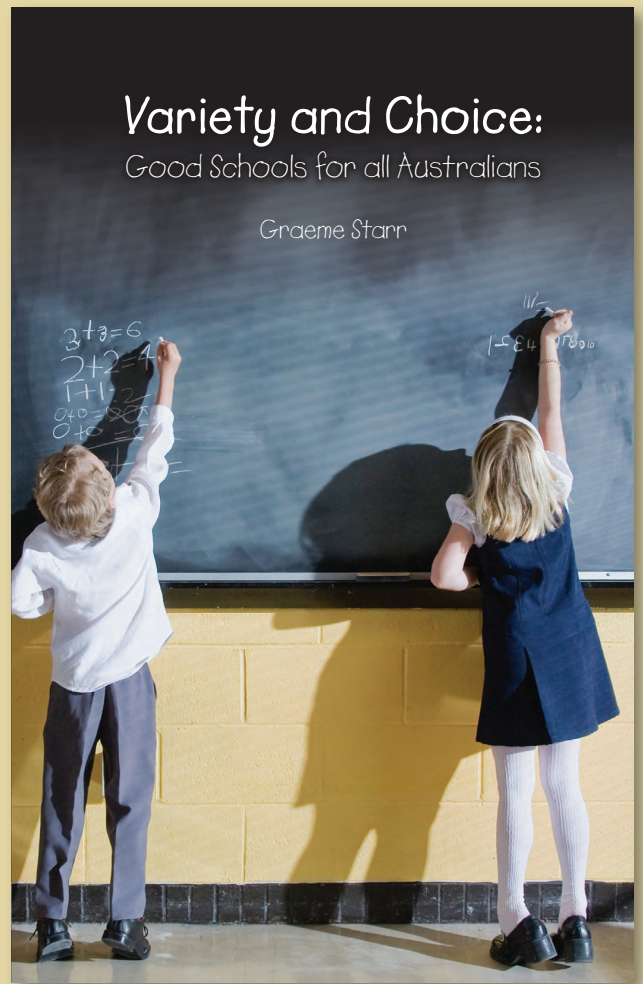
invite you to the launch by

Barry O'Farrell MP

NSW LIBERAL LEADER

In the presence of

The Hon Sir John Carrick AC KCMG *of*



VARIETY AND CHOICE: Good schools for All Australians

Time 10.00 am

Date Wednesday 27 January 2010

Venue Northern Beaches Christian School, SCIL Building, 1 Echunga Road, Terrey Hills, NSW

RSVP (acceptance only) essential by 25 January 2010

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Written by Dr Graeme Starr, *Variety and Choice* recounts the political history of the debate about government funding of non-government schools from the First Fleet to the present day. It contrasts the policies of the major parties and details the role of various Churches and interest groups in lobbying both for and against the provision of financial assistance to non-government schools. This is not a lengthy policy tract. It is a book full of human drama. Graeme Starr tells the story of how the schools that educated more than a quarter of Australia's children were deliberately neglected by governments for nearly a century. He recounts that Robert Menzies' government inherited a crisis but launched a real education revolution that saved our school system. He also tells the story of parents in Goulburn who called the bluff of State politicians and bureaucrats and forced changes in policies and attitudes to the funding of non-government schools.

With the Federal Government's review of non-government schools funding due to report soon, this book will make a timely contribution to an important ongoing policy debate.

Copies of the book will be available for sale at the launch. Books can also be purchased through www.mrcltd.org.au/publications/index.html