

Dear Anthony Albanese,

Hello, my name is Gavin McCormack, and I'm in Year 8. There's something really close to my heart that I've been wanting to talk about, and I hope you can take a moment to hear me out. It's about gender equality, something that might not seem like a big deal to everyone, but to me, it's huge. It's about fairness, about letting every girl and boy have the same opportunities to shine.

In school, we've been learning about the Sustainable Development Goals, and SDG 5 - Gender Equality - really stood out to me. It made me think about all the times I've seen friends get upset because they're told certain things aren't for them, just because of their gender. Like when my friend Sarah was told she shouldn't join the robotics club because it's more of a 'boy thing.' Or when my friend Tom got laughed at for wanting to join the netball team. It doesn't seem fair, does it?

It's not just about clubs or sports; it's about how these little things add up and make us think there are things we can or can't do because we're a boy or a girl. This worries me, Prime Minister, because I believe everyone deserves a fair go, no matter what. Girls should grow up knowing they can become scientists, engineers, or anything they dream of. Boys should know it's okay to be nurses, teachers, or stay-at-home dads if that's what they choose. Our dreams shouldn't be limited by our gender.

Talking from my heart, I feel sad and frustrated when I see these unfair differences. It makes me think about my future and the future of my friends. I don't want us to feel held back by outdated ideas about who we can be. I want to live in a world where our abilities and passions are what really matter, not whether we're a girl or a boy.

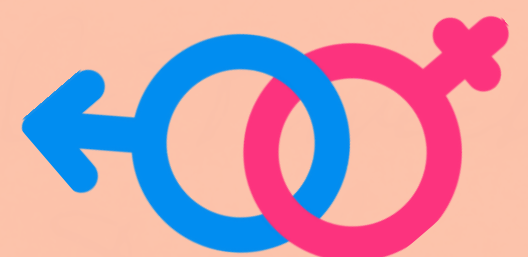
I'm reaching out to you because I believe you have the power to help make things better. To help break down these barriers so that my generation can grow up in a fairer, more equal Australia. I know changes can't happen overnight, but every little step counts. It would mean the world to me to see real actions being taken to promote gender equality, to hear you talk about why it's important, and to see policies that make a real difference.

Could you please share with me what you and your government are doing to tackle these issues? Knowing that there are plans in place to make sure everyone gets a fair chance in life, regardless of their gender, would give me so much hope.

Thank you so much for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It's a big deal to me, and your response would mean everything.

With hope and respect,

Sincerely,
Gavin McCormack



Ten Tips for Writing with Thoughts and Emotions

Start with What You Feel: Think about how the topic makes you feel. Happy? Sad? Frustrated? Hopeful? Your emotions are the fuel for your letter, so let them lead the way.

Tell a Story: Have you or someone you know experienced something related to the topic? Sharing a personal story can make your letter more engaging and relatable.

Ask Questions: Imagine you're talking to the person you're writing to. What would you ask them? Questions can make your letter feel more conversational and thought-provoking.

Use Simple Words: Big, fancy words might sound cool, but the best way to connect is by using simple language that everyone understands. Write like you're explaining your thoughts to a friend.

Paint Pictures with Your Words: Try to describe your thoughts and feelings in a way that lets the reader "see" what you're talking about. If something makes you feel sad, describe what that sadness feels like.

Be Honest: Don't be afraid to say what you really think. Honesty is powerful and shows the reader that you truly care about the topic.

Share Your Dreams: What kind of world do you wish to live in? Talk about your hopes and dreams related to the topic. It's a great way to end your letter on a positive note.

Edit with Fresh Eyes: After you've written your letter, take a break, then read it again. You might find places where you can be clearer or where you want to add more about how you feel.

Ask for Feedback: Show your letter to someone you trust and ask for their thoughts. Sometimes, a second pair of eyes can help you see how to make your letter even better.

Remember, Your Voice Matters: Never think you're too young to make a difference. Your thoughts, feelings, and words have the power to change the world.