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THE HILLIER VIEW

Kevin Hillier says too much choice complicates life

We have so many choices in life these days, it would be good to keep something simple. The array of choices is mind blowing, from coffee to bread to petrol. We have gone from white or black, white or brown, super or regular to soy, skinny latte, chai, decaf, multigrain, gluten free, rye and sour dough to V Power unleaded, diesel, 91/95/98.

We are now so obsessed with choices that we are looking for ways to complicate even the easiest and most basic elements of our lives – going to the toilet. What was a simple sit-or-stand-wash-hands-on-your-way-out no brainer might now require a tutorial in gender assignment before one even enters the space, if society follows the lead of the St Kilda Football Club from Etihad Stadium last weekend.

To embrace the Pride celebration, game toilets were rebadged with signs suggesting you go to the toilet that best suits your gender identity or expression. Also displayed were signs saying 'Gender diversity is welcome here.' I already have an aversion to public toilets, but that is based on hygiene and aroma not gender

(though I am sure there is a link) and this won't help.

What is a five year-old to make of this, who really should only be thinking about the immediate bodily function, not the baggage that might be forming around his or her personality years into the future? We are conscripting our kids to confusion and complications and setting an agenda of social behaviour that might make many adults feel good about themselves, but think of others. What about the people who are uncomfortable with this whole genre of thought? Are they being totally forgotten or don't they matter because of the single mindedness of the people driving this agenda? And when you finish answering those questions, how about this one? Is football the correct vehicle to be driving these social changes?

We should all feel safe and comfortable wherever we go. That safety is generated by changing people's attitudes and behaviours, which is done through education, not confrontation. ■

If you have any news or events, let me know at kevin@howdypartnersmedia.com.au



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Briefs

New motor home

Isuzu Australia has set up shop in Truganina. Isuzu Motors (Japan) president Masanori Katayama flew out to Australia to officially open the company's new 21,000-square-metre purpose-built truck distribution facility.

New sports hub

Wyndham's newest sporting hub is now open to the public, with the construction of two sporting fields, six tennis courts, enclosed cricket nets and a playground complete. The \$9.5 million Williams Landing Boulevard Reserve also includes a half basketball court, a fitness and exercise area, a shelter, seating and a barbecue area. Meanwhile, work on a pavilion is currently under construction and is slated for completion in April 2019.

Study for free

Young people in Wyndham will have the opportunity to complete a certificate II in information, digital media and technology at Victoria University Polytechnic free of charge thanks to Wyndham council and the state government. From July 16 to December 16, the eYouth Project will allow young people aged 16 to 25 to study in classrooms and online for free. Information: 8734 1355, email youthinwyndham@wyndham.vic.gov.au, or visit www.wyndham.vic.gov.au

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