

# “Do I want to lift every child out of poverty? Yes, I do.”

- Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Newshub, 16 December, 2017

Next week in Parliament the Coalition Government is voting to condemn another generation of disadvantaged children to poverty and failure.

Their vote will wipe out the partnership school model and drag 11 existing, high-performing\* schools back into the ‘one-size-fits-all’ state-controlled system that’s already failed these students.

## Some questions for the Prime Minister, Minister for Child Poverty Reduction:

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| <b>Q.</b> Which disadvantaged young person who previously fell through the cracks and who - for the first time in their young life - was inspired to discover their potential, will be better off through the demise of the partnership school model? | <b>A.</b> Not one                              |
| <b>Q.</b> Which impoverished communities in New Zealand will be improved by the destruction of the partnership schools model?   | <b>A.</b> None                                 |
| <b>Q.</b> Which of the freedoms and key drivers** that have made these schools so successful can be found in the ‘designated character’ model they are being forced into?   | <b>A.</b> None                                 |
| <b>Q.</b> Who among the public of New Zealand asked for or wanted this model to be removed?   | <b>A.</b> No-one (except the teachers’ unions) |
| <b>Q.</b> Which members of the Government’s Māori Caucus were present in Parliament for the debate on the fate of partnership schools?  | <b>A.</b> None (shame on them)                 |
| <b>Q.</b> Who among the Government’s members have visited partnership schools and carefully examined the evidence before shutting them down?  | <b>A.</b> None                                 |
| <b>Q.</b> How much has the Government spent on cancelling contracts and shutting down partnership schools then reopening them as new ‘designated character’ schools?  | <b>A.</b> Good question                        |

## URGENT

Send Prime Minister Ardern a polite email [jacinda.ardern@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:jacinda.ardern@parliament.govt.nz) today and ask her to stop trapping children in poverty by destroying partnership schools.

\*The success and high performance of the existing partnership schools was strongly endorsed by two independent reports by Martin Jenkins and Cognition Education, both commissioned by the Ministry of Education.

\*\*The key drivers are control over their governance, control over how their funds are allocated, freedom to innovate, freedom to choose and contract with and reward the best teachers, and accountability for the academic and student attendance results they get. None of these are available in the designated character model.

For facts on how and why partnership schools are succeeding, especially for Māori and Pacific pupils go to [www.saveourschools.nz/facts](http://www.saveourschools.nz/facts)